

# COMMENCEMENT

Saturday, August 1, 2020

Montgomery Performing Arts Centre

# ABOUT FAULKNER LAW



Faulkner University's Thomas Goode Jones School of Law has earned a reputation for providing students with a strong legal education in a caring, Christian environment. Established in 1928, Faulkner Law has grown from educating students in the borrowed chambers of local judges to its permanent home in nearly 70,000 square feet of state of the art classrooms, courtrooms, and clinic, library, and student space on the campus of Faulkner University. Faulkner Law is fully accredited by the American Bar Association (ABA).

Faulkner Law students gain invaluable, practical experience throughout their three years of legal study. Faulkner Law's onsite legal clinics, field placements, law review, and award-winning advocacy programs complement an outstanding classroom education that equips students with practice-ready skills.

The law school has produced over 3,100 graduates working in more than 25 states. The law school's alumni include state supreme court justices; appellate, magistrate, and district judges; politicians and government leaders; and attorneys working in public interest, solo practice, and leading law firms across the nation. Faulkner Law graduates are making a difference in their communities and beyond. Today, we are pleased to celebrate the Class of 2020's graduation and welcome them into the Faulkner Law alumni community.

# PROGRAM

Montgomery Performing Arts Centre, Montgomery, Alabama  
Procession starts at 10:00 a.m.  
(Guests remain seated during the processional)



## Processional

## Invocation

ROBERT L. MCFARLAND  
*ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF LAW*  
*DIRECTOR OF ADVOCACY PROGRAMS*

## Welcome, Recognition of Special Guests, and Remarks

CHARLES B. CAMPBELL  
*DEAN AND ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF LAW*

## Faculty Farewell

ANDY G. OLREE  
*PROFESSOR OF LAW*

## Student Farewell

WESTON T. BELL

## Introduction of Commencement Speaker

CHARLES B. CAMPBELL  
*DEAN AND ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF LAW*

## Commencement Address

THE HONORABLE W. KEITH WATKINS  
*SENIOR UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE*  
*UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF ALABAMA*

## Conferring of Degrees, Presentation of Diplomas, and Hooding of Graduates

MICHAEL D. WILLIAMS, *PRESIDENT, FAULKNER UNIVERSITY*  
CHARLES B. CAMPBELL, *DEAN AND ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF LAW*  
JENNIFER L. DEBOER, *ASSISTANT DEAN OF STUDENTS*

## Awards

CHARLES B. CAMPBELL  
*DEAN AND ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF LAW*

## Benediction

A. JEROME DEES  
*PROFESSOR OF LAW*

# DISTRICT JUDGE W. KEITH WATKINS BIOGRAPHY



District Judge W. Keith Watkins was appointed by President George W. Bush to a vacancy in the Middle District of Alabama on December 27, 2005. Judge Watkins was elevated to Chief District Judge on May 18, 2011, and he served as Chief Judge until January 31, 2019. He assumed senior status in 2019.

A native of Troy, Alabama, Judge Watkins practiced law in Tuscaloosa for two years and in Troy for 28 years, with a broad general practice. He is a graduate of Auburn University and The University of Alabama School of Law. Among other positions in the bar, Judge Watkins is a Fellow in the Alabama Law Foundation and served as the Bar Commissioner for the Twelfth Judicial Circuit and as a member of the Alabama State Bar Task Force for Alternative Dispute Resolution. He served as the mediator in over 200 civil cases in state and federal courts in Alabama and Georgia prior to taking the bench.

Judge Watkins serves on the boards for The Frank M. Johnson Jr., Institute, the Rosa Parks Museum, the Federal Judges Association, and The American Village.

Judge Watkins and his wife have two grown children and five grandchildren.

