

From the Dean



FSU Law Trial Team 2019 Mockingbird Challenge National Trial Competition Winners

Congratulations to our FSU Law Trial Team, which has been named the nation's 15th best in Fordham University School of Law's annual ranking of the country's top trial teams. This is the first time FSU has been ranked! The Trial Competition Performance Rankings are based on achievement in interscholastic law school trial competitions during the 2019-2020 academic year. Teams earned points for winning competitions, and also for advancing to the final and semi-final rounds of competitions. During the 2019-20 academic year, the FSU Law Trial Team placed first in the 2019 Mockingbird Challenge National Trial Competition, second in the 2019 Buffalo-Niagara Mock Trial Competition and the 2019 American Association of Justice Southeast Regional Tournament, and third in the 2019 MLK Jr. Civil Rights Competition. The team also had several additional semi-final round appearances and earned two best advocate awards during the year. We are extremely proud of our talented students! We are also grateful for our many alumni and other friends who volunteered their time as coaches and judges. The team's success would not have been possible without them and without the team's dedicated advisor, alumnus Tor J. Friedman ('05). The full rankings are [available online](#).

-Dean Erin O'Connor

FSU BLSA Hosts Discussion on Police



Harvard Professor Khalil Gibran Muhammad speaks during Monday's panel on the origins of police and the movement for reform.

On Monday, October 5, the Black Law Students Association (BLSA) hosted "TPD, Police and Their Origins: Defunding, Demilitarizing and Dismantling" via Zoom. The three-person panel was moderated by Wayne A. Logan, FSU Law Steven M. Goldstein professor. Panelists included Jody David Armour, Roy P. Crocker professor of law at the University of Southern California Gould School of Law; Khalil Gibran Muhammad, professor of history, race and public policy at the Harvard Kennedy School and the Suzanne Young Murray professor at the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Studies; and Delilah Pierre, communications director of the Tallahassee Community Action Committee.

Professor Logan began the conversation with questions submitted by BLSA student representatives and then opened the discussion to the nearly 100 attendees. Panelists discussed the origins of policing in America, and over policing and under policing in Black communities.

"African Americans since the 1960s and 70s, right up through the crack era, were essentially offered by their own elected officials and others, more policing or less policing, more prisons or less prisons, and so as moral agents they made a choice, 'I'd rather have more police and more prisons than fewer of either,'" said Muhammad. "What was left out of the conversation was any kind of redistribution of economic or political resources—that is to say, more schools, more jobs, more hospitals, more affordable housing. So, when people are forced to make 'choices' based on a limited basket of goods, we shouldn't be surprised that they are often expressing support for these things."

The panel also discussed unconscious bias, law enforcement training, disaggregating the policing function, what role the media plays in shaping the narrative, and what it means to "protect and serve."

"We need to move away from retribution, retaliation and revenge toward restoration, rehabilitation and redemption," said Armour. "That's the kind of fundamental shift that we have to make if we are going to make deep cuts in mass incarceration, which is really about violent offenders, not low-level, non-violent ones."

This is the first of BLSA's year-long series of discussions aimed at contextualizing racism across institutions and providing a space for those interested in learning how to ensure a more equitable and unified future. Pierre addressed her closing remarks directly to the law students, "You in your positions as law students, and everyone here, need to think carefully about how we go about policing Black communities because it will determine the very future of this country."

A recording of the event is [available online](#).

Alum Profile: Scott A. Remington ('97)

