

# The Legal Eagle

Bimonthly Newsletter



70<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY  
NCCU LAW

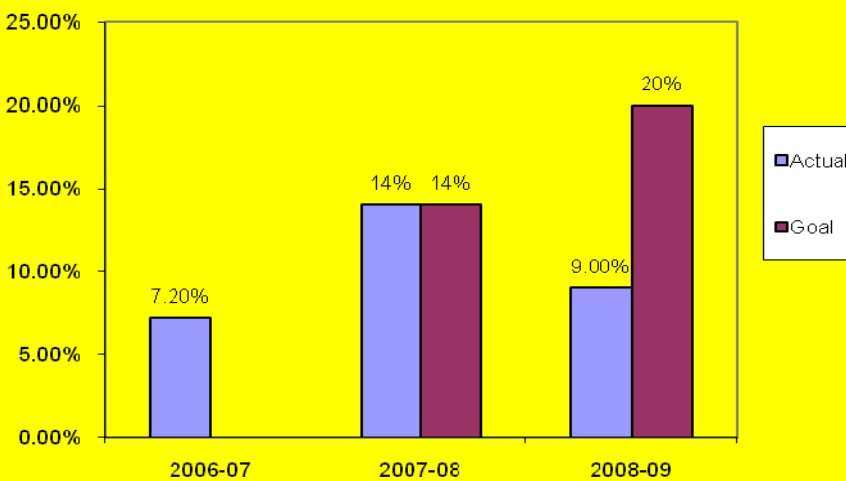


## special events

Save the date  
For the ....  
70th Anniversary  
Alumni Weekend  
Reunion Gala  
Celebration  
August 21, 22, 23  
Page 11-12

Alumni who were sworn in to the Supreme Court Bar by Chief Justice John Roberts on Monday, April 13 in the Moot Court Room. Page 2

Now more than ever we need your financial support to provide much needed student scholarships, emergency loans for students, and other critical needs of the Law School in support of our students. Click [here](#) to make your tax deductible donation.



**The Alumni Giving Participation Goal for this Fiscal Year is 20% (650 alums) So far: 283 To go: 367 The Fundraising Goal for this Fiscal Year is \$250,000**



Ralph K. Frasier Jr. '94  
with Chief Justice Roberts

**Alumni Admitted to the Supreme Court Bar**

**In Alphabetical Order:**

- Dorothy Cochrane Bernholz '75
- Charles Austin Bishku '89
- Dale J. Davis '04
- James C. Dockery (NCCU undergraduate)
- Ralph K. Frasier Jr. '94
- Kristopher B. Gardner '02
- William Garth Goldston '81
- David Joseph Green '01
- Cynthia Lynn Haynes '02
- James C. MacRae Jr. '88
- Vernon Roderick Malone '
- Susan Simms Marsh '84
- Nelwyn Mcduffie Mpare '80
- Steven Ray Parker '05
- Vaddrick Quanteles Parker '04
- Michelle Rippon '81
- Paul Allen Roberts '00
- Archie Lehman Smith III '76
- Kerstin Walker Sutton '01
- Henry Macmillan Tyson '76



For the defense, Kahlida Lloyd presented oral arguments in front of Judge Allyson Duncan, Chief Justice John Roberts, and Justice Henry Frye. Ms. Lloyd received best Oralist award at the Awards Reception and Dinner later that evening.

### **CHIEF JUSTICE OF THE UNITED STATES ON THE BENCH AT NCCU LAW SCHOOL**

Chief Justice of the United States, John G. Roberts, Jr., presided over a moot court competition at North Carolina Central University's School of Law on April 14. He was joined on the bench by former NCCU law professor and Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals Judge Allyson Duncan and retired Justice of the North Carolina Supreme Court Henry Frye. The Chief Justice presided over the proceeding at the request of NCCU School of Law Dean Raymond C. Pierce.

