

40TH ANNUAL
Swards
Scholarship
DINNER

CALLING ALL
Changemakers

EARL B. GILLIAM BAR FOUNDATION

NOVEMBER 12, 2016
THE WESTIN SAN DIEGO HOTEL



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TONI G. ATKINS
SPEAKER EMERITUS

November 12, 2016

Welcome to the 40th Earl B. Gilliam Bar Foundation Scholarship and Awards dinner. Congratulations on this major milestone in the foundation's history!

Achieving equality and inclusion must remain one of our top priorities, whether we're attorneys, public servants, advocates or educators. The evening's theme, "Calling All Changemakers," acknowledges that more work needs to be done, and fresh ideas are constantly needed as we continue our struggle for diversity.

We share this desire to increase opportunities for those who are underrepresented, whether they are women, people of color or from the LGBT community. Unfortunately, obstacles remain. Many of us face threats to our basic civil rights, even today. For some, there's real danger in simply walking down the street without falling under suspicion – or worse.

The Honorable Elizabeth Riggs and the Honorable Daniel Weber, early leaders of The Earl B. Gilliam Bar Foundation, understood the importance of banding together to achieve significant gains for equality and social justice. They set out on this path to progress with the expectation that their journey would be a success. Today, you honor their accomplishments, as well as the commitment of those who followed them by continuing to carry on their mission. The foundation has brought about change and no doubt will inspire future changemakers for generations to come.

Congratulations to tonight's awardees and best wishes for your continued success.

Warmly,

TONI G. ATKINS
Speaker Emeritus
78th Assembly District

TA:jv

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LORENA GONZALEZ
ASSEMBLYWOMAN, EIGHTIETH DISTRICT

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CHAIR: APPROPRIATIONS

SELECT COMMITTEES
CHAIR: WOMEN IN THE WORKPLACE

***Congratulations,
Earl B. Gilliam Bar Foundation!***

***40th Annual Awards &
Scholarship Dinner***

November 12, 2016



Dear Friends,

It is my pleasure to welcome you to this year's Earl B. Gilliam Bar Foundation's "Calling All Changemakers" Awards and Scholarship Dinner, marking this fantastic event's 40th Anniversary.

For decades, the foundation's work mentoring students, fostering diversity reflective of San Diego's communities, and advocating for social change has built a powerful legacy, both locally and beyond, that is evident in your broad network of success.

Congratulations to all of tonight's awardees and scholarship recipients, who I know will continue to do great things for San Diego. I thank you all for another year of service and leadership, and I look forward to our continued collaboration to make our communities even stronger for years to come.

Please do not hesitate to contact me or my District Director, Francine Maigne, at 619.338.8090 or francine.maigne@asm.ca.gov for any assistance you may need.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lorena".

LORENA GONZALEZ
Assemblywoman, 80th District

JESUS RODRIGUEZ
ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY

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THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
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November 12, 2016

Dear Earl B. Gilliam Bar Members,

Congratulations on 40 years of outstanding service to San Diego County! Your association is the go-to organization for African-American lawyers, judges and law students throughout Southern California and it is my privilege to welcome those gathering in San Diego for the Earl B. Gilliam Bar Foundation's 40th Annual Scholarship and Awards Dinner.

The foundation has played an important role for more than four decades in representing the interests of the African-American legal community in San Diego County. Your financial assistance to law students and your pursuit of integrity, honor and courtesy are noble causes.

As San Diego County District Attorney, I am very proud of the diversity in our office, which roughly mirrors the greater San Diego Community. I think it is important that people see themselves reflected in government, and I commend the Earl B. Gilliam Bar Foundation for playing an important role in promoting diversity in the local legal community and ensuring social justice for all.

On behalf of the nearly 1,000 employees at the San Diego District Attorney's Office, thank you for all the important work you do and best wishes for a successful Awards and Scholarship Dinner.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bonnie M. Dumanis". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional style.

Bonnie M. Dumanis
San Diego County District Attorney

History OF THE Organization

The Earl B. Gilliam Bar Association was originally established in 1976 as the Association of Black Attorneys of San Diego County (“ABASDC”). In 1982, under the presidency of Daniel Weber, ABASDC formally changed its name to the Earl B. Gilliam Bar Association (“EBGBA”) in recognition of the Honorable Earl B. Gilliam, the first African-American United States District Court judge for the Southern District of California. Judge Gilliam was also the first African-American to serve as a San Diego County Superior Court judge.

In the mid-1970s there were very few Black attorneys in San Diego County. On a Saturday morning a small group of the ones who were here met up at Emma’s Pancake House at 54th and El Cajon. When they finished the meeting they all went out to go about their day and it started to rain. The men all began running to get out of the rain and no sooner had they started then a police car came up and stopped all of them. The policeman said there had been a robbery in the area and these men fit the description of the suspect. After being harassed for several minutes, upon being asked for identification all but one of the men produced their California State Bar cards. Surprised but apparently not deterred the policeman arrested the one man, attorney Willard Anthony, who did not have his bar card with him.

The others called the only local judge they could, Hon. Earl B. Gilliam. Judge Gilliam got Mr. Anthony immediately released and his record expunged. They were also able to determine that no such robbery had been

reported and made sure that the conduct of the police was noted in each officer’s personnel file. As a result of this experience, the men came together to form the Association of Black Attorneys of San Diego County. The organization was set up primarily to serve the community and to advocate for issues impacting Black attorneys. After several years of operation, at the urging of member Daniel Weber, who later became a judge, the organization changed its name to honor the first African American to serve on the bench in San Diego, Hon. Earl B. Gilliam.