[Scott A. Remington](#) is president and managing shareholder at Clark Partington—the firm he has practiced with since graduating from the College of Law in 1997. He concentrates in the areas of commercial and real property litigation. Remington maintains an active local government practice serving as general counsel to Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc.—the entity responsible for administering \$1.5 billion from the state's settlement with BP over the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill. Since 2016, Remington has been recognized annually for his public sector work as one of *Independent Weekly's* 100 most influential people in Escambia and Santa Rosa counties and he was listed in the July 2020 edition of *Florida Trend Magazine* as a "Person to Know" in Northwest Florida. As president of Clark Partington, Remington oversees the firm's five offices and approximately 100 employees working in northern Florida and southern Alabama. Remington is very involved in the Pensacola community, currently serving on the Pensacola Police Citizens Advisory Board established in the wake of the killing of George Floyd, is an alumnus of Leadership Florida Class XXXIII, and serves on the Florida State University College of Law Alumni Association Board of Directors. He is general counsel and a member of the board of the AA Pensacola Blue Wahoos Minor League Baseball Club. Remington is grateful to Florida State University for his father—retired Circuit Court Judge Thomas T. Remington ('71)—and the loving support of his wife Amie McDaniel Remington ('97). Remington said he is also thankful that cell phone cameras did not exist between 1994-1997.



"The biggest impact you have on the world are the relationships you build with family, friends, co-workers, clients and professional opponents. Never pass up an opportunity to build a positive relationship and help someone. I find that if you help enough people, eventually someone will want to help you!"

Student Profile: 3L Mylena Chin-See

Desired Practice Location: Mobile, Alabama area or Pensacola, Florida

Expected Graduation: December 2020

Field of Law Sought: Primarily interested in criminal law and other areas of litigation where she can spend time in the courtroom



Mylena Chin-See is originally from Brooklyn, New York. She earned a bachelor's degree in business administration from Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University and will graduate from FSU Law in December 2020. Before entering law school, Chin-See worked for three years in corporate America marketing and sales. This summer, Chin-See externed at the District Attorney's Office in Mobile, Alabama, where she researched legal issues, conducted preliminary hearings, negotiated plea agreements and tried misdemeanor bench trials. She is currently continuing her work at the Mobile District Attorney's Office, conducting preliminary hearings on felony cases and trying misdemeanor trials. During her 2L year, Chin-See clerked for the Florida Department of Health, Prosecution Services Unit. She helped prosecute healthcare professionals for misconduct and criminal violations. During the fall of her 2L year, Chin-See also participated in the Public Interest Law Center (PILC) Human Trafficking and Exploitation Law Project. She assisted in the representation of trafficking victims in juvenile delinquency, expungement and dependency actions. She also conducted research with a team to successfully lobby for stronger language in a rule governing statewide human trafficking education. During the summer after her 1L year, Chin-See clerked at Bass, Sox and Mercer, LLC, where she primarily conducted legal research into antitrust issues. She also participated in the PILC Children's Advocacy Clinic, where she managed a special needs trust.

Chin-See is a member of the Black Law Students Association (BLSA), where she served as treasurer during her 2L year and was a member of the BLSA Mock Trial Team during her 1L year. She is also a student ambassador for the FSU Law Admissions Office and a member of the FSU Trial Team. She won a Book Award for the Criminal Pretrial Skills course. If you are interested in connecting with Chin-See or hiring her after graduation, [visit her LinkedIn profile](#).

"FSU Law has given me so many opportunities to experience different areas of law and figure out exactly what I want to do!"

We're almost there!

We are within \$50,000 of our **Pave the Way** campaign goal and need your support for student scholarships. Please visit law.fsu.edu/pavetheway to learn more and give online today.



We need your support for student scholarships!

GET INVOLVED

SUBMIT A CLASS NOTE

SHARE MY TORCH MOMENT

MAKE A GIFT

[ABOUT US](#) | [ACADEMICS](#) | [ADMISSIONS & FINANCIAL AID](#) | [OUR FACULTY](#) | [ALUMNI](#) | [CAREERS](#) | [STUDENTS](#)



If you unsubscribe from the FSU Law Focus, you will only be unsubscribed from the newsletter and not other emails from FSU Law.

Share this email:



[Manage](#) your preferences | [Opt out](#) using TrueRemove™

Got this as a forward? [Sign up](#) to receive our future emails.

View this email [online](#).

425 West Jefferson Street
Tallahassee, FL | 32306 US

This email was sent to
To continue receiving our emails, add us to your address book.

emma

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.