



SERVING THOSE WHO SERVED: VETERANS LAW CLINIC



Army Veteran and Professor Stephen J. Valentine has a clear understanding of his mission every day. His mission is to serve. Director of the Veteran's Law Clinic, a collaboration between NC Central University and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Professor Valentine teaches students how to become skilled in the veterans claims adjudication process. Through a grant from the North Carolina General Assembly, the partnership supports the universities' joint effort in assisting active military personnel, veterans and

their families who might otherwise not be able to afford proper representation. Active military personnel and veterans have a large presence in North Carolina which is home to several major military bases and stations throughout the state. The Veterans Clinic handles benefit claims in various stages of appeals. Cases revolve around disability claims, survivors' benefits, pension and other important and urgent issues facing veterans. Veterans seeking help from the legal clinic must be willing to allow students to participate in the preparation of briefs and the administration of the case from adjudication to the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims. Additionally, NCCU School of Law operates specialty clinics in eight other areas, civil litigation, criminal defense, family law, intellectual property (patent and trademark), juvenile law, pro bono, tax law and consumer issues. Services are free to those who qualify or who are able to meet the financial eligibility standards as determined by the appropriate legal standards.

EARLY VOTING SITE

NC Central University Law School is one of several early voting sites in Durham County. The one-stop early polling site opened September 16, and will close on October 30, 2021.



WELCOME OCTOBER NEW STAFF

• Carl Smith, director of facilities

UPCOMING EVENTS

NCCU Homecoming • October 31-November 6, 2021
Law School Reading Day • November 29, 2021
Fall Commencement • December 11, 2021
Social Justice Gala • February 18, 2022
Coming Soon: Veterans Voices Project

SALUTE TO OUR LAW STUDENTS, FACULTY AND STAFF SERVICE MEMBERS



STUDENTS

Tiffany Alston
Denise Bennett
Herbert Brown
Amanda Covington
Michael Griddine
Matthew Hendley
Juan Lopez
Whitley Lyons

Samantha Manning
Cheryl Marshall
Frederick Serrano-Jimenez
Kenton Spencer
Christopher Stewart
John Thomas
Erin Wood

FACULTY PROFESSORS

Stephen J. Valentine • Amy Thomas • Jonathan C. Augustine

STAFF

Derek Cooper • Meredith Hudson

STUDENT ORGANIZATION SPOTLIGHT

Military and Veterans Law Student Society

The newly established Military and Veterans Law Student Society was created to help students who are interested in pursuing a legal career in the armed forces and for those committed to



advocating for veterans and their families. The organization also focuses on raising awareness about issues surrounding the military community. Alyssa Sanchez (pictured) is excited to lead this charge. Sanchez, a third year law student serves as president along with founding members: Lachlan McKinion, vice president; Michael Griddine Jr., treasurer; and Brittany Reaves, secretary who all make up the executive board. In spring

2022, the organization plans to host its first military law panel to address urgent issues impacting veterans and their families. The organization also plans to host an event recognizing active military and veteran law student service members. Sanchez hopes the organization will also help encourage students to participate in moot court competitions.

On November 6 & 7, Sanchez and McKinion will participate in their first National Veterans Law Moot Court Competition supervised by Professor Stephen Valentine. The competition is sponsored by George Washington University and the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims. Due to Covid-19, the first several rounds of the competition will be virtual with an opportunity to advance to the finals in Washington, D.C.



MENTORSHIP MATTERS

On October 20, the Student Bar Association (SBA) hosted a mentor-mentee social. The purpose of this event was to provide an opportunity for mentors (2Ls and 3Ls) and mentees (1Ls) to meet face-to-face and discuss their academic and personal goals for the year. They also collaborated to create a tangible action plan to help ensure the success of their goals.



HAPPY THANKSGIVING



RECIPES FROM THE DEAN'S TABLE

Roasted Carrots and Green Beans

Ingredients

- 1 tablespoon of avocado oil
- 1 pound of carrots chips
- 1 pound of green beans
- 1 large onion
- 2 cloves of garlic

Directions

- Pre-heat oven to 400 degrees.
- Stir carrots and green beans with the avocado oil.
- Put carrots, green beans, onion and garlic on a baking pan.
- Bake for 20 minutes.



Garlic Mashed Cauliflower

Ingredients

- 1 head cauliflower, cut into florets
- 1 tablespoon of olive oil
- 2 cloves of garlic, mashed
- $\frac{1}{4}$ cup of grated Parmesan cheese
- 1 tablespoon of reduced-fat cream cheese
- $\frac{1}{8}$ teaspoon of freshly ground black pepper

Directions

- Place a steamer insert into a saucepan and fill with water just below the bottom of the steamer. Bring water to boil.
- Add cauliflower, cover and steam until tender, about 10 minutes.
- Heat olive oil in a small skillet over medium heat; cook and stir garlic until softened, about 2 minutes. Remove from heat.
- Transfer half the cauliflower to a food processor or blender; cover and blend on high. Add remaining cauliflower florets, one at a time, until vegetables are creamy. Blend in garlic, Parmesan cheese, cream cheese and black pepper.