Today, many members of the organization have gone on to successful careers as lawyers and judges and in other pursuits. And our challenge continues to be how to make sure that success for some translates into opportunity for all members of the community.

“The above information is paraphrased from a speech given by Daniel Weber’s widow, Assemblywoman for the 79th Assembly District Dr. Shirley Weber, on November 9, 2013 at the 37th Annual Awards & Scholarship Dinner*”

In 2014, the Board and the members of the Earl B. Gilliam Bar Association voted to create a 501(c)(6) organization to increase the organization’s political and civic voice in the San Diego community. As a result, the Earl B. Gilliam Bar Association is the 501(c)(6) membership organization and the Earl B. Gilliam Bar Foundation is the 501(c)(3) charitable organization dedicated to raising money for the scholarship fund.



JUDGE EARL B.
Gilliam

Earl B. Gilliam received his Bachelor of Arts degree from San Diego State College in 1953 and his Juris Doctor from Hastings College of Law in 1957. That same year, he began his legal career as a deputy district attorney in the San Diego District Attorney's Office.

In 1961, he went into private practice and continued in that capacity for two years before becoming a San Diego Municipal Court judge in 1963. He subsequently became the first African American to serve as a San Diego County Superior Court judge in 1975. In 1980, President Jimmy Carter appointed him as a judge of the United States District Court, Southern District of California. In 1993, he attained senior status at the United States District Court. Judge Gilliam was the first African American U.S. District Court Judge for the Southern District of California.

In addition to serving as a judicial officer, Judge Gilliam also worked as a law professor at Western State College of Law, an instructor in Urban and Rural Studies at the University of California at San Diego and as a guest lecturer at the United States International University. Due to his many contributions to the legal community and the community at large, Judge Gilliam was honored with more than a dozen awards during his legal career, including the following: San Diego Chamber of Commerce Young Man of the Year (1965), San Diego Citizen of the Year (1973 and 1994); San Diego Good Guy Award (1974); Boy's Club of San Diego Golden Man of the Year (1981); San Diego Trial Lawyers Association Trial Judge of the Year (1981); and a place on the San Diego High School Wall of Honor (1994).

Judge Gilliam's community and civic activities included participation in the following organizations: Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity; Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity (Founding Member); Founder and Organizer, Black Jewish Dialogue; Chairman, Legal Committee of the NAACP; Board of Directors and Vice President YMCA; and Advisory Committees for the Board of Education on Equal Education. Additionally, Judge Gilliam served as a member of the Board of Directors for numerous organizations including the following: Villa View Hospital Foundation; San Diego Kind Corporation; Burn Institute; San Diego State University Alumni Association; Salvation Army; YMCA; Urban League; Navy League; and 200th Anniversary of the City of San Diego.

Judge Gilliam was also awarded the national Bar Association's Wiley A. Branton Award (1997) and the California Association of Black Lawyers' Judicial Pioneer Award (1998). Judge Gilliam was also inducted into the National Bar Association Hall of Fame, which honors lawyers who have been licensed to practice for forty years or more and have made a significant contribution to the cause of justice.

Dinner Program Timeline

Reception/ Cocktail Hour

6:00 COCKTAIL RECEPTION

Dinner Program

7:00 WELCOME & INTRODUCTION OF MASTER OF CEREMONY ABRINA WHEATFALL,
VICE PRESIDENT,
DINNER CO-CHAIR

7:05 INVOCATION

7:10 "LIFT EVERY VOICE & SING" ELRICA YANCEY
LINCOLN H.S.
STUDENT

7:15 SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS JOY UTOMI,
FOUNDATION
PRESIDENT

7:25 DINNER

Presentation of Foundation Awards

7:55 INTRODUCTION OF THE
JUDICIAL PILLAR OF THE COMMUNITY AWARD BRITTNEY DOBBINS,
BOARD MEMBER

Honoree

JUDGE VALLERA JOHNSON

8:05 PRESENTATION OF DIVERSITY AWARDS..... JAYMES SANFORD,
BOARD MEMBER

SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY AWARD HONOREE
GENEVIEVE JONES-WRIGHT

CORPORATE COMMITMENT TO DIVERSITY AWARD HONOREE
KLINEDINST, ACCEPTED BY CFO HEATHER ROSING

Dinner Program Timeline

Presentation of Keynote

- 8:15 INTRODUCTION OF KEYNOTE SPEAKER VICKIE TURNER,
PARTNER AT
WILSON TURNER KOSMO
- 8:20 KEYNOTE ADDRESS ASSEMBLYWOMAN
SHIRLEY WEBER

Presentation of Scholarships

- 8:40 PRESENTATION OF SCHOLARSHIPS JOY UTOMI
LARA STINGLEY,
SCHOLARSHIP SELECTION
COMMITTEE CO-CHAIR

Presentation of President's Awards

- 9:00 PRESENTATION OF PRESIDENT'S AWARD JOY UTOMI

HONOREES:

DENNIS DAWSON AND ABRINA WHEATFALL

Installation Ceremony

- 9:10 INSTALLATION OF EBGBF AND EBGBA BOARDS JUDGE JOHN HOUSTON
- 9:20 FOUNDATION PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE AARON DUMAS,
2016-2017
FOUNDATION PRESIDENT
- 9:25 ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE
- 9:30 CLOSING REMARKS JOY UTOMI
AARON DUMAS

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& SAN DIEGANS AGAINST CRIME
OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER OF SAN DIEGO
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VOICE AND VIEWPOINT

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AND INCLUSION

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Opening Doors

We are proud to support the **Earl B. Gilliam Bar Association** and its commitment to representing the interests of African American lawyers, judges, and law students throughout San Diego County.