NCCU Law students Matthew Reeder and Tanya Harris presented oral arguments with fellow student Mike Stuart serving as brief writer for the side of the government. For the defense, Kahlida Lloyd and Dominique Williams argued the briefs written by Robert Dobson.

The case concerned a defendant who was suffering from paranoid schizophrenia but refused the medication that might restore his competency to stand trial for threatening to murder a judge. The argument was whether the government could force him to comply with the medical intervention.



Matthew Reeder presented oral arguments on the side of the government. Mr. Reeder also received best Oralist award at the same Awards Dinner attended by Ms. Lloyd,

Lloyd opened the session for the defense citing the need for “clear and convincing evidence” of the necessity of the medication. Her level, calm and persistent presentation won her selection as best orator for the defense.

Defense team member Williams found Chief Justice Roberts to be relaxed and enjoying himself, which put the student at ease. The only comic moment of the trial came when the Chief Justice jokingly asked Williams, “You’re not challenging the government’s interest here are you? After all, the person threatened a judge!”

Reeder was declared best orator for the government despite walking into a trap laid by the Chief Justice when he asked, “What if the drug had a one in one thousand chance of killing [the defendant]?”

The moot court justices were impressed with the students’ preparation and lack of anxiety. Duncan remarked that they were “self-possessed without being robotic” and Chief Justice Roberts quipped, “I’m a little disappointed you weren’t more nervous.”

*Cynthia Forbert*



Alumni Judges omitted from the spring 2009  
of Counsel magazine



**The Honorable  
A. Leon Stanback, Jr. '68**

The Honorable A. Leon Stanback, Jr. received a Bachelor Degree from North Carolina Central University in 1965 and subsequently obtained his Juris Doctor degree from the School of Law in 1968. Judge Stanback joined the firm of Frye & Johnson, as an Associate, from 1968 to 1969. He was appointed as Assistant District Attorney for Guilford County in 1969.

In 1971, Judge Stanback became a partner with the law firm of Lee, High, Taylor, Dansby & Stanback. From 1980 to 1989, Judge Stanback was President of Stanback & Stanback, P.A. and Of Counsel

from 1985 to 1989.

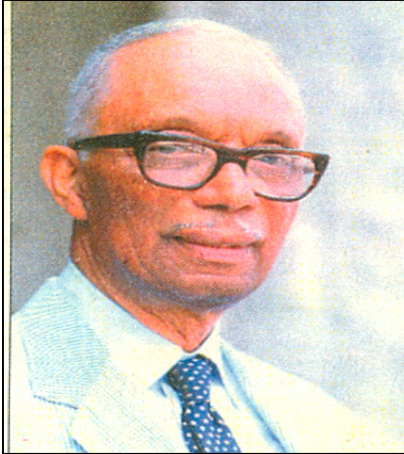
In 1989, Judge Stanback was appointed Resident Superior Court Judge of Durham County, North Carolina where he currently presides over the various Civil & Criminal Superior Courts in the State of North Carolina. Judge Stanback is also on the North Carolina Board of Law Examiners.

Judge Stanback has had numerous professional affiliations including membership on the Minority Business Resource Center, Advisory Committee of the United States Department of Transportation, Commissioner of the North Carolina Parole Commission, and the Governor's Minority Executive Advisory Council.

Judge Stanback's civic and social affiliations include: the North Carolina Advisory Committee to the U.S. Civil Rights Commission, a member of the Board of Directors for Durham County Friends of Guardian Ad Litem, and North Carolina Central University School of Law Alumni Association.

Judge Stanback's professional

affiliations include: the North Carolina Conference of Superior Court Judges, the North Carolina Academy of Trial Lawyers, the North Carolina Bar Association, the North Carolina Association of Black Lawyers (Past Vice President), Durham County Bar Association Fourteenth Judicial District Bar, Guilford County Association of Black Lawyers (Past President), the National Bar Association Judicial Council, the American Bar Association, the George White Bar Association, the Braxton Craven Inns Of Court, and Fellow of the Association Of Trial Lawyers Of America.