## Education

Auburn University, B.S., 1973

The University of Alabama School of Law, J.D., 1976

# JURIS DOCTOR



SABRINA M. ALDRIDGE \* §

ALEX JACKSON ALRED

WESTON T. BELL, *CUM LAUDE*

TALMADGE BUTTS

CHANCE RUSSELL CARTER

ANDREI BOGDAN CHIRA

JAMES N. CLAYTON \*

CAILEE A. COLE \*

WILLIAM CLIFTON COLEMAN \*

NICHOLAS HALE COOK

BRANDON ALEXANDER CROMPTON

SHAWN MATTHEW ENGEN

PHILLIP EARL FIKES

TOLLIE SUZANNE FOLMAR \*

WILLIAM PARSONS GILMORE §

AMY LORENA GONZALEZ JIMENEZ §

KRISTIN JEAN GOULART

HAYLIE GUTIERREZ, *CUM LAUDE*

DEVIN CALEB HARRISON

TANNER DENNIS HERRINGTON \*

COURTNEY LOVELACE HORTON,

*SUMMA CUM LAUDE* \*

ROSELYN JEAN HUDSON, *CUM LAUDE*

ALEXIA PEARL JOHNSON

HEATH MICHAEL LADNER

LYDIA MARIE LAKE

MICHAEL J. LARKIN

ZACHARY JEWEL LATIMORE §

AARON MATTHEW MANN

JOSEPH DEMETRIUS MCNISH

CICELY SAVANNAH MILLER

EMMA H. MITCHELL, *CUM LAUDE*

JAKE LOGAN MITCHELL

JANINA MÜLLER

ASHLEY TAYLOR NASH \*

SCOTT MARSHALL NESMITH \* §

STACEY OZDEMIR

JOHN FRANCIS PHILLIPS \*

KYMBERLY DAWNIQUE PORTER §

DARION REYES \*

SARAH KATHERINE SHIVER, *CUM LAUDE*

NOELLE IMAN SILLMON §

HAYDEN GLASS SIZEMORE, *MAGNA CUM LAUDE* \*

SAMANTHA LYNNE SIZEMORE \*

BILLY E. STEVENSON III \*

BELINDA MAY STRICKLAND \* §

HOLLY ANN SZAFRAN

SHEVON SUTCLIFFE THOMAS II \* §

TARA TIFFANY DANIELLE TRULL,

*SUMMA CUM LAUDE*

MATTHEW CHRISTOPHER VAUGHN \*

JOHN JACOB WATKINS

ALEXANDRA ELIZABETH WORTHY §

ANDREW HESTAND WRIGHT \*

§ ADR Certificate Recipient

\* Fellows, Public Interest Society: Students who completed 50 hours or more of voluntary service

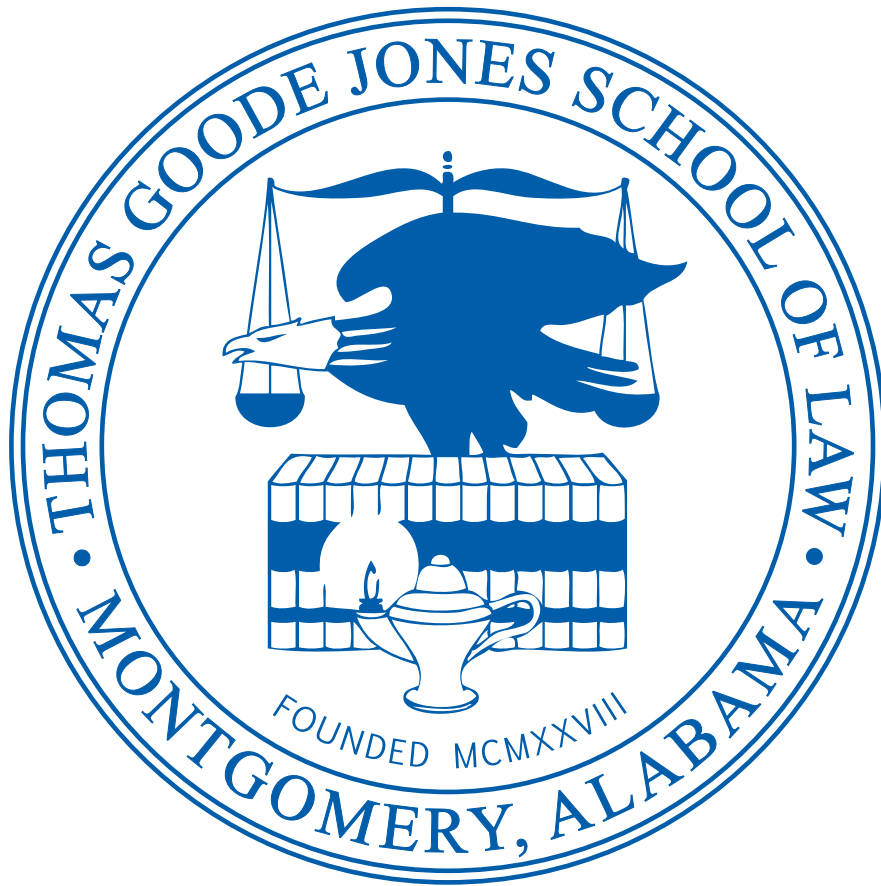
# MASTER OF LAWS



SABRINA M. ALDRIDGE

SHEVON SUTCLIFFE THOMAS II

KYMBERLY DAWNIQUE PORTER



# FAULKNER UNIVERSITY



## PRESIDENT

**MICHAEL D. WILLIAMS**  
B.A., Harding University  
M.B.A., Harding University  
Ed.D., University of Pennsylvania

# FAULKNER LAW



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J.D., University of Virginia

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J.D., Indiana University Maurer School of Law

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*Certificate Program; Director LL.M. Program*  
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Gould School of Law  
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Straus Institute for Dispute Resolution



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