Congratulations to this year's scholarship winners and honorees.

We applaud your accomplishments and contributions to the Greater San Diego community.

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The firm would like to congratulate **Joy Utomi** on an
outstanding year as President and **Brittney Dobbins**
for her service as an At-large Board Member

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OF THE EBG ASSOCIATION

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Hon. Napoleon Jones Jr.*

Delroy Richardson*

Hon. Joseph K. Davis

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Dennis Dawson

Keith Burt

Hon. Daniel Weber*

Robert Bennett

Patricia Robinson

Mary Franklin

Hon. H. Wesley Pratt

Barbara Davis

Thomas Gayton

Hon. Randa M. Trapp

Randy K. Jones

Douglas A. Oden

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Harold G. Murray

Ben E. Johnson

Lei-Chala I. Wilson

Doc Anthony Anderson III

H. J. Sims

Sherry M. Thompson

Marvin E. Mizell

Hon. Roderick W. Shelton

S. Maria Hannah

Petrina M. Branch

Lei-Chala I. Wilson

Tina M. Fryar

Doc Anthony Anderson III

Antoinette Middleton

Valoree Wortham

Christian Scott

Udoka Nwanna

Omar Passons

Past Presidents of the Foundation

Charles Bell and Hon. Tilisha Martin

Pillars
OF THE FOUNDATION

A. King Amanpour; Janice Brown; Dave Carothers; Dennis Dawson; Hon. Robert Dahlquist; Hon. Raymond Edwards (ret), Hon. Joe Littlejohn (ret); Hon. Elizabeth Riggs (ret); Tina Fryar; Hon. John Houston; Hon. Sharon Majors-Lewis; Hon. Dwayne Moring; Rebecca Prater; Patricia Robinson; Kelly Rand; Hon. Roderick Shelton; Hon. Randa Trapp; Vickie Turner; Lei-Chala Wilson

*The above individuals were lifetime members of the original 501(c)(3) now known as the Earl B. Gilliam Bar Foundation. The Foundation is governed by a Board of Directors with no membership. Pillars of the Foundation recognize individuals that have helped sustain the organization through monetary support. If you would like to become a Pillar of the Foundation, please contact ebgbfoundation@gmail.com. If we omitted you, please accept our apologies and help us correct our error.

Outgoing President's Bio & Message



JOY
Utomi

Joy Utomi is a deputy attorney general in the California Department of Justice, Office of the Attorney General. She works in the Criminal Appeals, Writs, and Trials unit where she prosecutes felony cases. As a deputy attorney general, Joy has argued before the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals and all three divisions of the Fourth District of the California Court of Appeal, and has filed briefing in the California Supreme Court. In recent years, she has worked with a statewide team of appellate advocates who prosecute sexually violent predators. Joy received her law degree from the University of San Diego School of Law and her Bachelor of Arts degree in political science from Loyola Marymount University.

Message: It has been a great pleasure to serve as the President of the Earl B. Gilliam Bar Foundation this past year. I have been involved with the Earl B. Gilliam Bar since my first year of law school in 2007 and having the opportunity to lead this organization in its mission, while working with a truly dedicated Board of Directors, has been very fulfilling. I am honored and humbled to follow the long list of distinguished attorneys and judges who established and have led this great organization.

Building on the exemplary work the past presidents of this organization, I set out to accomplish two goals during my term: to continue our mission of promoting diversity and to give out more scholarships than ever before. In accord with these goals, this year the Foundation put on a “Day at the Races” outing, a judicial luncheon featuring three esteemed jurists, and a public sector career panel that gave law students and attorneys tips and advice on how to obtain a position in a government office. I would like to thank the judges, attorneys, law firms, and law students who participated in, supported, and sponsored these events.

As we celebrate the 40th Anniversary of this prestigious organization tonight, I am excited to announce that through the hard work of a dedicated board and the generous donations of our many valued sponsors, we will be awarding \$22,500 to 13 very accomplished and deserving law students! Adding the \$5,000 bar scholarship we gave out earlier this year through our partnership with the California Bar Foundation, this brings us to a total of \$27,500 in scholarships that will be awarded to deserving minority law students this year!

The success of the Foundation would not have been possible without the support of this wonderful San Diego legal community. I personally would like to thank Judge Martin, Judge Johnson, and Judge Houston for your guidance and support this year. To my board, thank you for your support, positivity, dedication, and patience during our long meetings. Finally, to my beloved family, thank you for your love, support, and wisdom this year and always.

I hope we all continue to answer the call to be changemakers and work to create a more diverse and inclusive legal community. As I finish my term, I leave you with one of my favorite passages: “Commit your work to the Lord, and your plans will be established.” – Proverbs 16:3

Sincerely,
Joy Utomi, Esq.
EBGB Foundation President, 2015-2016

Lift Ev'ry Voice and Sing

by JAMES WELDON JOHNSON

Lift ev'ry voice and sing,
'Til earth and heaven ring,
Ring with the harmonies of Liberty;
Let our rejoicing rise
High as the list'ning skies,
Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past
has taught us,
Sing a song full of the hope that the present
has brought us;
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun,
Let us march on 'til victory is won.
Stony the road we trod,
Bitter the chastening rod,
Felt in the days when hope unborn had died;
Yet with a steady beat,
Have not our weary feet
Come to the place for which our fathers
sighed?
We have come over a way that with tears has
been watered,

We have come, treading our path through the
blood of the slaughtered,
Out from the gloomy past,
'Til now we stand at last
Where the white gleam of our bright star is
cast.
God of our weary years,
God of our silent tears,
Thou who has brought us thus far on the way;
Thou who has by Thy might
Led us into the light,
Keep us forever in the path, we pray.
Lest our feet stray from the places, our God,
where we met Thee,
Lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the
world, we forget Thee;
Shadowed beneath Thy hand,
May we forever stand,
True to our God,
True to our native land.