**The Honorable  
Eugene H. Gadsden '53**

Judge Gadsden received his undergraduate degree from Lincoln University in 1934. In 1939, he returned to Savannah and became an insurance salesman. In 1953, he received his Juris Doctor degree from North Carolina Central University School of Law and passed the North Carolina Bar that same year.

In 1956, Judge Gadsden returned to Savannah, was admitted to the Georgia Bar, and was for three years the only African American lawyer in the entire city of Savannah. In 1965, he became the first African American to gain membership to the Savannah Bar Association.

In 1974, Judge Gadsden was appointed Workmen's Compensation Administrative Law Judge. In 1979, he became the first African American judge appointed by Governor George Busbee, to one of only two Chatham Superior Court judgeships.

Judge Gadsden was encouraged to apply for a seat in the Federal Judiciary by President Carter's administration. He declined because the position would require he spend a significant amount of time judging cases in New Orleans. Judge Gadsden remained on Georgia's Superior Court bench until his retirement in 1992.

In retirement, Judge Gadsden remained active in his community until his death on August 9, 2000.

A special thank you to Mr. Geoffrey E. Gadsden, son of Judge Gadsden, who was kind enough to provide the Law School with the information contained in this article. Mr. Gadsden also attended NCCU School of Law and received his Juris Doctor degree from the Law School in 1983.



# *alumni receptions*



**FAYETTEVILLE**

The Fayetteville Alumni Reception was held on Friday, March 20, 2009, at The Robert C. Williams Building in Fayetteville N.C.. The event was hosted by Glenn Adams. '84.



Michael Smith '80 with Dean Pierce

The Atlanta Alumni Reception was held on Thursday, March 26, 2009 at the Wolf Creek Community Clubhouse in Atlanta GA. The event was hosted by Michael Smith '80 and Jimmonique Rogers '96

**ATLANTA**



# *alumni receptions*



**John Harmon '65**

**NEW BERN**



**Judge Alford '78 and Max Freeze, New Bern's Mayor Pro Tems**



**Robert Raynor , Jr. '81, Scott Thomas '92 and guest.**

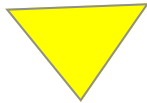


The New Bern Alumni Reception was held on Thursday, April 16, 2009 at the New Bern River Front Convention Center in New Bern, North Carolina. The event was hosted by John Harmon '65, Judge Benjamin Alford '78, Judge James "Jim" Martin '75, Robert Raynor '81, District Attorney Scott Thomas '92, and W. David McFadyen '79.





# *alumni receptions*



Top photo: Leonard Jernigan '76, Governor Perdue, Dean Pierce. Right photo: Governor Perdue, Judge Michael Morgan '79 and William Dudley, Jr. '08

**RALEIGH**



The Raleigh Alumni Reception was held on April 15, 2009 at the Governors' Mansion in Raleigh North Carolina. The event was hosted by Leonard Jernigan '76, Victor Boone '76, Kristina Brown '08, Robert L. Brown '04, Theasues T. Clayton '58, A. Root Edmonson '76, Stephen Gheen '84, Richard "Gus" Gusler '84, Robert J. Hensley '76, Wendy Michelle Mark '04, Staci Meyer '90, Toni Pinkston '84, C. Ruffin Poole '98, Allen H. Wellons '75, Leslie O. Wickham '83, Pamela Thorpe Young '85. Governor Perdue graciously greeted alumni and spoke briefly on issues concerning the economy and the importance of alumni giving.



*save the date for the next upcoming alumni reception*



**Washington, DC Alumni Reception**  
**Hosted by: Attorney Rogelyn D. McLean '00**  
**Thursday, May 21, 2009**  
**6:00 pm to 8:00 pm**  
**Crowell & Moring LLP**  
**1001 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.**

For more information please contact  
**Sharon Alston (919) 530-5386 [sdalston@nccu.edu](mailto:sdalston@nccu.edu)**



*special events - save the date*

**School of Law Alumni Weekend Schedule**

Please join us in Durham on August 21, 22, 23, 2009 to celebrate NCCU Law Alumni Weekend.