Vocalist: Erica Yancey

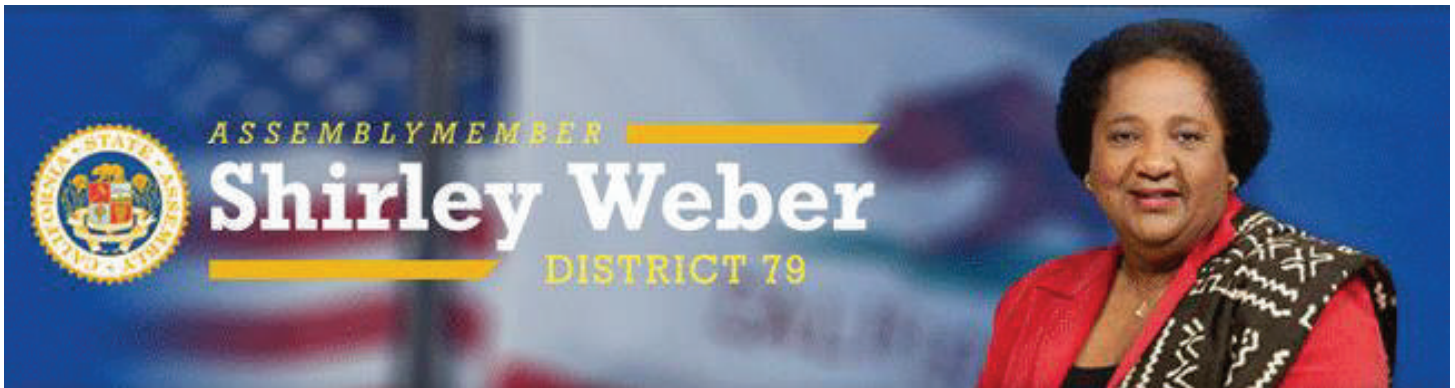
Erica Yancey is in the 11th grade at Lincoln High School. Her current GPA is a 3.7. At Lincoln, she is involved in the Lincoln High School Mock Trial Team, Wahupa Upward Bound, Leadership Club, Youth Advisery Board, and the Aaron Price Fellows Program. She is also the team manager for the Varsity Boy's Basketball team.



Master of Ceremonies: Dan Gilleon

Dan Gilleon came to San Diego after enlisting in the Navy at age 17 and being assigned to a nuclear submarine in Point Loma. After his enlistment, Mr. Gilleon attended Mesa College, UC San Diego, and then California Western School of Law. After getting his law license in 1998, he worked for a few years at an insurance defense firm, but then started his own firm in 2003, focusing on personal injury, employment and civil rights cases. He's a proud father of 6 children ages 7 to 18, and a devoted husband to his wife, Suzy.

Keynote Speaker



Assembly Member Shirley Nash Weber was elected in November of 2012 to represent California's 79th Assembly District, which includes the cities of Chula Vista, La Mesa, Lemon Grove, National City and San Diego.

Assembly member Weber was recently appointed by Assembly Speaker Rendon to chair the Assembly Committee on Elections and Redistricting. She also chairs the Assembly Select Committee on Higher Education in San Diego County and the Assembly Select Committee on Campus Climate, and serves on the Assembly Standing Committees on Education, Higher Education, Appropriations, and Banking and Finance. She is also past Chair of the Assembly Committee on the Budget

Born to sharecroppers from Hope, Arkansas, Shirley Weber has lived in California since the age of 3. Her parents, in particular her father, valued education and supported their daughter's academic aspirations. She attended UCLA, where she received her BA, MA and PhD by the age of 26. Prior to receiving her doctorate, she became a professor at San Diego State University at the age of 23. Dr. Weber also taught at California State University at Los Angeles and Los Angeles City College before coming to San Diego State University.

Weber has lived in the 79th Assembly District for over 30 years. Deeply committed to community service, she served on the boards of the NAACP, the YWCA, the YMCA Scholarship Committee, Battered Women Services, United Way and the San Diego Consortium. She eventually made a successful run for a seat on the board of the San Diego Unified School District. As a trustee and subsequent school board president, she became known for her advocacy for closing the achievement gap and setting a higher standard of excellence for all children.

As an Assembly member, Weber has translated her commitment to education and social justice into her ambitious legislative agenda. She has authored bills on K-12 education reform, increasing access and affordability for higher education for California's students, and a law to address the issue of racial profiling in policing. Other bills signed include legislation addressing civil rights, education, forced arbitration, protections for person with disabilities and voting rights.

She is also outspoken on the importance of investing in early childhood education as a means of preventing drop-out rates, dependence on social services, incarceration and unemployment. Assembly Member Weber is the mother of a daughter and son, and has two grandchildren. She is the widow of the late Honorable Daniel Weber, a California state judge.

NAPOLEON A. JONES JR.

*Judicial
Pillar Award*



JUDGE VALLERA

Johnson

Judge Vallera Johnson is a graduate of San Diego State University and Howard University School of Law and has been an administrative law judge for more than 25 years.

She is the founder and CEO of Women of Color in Law, Inc. and the person who originally developed the SDCBA/ACC – San Diego Diversity Fellowship Program. She has

been active in assisting students and lawyers achieve their goals in the legal community. For her pursuits, she has received awards from numerous organizations of color, the San Diego County Bar Association and the State Bar of California.

Judge Johnson has five adult children and seven grandchildren.

AWARD RECIPIENT

Service to the Community

GENEVIEVE
JONES-WRIGHT



Geneviève L. Jones-Wright was raised in a single parent, low-income home in San Diego, California where devotion to family and self-respect was cultivated. She decided in the fourth grade that she would attend Howard University School of Law after she learned about Justice Thurgood Marshall. Since that day, she has been determined to “carry the bags” of Justice Marshall as he had done for Mr. Charles Hamilton Houston.

In keeping with the vision, Geneviève obtained a J.D. from Howard Law after graduating from the University of San Francisco with a B.A. in mass media communications. At Howard, she worked as a student-attorney with the Criminal Justice Clinic where she represented the criminally accused. This work confirmed her career passion—criminal defense of the indigent.

Geneviève obtained an LL.M. in Trial Advocacy specializing in federal criminal defense from California Western School of Law. This one-of-a-kind program helped her perfect her craft and allowed her to work in both the Southern and Central Districts of Southern California.

Since 2006, Geneviève has served as a Deputy Public defender in San Diego where she lives out her life’s calling.

At present, Geneviève is a volunteer attorney with the California Innocence Project and mock trial coach and member of the Criminal Justice Program advisory board at Lincoln High School. She serves on San Diego’s Commission on Gang Prevention and Intervention where she chairs the ad hoc committee on gang documentation. Geneviève is also a board member of David’s Harp Foundation, an organization that radically transforms the lives of “at risk” and homeless youth through the power of music. She is also the founder of Motivation.In.Action, a professional motivational speaking firm.

Her life goals are to use the law as a tool for our oppressed and most vulnerable, and to make plain to those groups around the globe that in life there are no limitations on your heights, except the ones you place on yourself. Geneviève has an abiding love for God and sincerely desires to manifest Divine Love through service by way of her life.

AWARD RECIPIENT
Corporate Commitment to Diversity
KLINEDINST PC

HEATHER
ROSING



ACCEPTED BY HEATHER ROSING, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

Klinedinst PC is deeply committed to supporting efforts and programming to increase diversity in the legal profession. Ms. Rosing, the chairperson of the Klinedinst PC Diversity Committee, as well as a member of Earl B. Gilliam Bar Association (EBGBA), served as president of the San Diego County Bar Association (SDCBA) in 2008, where she launched the SDCBA's Diversity Fellowship Program, and initiated a variety of other connections to foster diversity and inclusion in the legal community.

Ms. Rosing also currently serves as Secretary of the California Bar Foundation (CBF), a statewide organization that heavily invests in grants and scholarships supporting diversity, equality, and inclusion in the California justice system. EBGBA partners with CBF in offering a 3L bar examination scholarship to a student committed to the San Diego African-American community and to serving underserved communities in San Diego.

Klinedinst PC, which has offices in San Diego, Orange County, Los Angeles, Sacramento, and Seattle, also annually sponsors a diversity scholarship for a 1L law student through CBF. The CBF 1L scholarships support diverse California students who will one day be leaders of the profession. The recipients come from a broad array of backgrounds and life experiences, and include students from groups (or with skills or attributes) that are underrepresented in the legal profession. Many recipients are from socially and economically disadvantaged backgrounds.

Through its participation in the SDCBA Diversity Fellowship program, as well as the Sacramento County Bar Association Diversity Fellow Program, Klinedinst PC welcomes a 1L student from an underrepresented community in each jurisdiction as a clerk at the firm during the summer.

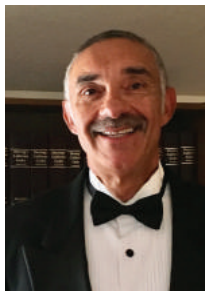
Klinedinst PC is also a proud and regular supporter of the SDCBA's Dialogue On Diversity, Women of Color in the Law, and several other organizations that are dedicated to the advancement of diversity and inclusion, including Lawyers Club of San Diego, La Raza lawyers of San Diego, and the Tom Homann Law Association. The firm was honored to be an original signatory to the Los Angeles County Bar Association's 2005 Statement of Diversity Goals and Principles and the SDCBA's 2007 Diversity Pledge. Klinedinst PC promotes the rights of the disabled through its active participation in the Disability Rights Legal Center in Los Angeles.

In addition to her leadership roles, Ms. Rosing volunteers her time speaking to attorneys across the state on issues of ethics and elimination of bias within the legal profession. Klinedinst PC encourages all of its professionals to participate in national and community-based organizations that empower attorneys to foster diversity in their own communities.

AWARD RECIPIENT

President's Award for Distinguished Service

DENNIS
DAWSON



Dennis Dawson has been practicing law for over 40 years. He received his law degree from Howard University School of Law and his Bachelor of Arts degree in political science from the University of Pennsylvania. From 1990 to 2010, Dennis worked as a Deputy Attorney General in the California Office of the Attorney General. There, he worked in the Natural Resources and Consumer Law sections, and he was also the first African-American Supervising Deputy Attorney General in the Employment, Regulation, and Administration Section.

Dennis is very active in the San Diego community and has devoted much of his private life to supporting underrepresented communities. He is a fourth-term president of the Earl B. Gilliam Bar Association. In that capacity, he organized a high school outreach program in which attorneys spoke to area high school students about what to do if they are stopped by the police. He has also mentored juvenile parolees of the California Youth Authority. Dennis is a member of the California Association of Black Lawyers and in that role, he spearheaded a legal panel discussion on the need for grand jury reform. He is also a member of the NAACP, the National Bar Association, and Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity. In his free time, he is the leader of the Dennis Dawson Jazz Ensemble and a member of the Christ the King Gospel Choir.