**Schedule of Events:**

**Friday, August 21, 2009**

*ALUMNI REUNION WELCOME RECEPTION*

Doubletree Hotel Lakeside Terrace

Time: 7:00 PM to 10:00 PM

\$50.00 per person

**Saturday, August 22, 2009**

*CLE*

NCCU School of Law

Time: 10 AM to 12:00 PM

Room: TBD

Time: 9 AM to 12:00 PM

Registration fee: TBD

*Golf Outing*

Hillandale Golf Course

Tee Time: 8:30 AM to 9:07 AM

\$44.00 per player

*Family Picnic*

Piney Woods Park

Time: 12:30 PM to 2:30 PM

\$15.00 per person (children under 6 no charge)

*Alumni Awards Gala Buffet Dinner*

Doubletree Hotel Lakeside Terrace

Time: 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM

Keynote Speaker: TBD

\$65.00 per person

**Events continued on next page**

**The Legal Eagle**  
Bimonthly Newsletter

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**70<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY**  
**NCCU LAW**



*special events - save the date continued*

**Sunday, August 23, 2009**

*Farewell Brunch*

Location: School of Law

Room: TBD

Time: 9:30 AM to 11:30 PM

\$12.00 per person

Registration materials will be available by May 15, 2009

For more information please contact:

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## **Alumni News**

**The Honorable A Leon Stanback '68**, Superior Court Judge, has completed his second year as a member of the NC Board of Law Examiners. He is the first NCCU Law Graduate appointed to serve as a member of that body.

**The Honorable Rossie D. Alston, Jr. '82** has been appointed to the Virginia Court of Appeals [read more](http://www.insidenova.com/isn/news/local/article/Rossie_alston_jr._appointed_state_judgeship/29829/) [http://www.insidenova.com/isn/news/local/article/Rossie\\_alston\\_jr.\\_appointed\\_state\\_judgeship/29829/](http://www.insidenova.com/isn/news/local/article/Rossie_alston_jr._appointed_state_judgeship/29829/)

**Ruffin Poole '98** was appointed by former Governor of North Carolina Michael F. Easley (1976) to serve as a Board of Director on the Golden LEAF Foundation ([www.goldenleaf.org](http://www.goldenleaf.org)), a nonprofit organization devoted to the economic well being of North Carolinians. Golden LEAF endeavors to strengthen the state's economy through diverse grants making. Poole has recently joined McGuire Woods ([www.mcguirewoods.com](http://www.mcguirewoods.com)) in their Raleigh, North Carolina office to provide legal services to clients as a partner in the law firm and will serve their government relations needs as a consulting group senior vice president.

**Ashley B. Young '98** joined the Law Offices of James Scott Farrin in July of 2008.

**Janet B. Dudley '00** is currently specializing in the practice of Family Law and Civil Litigation in Scotland Neck, NC.

**Rick Fleming '01** became a shareholder with the Law Offices of James Scott Farrin in January of 2009. He heads the firm's Social Security Department and is a Board Certified Specialist in Social Security Disability.

**David Hendricks '01** joined the Law Offices of James Scott Farrin in February of 2009. He works in the firm's Intellectual Property Department and primarily handles patent applications.

**Sarah Jessica Farber '08** is a staff attorney with NC Prisoner Legal Services. She works on post-conviction matters.



**contacts**

**Spring 2009 *Of Counsel* corrections**

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Page 27 in the spring 2009 edition of *of Counsel* incorrectly credited Brenda Gibson '95 Legal Writing Director, with writing "*What You Need to Know About Public Records and Open Meetings*". The correct author is Professor Jennifer Brobst, Legal Director of the Center for Child and Family Health.