Dennis currently has a solo practice in which he handles employment discrimination and business litigation cases.

AWARD RECIPIENT

President's Award for Distinguished Service

ABRINA
WHEATFALL



Abrina joined the UC San Diego Intercollegiate Athletics Department as an Assistant Athletics Director for Compliance in September of 2012. She is responsible for investigating and submitting findings of NCAA rule violations, monitoring compliance, and providing counsel on applicable regulations regarding the department's 23 sports programs.

Abrina was admitted to the State Bar of California in December 2012. She attended Thomas Jefferson School of Law where she was a member of the Sports Law Society, and president of the Black Law Students Association. During law school Abrina interned for the University of San Diego Intercollegiate Athletics Department where she drafted memos pertaining to NCAA rules and regulations, and provided educational sessions to coaches and staff.

Abrina earned her bachelor's degree in political science and ethnic studies from the University of Oregon where she was an Oregon Duck cheerleader and president of the Black Student Union.

Abrina serves on the San Diego County Bar's Sports and Entertainment Law section leadership. She is also a member of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated, the National Association for Athletics Compliance (NAAC), and the San Diego chapter of Women in Sports and Events (WISE). Abrina is the Vice President of the Earl B. Gilliam Bar Foundation and has held various leadership roles with the Earl B. Gilliam Bar since 2013.

Scholarship Recipients

ANDREW

Feaster

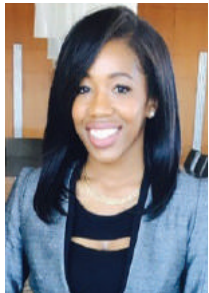


Earl B. Gilliam Scholarship \$2,500
California Western School of Law

Andrew is currently a 3L at California Western School of law. Being a San Diego native, he is an alumnus of both Eastlake High School and San Diego State University. Andrew decided to go to law school with the purpose of being a Public Defender and has worked at the San Diego Public Defender's office as a Certified Law Clerk for the past two years. He has been profoundly dedicated to public service in his tenure at CWSL and has been inducted into the Pro Bono Honor Society. Andrew has served as chapter President of the Black Law Students' Association (BLSA) and currently serves as the organization's Western Regional Chief of Staff. Andrew has also been part of the student-mentoring program at CWSL (also known as the "Buddy Program") for two years and was given the "Student of Distinction Award" in 2015.

LIKU

Madoshi



Kathy Payne Scholarship \$2,000
Thomas Jefferson School of Law

With family roots in Tanzania, Liku was born and raised in the Bay Area. Liku graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Organizational Communication with a minor in Philosophy from California State University, Sacramento where she also became a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated. Liku is passionate about giving back to the community and has extensive experience working with underprivileged youth. She is currently a 3L at Thomas Jefferson School of Law and is interested criminal and transactional law. Liku's research article, "Policing the Police: Racial Implicit Bias & Limiting Police Discretion to Use Military Gear Against Protestors," is scheduled to be published in the Southern University Law Review this Fall. Liku is the first Black Editor-in-Chief of the Thomas Jefferson Law Review. She is also on the Academic Committee for the Black Law Student Association, a member of the Alternative Dispute Resolution Society, and Secretary for the Thomas Jefferson American Constitution Society.

ALEXANDRIA

Jones



2017 February Bar Scholarship \$2000
Thomas Jefferson School of Law

Alexandria is in her third year at Thomas Jefferson School of Law. In her second year of law school, Alexandria managed a full course load, an externship with the Family Law Facilitator's office, she was a regional competitor and the secretary of her ADR team, she was the Western Region Financial Secretary of NLBSA, an active participant in her local BLSA chapter, and she was involved in several academic organizations. Alexandria will receive her Juris Doctorate with a Global Legal Studies Certificate this December, one semester early. Currently, Alexandria is an extern for the Honorable John A. Houston, and is still active with several student organizations on campus. Alexandria wishes to focus her career on civil international law, in addition to aiding the San Diego community that has supported her since moved to the city in 2014.

CURTIS
Jackson



Judicial Scholarship \$1,500
University of San Diego School of Law

Curtis is a part-time student in his third year at the University of San Diego School of Law. He is working toward a concentration in Business & Corporate law. Curtis is extremely interested in real estate law after spending the last ten years working in the real estate field. Currently he is the Real Estate Manager for the City of Carlsbad. On campus, Curtis is the Co-President of the Black Law Student Association, and Vice President of the Real Estate Land Use Society. Aside from his educational responsibilities, Curtis is a father to two young children and devoted husband. A native San Diegan, Curtis intends on staying within the region and applying his degree to the complex world of municipal real estate transactions.

MONIQUE
Larmond



Judicial Scholarship \$1,500
Thomas Jefferson School of Law

Monique is from New York City. She graduated from the State University Of New York-Binghamton, with a Bachelors of Arts in Economics and Africana Studies, and received her Masters of Science in Sports Business Management. She has always wanted to be an attorney, so she decided to get a change of scenery and fulfill her lifelong dream. She believes that coming to San Diego to pursue her J.D. at Thomas Jefferson School of Law has been one of the best decisions she has ever made. I have remained in the top five percent of my class while tackling a lot of what law school has to offer. She is currently the Managing Editor for the Thomas Jefferson Law Review, on the Academic Committee for the Black Law Student Association, and on the Alternative Dispute Resolution team. After law school, she hopes to work in-house at a company, while doing pro bono work in the community.

PAYTON
Randle



CWSL Twyman Scholarship \$5,000
California Western School of Law

Payton is originally from Sioux Falls, South Dakota. She is the oldest of four children. She attended the University of South Dakota where she obtained her bachelor's degree in journalism and political science. Before coming to law school she spent one year working at a local newspaper in Sioux Falls. In her first year of law school, she found an interest in criminal law. She has interned with the San Diego Primary Public Defender's Office and is currently interning with the California Innocence Project. Aside from internships, she is involved in Moot Court Honors Board and is a competitive mock trial team member.

REBECCA
Brown



Carothers Scholarship \$1,500
California Western School of Law

Rebecca is from the Bay Area and is in her final year of law school at California Western School of Law. After law school, she hopes to begin a legal career in Labor and Employment Law. She also has dreams to start a non-profit organization, in which she would provide an upward bound program for minority children. This past summer, she was interned in the Regional Legal Unit of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees' office.

BRIANA

Givens



Dependency Legal Scholarship \$1,500
Thomas Jefferson School of Law

Briana is from Palm Springs, California. She graduated from Palm Springs High School in 2010 and began college at Cerritos Community College in Los Angeles. After two years, she transferred to the University of California, Riverside where she obtained her Bachelors degree in Political Science Law and Society. She is in her third year of law school and is looking forward to graduating this May. Her law review note was published in the Thomas Jefferson Law Review Journal last spring and she is currently the Executive Editor on the Managing Board. In addition to Law Review, she is an active member of the Black Law Students Association, the American Constitution Society, the Crawford Law Institute & Mentorship Bond, the Public Law Interest Law Foundation, and play intramural basketball.

DONALD

Johnson



Jose & Laura Castillo Scholarship \$1,000
California Western School of Law

Donald was born in Los Angeles, California. He moved with his mother to New York at the age of nine. In his own words, Donald says "I was a gang member most of my teenage and adult life until I made the decision to change my life into a positive direction." He graduated from Dominguez High School in the city of Compton and joined the U.S. Navy. He has worked and mentored many inner-city youths in the city of San Diego in the last decade. He now proudly serves in the role of Commissioner on the San Diego Gang Prevention and Intervention Commission. In May 2016, he graduated from Point Loma Nazarene University with a bachelor's degree in Sociology and Criminal Justice. Donald is currently a first-year student at California Western School of Law in hopes in specializing in Criminal Defense.

TAFADZWA

Mafarirano



Higgs Fletcher & Mack Scholarship \$1,000
California Western School of Law

Tafadzwa is a second-year student at California Western School of Law. She received her bachelor's degree at Humphreys College in Stockton, California and her Masters' degree in Public Administration at National University. She is originally from Zimbabwe but came to the U.S. in 2009. Her journey to become an attorney started at a young age. When she was growing up, most of her diary entries were about becoming an attorney. Tafadzwa's childhood inspirations have motivated her to set goals and to work hard to achieve them. Receiving this scholarship motivates her to keep working hard and keep giving back to the community. Tafadzwa wants to continue being a role model to children in the community because they are the future leaders of tomorrow. She wants to be viewed as an inspiring goal achiever, and a hardworking individual who inspires the younger generation to excel as future community leaders.

DANASIA
Neal



Procopio Scholarship \$1,000
California Western School of Law

Danasia was born and raised in inner city Detroit, MI. Danasia received her Bachelors of Art and Sciences in Criminal Justice from Wayne State University. Leaving the Motorcity, she decided to pursue one of her dreams as an attorney here in San Diego, California. Although Danasia loves Criminal Justice, she has added Employment/Business Law to her practice interests.

She plans to own a firm practicing in the mentioned areas, but specializing in Entertainment Law, particularly Music. Danaisa is currently a third-year student and is the President of the Student Intellectual Property Law Association, the Vice President of the Employment and Labor Law Society, and the Webmaster for the Student Bar Association. She believes hard work pays off and lives by the motto: Dedication, Determination, and Discipline.

In her own words: "I thanked God for this scholarship a million times, but ultimately it's not for me it's for the individuals who have no hope of making it out of where we're from. I have to show them that everything they want is possible if they work hard and this scholarship is proof of that."

SYDNEY
Colbert



Robbins Arroyo Scholarship \$1,000
University of San Diego School of Law

Sydney is a native of Annapolis, MD and obtained a B.A. in both Sociology and Journalism from Hofstra University in 2015. While obtaining her undergraduate degree Sydney worked in the media industry for the top radio stations in New York City. Sydney always knew she wanted to go to law school and her impressive academic achievements in her first year, including a CALI award in Civil Procedure I, shows her dedication to this field. Sydney is currently pursuing her J.D. at the University of San Diego School of Law and is graduating in May 2018. She is also the Western Regional Director of Communications for the National Black Law Students Association. Over the summer Sydney attained an internship with Wilson Turner Kosmo LLP through the San Diego County Bar Association's Diversity Fellowship Program where she obtained extensive real world experience and confirmed that she chose the correct profession. Sydney is honored to receive a scholarship sponsored by Robbins Arroyo LLP and wants to thank Earl B. Gilliam Bar Foundation as well as the entire legal community for the support she continuously receives.

JORDAN
Proctor



Scholarship \$1,000
New York University School of Law

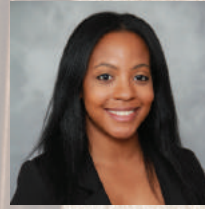
Jordan is a third-year student at NYU School of Law. He graduated with a B.A. in International Studies from University of California, San Diego. Jordan worked at the Public Defender Service in Washington, D.C. as a summer law clerk and hopes to become a public defender. He is active in BALSAs and various other student organizations.

In his own words: "It is a great honor to both receive a Earl B. Gilliam Bar Foundation Scholarship and know I have the support of the San Diego community as I begin my career. With this Award, I will be able to diversify my educational experiences and participate in a law study abroad program in Buenos Aires, Argentina."

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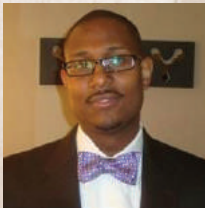
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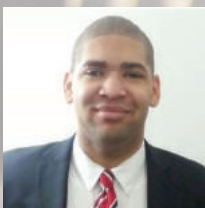
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EARL B. GILLIAM BAR ASSOCIATION

2016 Year in Review



DENNIS
Dawson

In 2016 we determinedly continued our historical mission of using legal tools and legal discipline to advance the educational, economic, social, legislative, and political interests of African-Americans.

We repeatedly educated an appreciative community through our “What to do if you get stopped by the police” series of presentations and through our Neighborhood Law School classes on various legal topics. We met with BLSA students at the local law schools, advising them on keys to achieving academic and professional success. Along with the Foundation, we appeared at the County Bar’s open house for ILs to describe our Bar Association, the Foundation, and how students can both contribute and benefit from their involvement with both organizations.

We strengthened our economic interests by strictly limiting expenditures while building a monetary base from which we can financially support causes which we determine are unquestionably indispensable to our community’s best interests. Your life membership, other dues payments, voluntary contributions, and regular reports of pro bono hours to support our receipt of stipends were, and continue to be critical to strengthen our savings/reserve account intended to ensure our long term sustainability.

We protected the community’s social interests by advocating for structural changes to ensure impartial, transparent, and effective

accountability in the Citizen’s Review Board’s handling of complaints against police officers. We publically called for a federal investigation of the shooting death of Alfred Olango by the El Cajon police. We financially supported anti-sex trafficking efforts in the community and assisted the newly arrived Haitian immigrants with our donations.

We strongly supported California asset forfeiture reform legislation, working closely with CABL, as we did on achieving grand jury reform.

We furthered the community’s political interests by carefully vetting and selectively endorsing political candidates and ballot measures. We appeared in the media to decry the sobering statistics reflecting the dearth of African-American judges in California, especially here in San Diego, and we directly urged the Governor to appoint our members who are seeking appointment to the bench.

In closing, I sincerely thank our board members and the entire membership for supporting our mission by both your hard work and generous financial contributions. I also thank the Foundation’s leadership for your valuable collaboration on our joint areas of interest. Let’s all continue to work together to excel in our efforts under the name and in the memory of the Hon. Earl B. Gilliam.

“And may the gracious care of the Lord our God be ours;
prosper the work of our hands for us!

“Prosper the work of our hands!” Psalm 90:17
Dennis W. Dawson
EBGBA Immediate Past President

Foundation President



AARON
Dumas Jr.

In his words...
“Calling all change makers to “wait your turn”?”

Through a quirk of genetics and law I was born in Jamaica; 50% of a Tobagonian father, 50% of a Jamaican mother and now legally naturalized in America I am 100% Jamaican, 100% Tobagonian and 100% American. The Jamaican motto is “Out of many ONE people” and if you notice some similarity to “E Pluribus Unum” it has not escaped my notice. Here I am 100% American but labelled African-American by my skin color so my mom daily fears for my safety as I leave my home in one of America’s safest cities. That needs to change!

When we raise the issue of personal safety with persons in authority we are told “look how far you have come” “if you do not like it leave” and “wait your turn.” That needs to change! Too often when we advocate for racial equality we are told to “wait your turn” as if racial equality needs a timeline? That needs to change! It is never a bad time to do the right thing. This year’s dinner motto is ‘Calling all Changemakers’ and we are calling upon all persons to help us change the status quo. An already great country is not a perfect country and we strive for perfection knowing that the pursuit makes our lives richer “together we aspire together we achieve” that motto is from Trinidad and Tobago.

It has become impossible to go a week without hearing of an incident where a minority has been assaulted by an authority figure. That needs to change! “Black on Black” crime still exists as a statistical category. That needs to change! It is reductive to simply choose to see a racial category of persons as fighting each other that needs to change! When we ask black persons to “be more concerned with black on black crimes” we allow the dehumanization of our personhood to simple racial makeup. That

needs to change! Black persons in poverty face a much more difficult path to getting out of such a condition than any other race. That needs to change!

We are not asking for anything more than equality. We need to increase the educational pathways for our young so that we erase the cradle to jail path that so many people are destined for. That needs to change!

With people often segregated by income as well as race, removing educational opportunities further serves to keep us from ‘a more perfect union.’ Let us not pay lip service to the ideal of “E Pluribus Unum” but rather ensure that all persons are truly created equal. The Earl B. Gilliam Bar Foundation is here to help with the educational needs of our community and with your help we will continue to strive to lift everyone up. We will not wait our turn, we will not turn a blind eye to society’s ills, we know that together we will achieve great things and we know that this greatness starts in the local community.

And when someone calls for a change that is a request for equality, it should not be viewed as a desire to set any race above another...**THAT NEEDS TO CHANGE!**”

Biography:

Mr. Dumas migrated from Kingston, Jamaica to America seeking the land of opportunity. After studying Zoology at the University of Texas he decided he would make more of an impact in the law than in medicine and went to the University of San Diego School of law where he leveraged his ‘uniqueness’ on that campus to help incoming students. Mr. Dumas has worked for an international conglomerate as well as Plaintiffs’ firms specializing in class actions that have returned billions of dollars to investors. While his day job means that he works in the corporate world, he spends many an evening helping local musicians navigate the rigors of the music industry.

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