

## Spring Negotiation Competition

Twenty-four teams competed in the Spring Negotiation Competition this past weekend. Advancing to the Final Round were Blake Williams, Brett Knight, Wes Hill, and Matthew Potter. After several hours and fierce competition, Blake Williams and Brett Knight are this semester's champions!

*Please take a moment to congratulate our finalists.*



In the picture from left to right are: John M. Exum (Director of the Negotiation Competitions Trial Advocacy Board), Blake Williams, Brett Knight, Matthew Potter, and Wes Hill.

## Called to the Bar Program

The next program in the *Called to the Bar* series is scheduled Wednesday, January 27 at NOON in the Moot Court Room. In this session, first year students will have an opportunity to hear from representatives from the:

Law Review  
American Journal of Trial Advocacy  
Moot Court Board  
Trial Board  
Cordell Hull Speakers Forum

1L ATTENDANCE IS MANDATORY



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# Cumberland Law Review Seminar

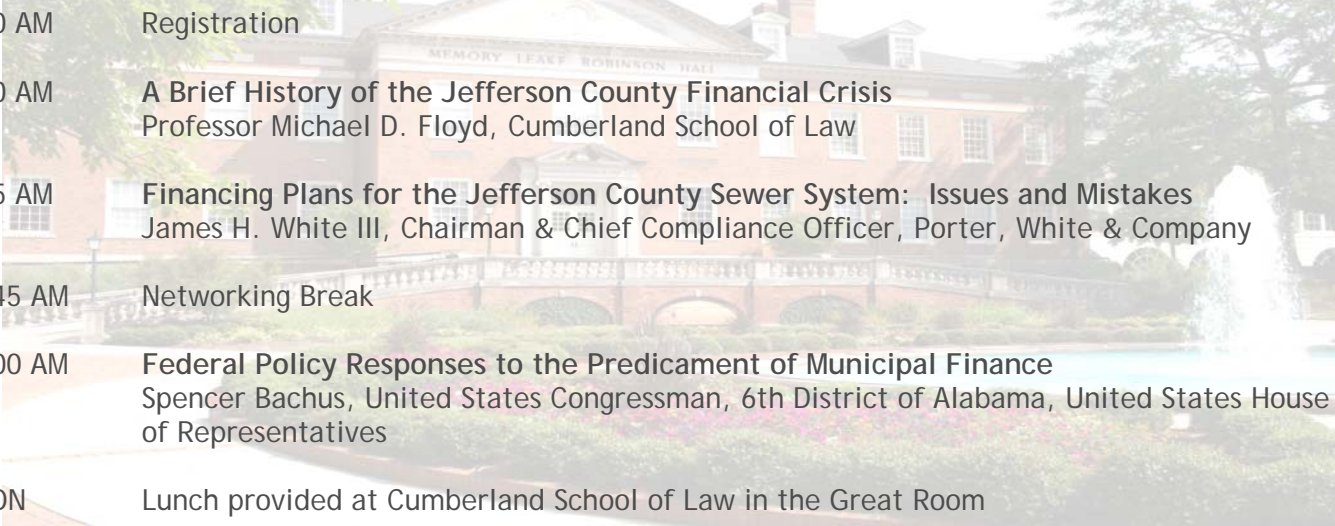
*The Cumberland Law Review Presents*

## The Jefferson County Sewer Debacle: A Case Study in Law, Public Policy, and Municipal Finance

Friday, January 29, 2010 • 9:00 AM - 3:30 PM • Cumberland School of Law • Moot Court Room

The *Law Review* will host a symposium on the Jefferson County sewer situation this Friday and will offer a scholarly discussion of the many factors surrounding the issue. The program will take place in the Moot Court Room, and students, faculty and staff are invited to attend. CLE credit is available.

Although journalists have documented the Jefferson County financial situation, the legal community has yet to engage in an organized, scholarly discussion of the multitude of factors surrounding the Jefferson County sewer debacle. The Cumberland forum will facilitate discussion of how the county got itself into its current financial trouble and how to prevent history from repeating itself.

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- 8:30 AM Registration
- 9:00 AM **A Brief History of the Jefferson County Financial Crisis**  
Professor Michael D. Floyd, Cumberland School of Law
- 9:45 AM **Financing Plans for the Jefferson County Sewer System: Issues and Mistakes**  
James H. White III, Chairman & Chief Compliance Officer, Porter, White & Company
- 10:45 AM Networking Break
- 11:00 AM **Federal Policy Responses to the Predicament of Municipal Finance**  
Spencer Bachus, United States Congressman, 6th District of Alabama, United States House of Representatives
- NOON Lunch provided at Cumberland School of Law in the Great Room
- 1:00 PM **Structuring County Government to Mitigate the Risk Involved in Financing Decisions**  
Dr. Randolph Horn, Associate Professor Political Science, Samford University  
James W. Williams, Jr., Executive Director, Public Affairs Research Council of Alabama, Samford University
- 2:00 PM **The Legal Implications of the Voting Rights Act Consent Decree on Jefferson County's Government**  
Professor LaJuana S. Davis, Cumberland School of Law, Samford University
- 2:30 PM Networking Break
- 2:45 PM Closing Remarks and Open Panel Discussion: Speakers to be Announced
- 3:30 PM Adjourn

To register for the seminar, please contact Janice James at 205.726.2757 or [jjjames@samford.edu](mailto:jjjames@samford.edu).

## 2010 Cambridge Summer Study-Abroad Program



Our planning continues for the 2010 Cambridge Summer Study-Abroad Program, and we hope you seriously consider participating. You're invited to attend an informational meeting on **Thursday, January 28** at 12:00 noon in Room 123. (You'll be able to leave in time to attend the 12:15 PM Cordell Hull Program that day, if you wish.) **Professor Floyd** and **Erin Carroll** also welcome your questions about the program at any time, and further information is available at:

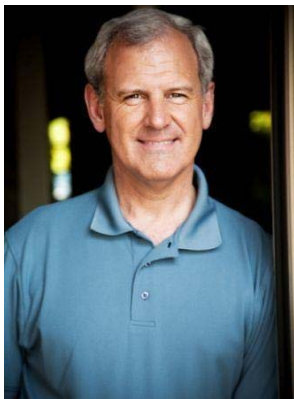
<http://www.cumberland.samford.edu/students/foreign-programs>

Click on the blue Cambridge link for the full brochure (in pdf format) which has an application form and a detailed

calendar at the end. You may submit your application to either **Professor Floyd** (Room 220-B) or **Erin Carroll** (Room 220-A).

As an add-on prior to attending the Cambridge program, a limited number of students have the opportunity to do directed research in London in June 2010 with **Barrister Adrian Jenkala**. **Elizabeth Barclay** and **Charlie Nelson** took advantage of this opportunity in 2009, and they will be happy to tell you about their experiences. Please let Professor Floyd know as soon as possible if you are interested in doing this, as the number of participants is extremely limited.

## Cordell Hull Speakers Forum



BRADLEY BYRNE

The Cordell Hull Speakers Forum presents **Bradley Byrne**, the Republican candidate for governor of Alabama 2010, on **Thursday, January 28** at 12:15 PM in the Moot Court Room in Robinson Hall.

### A LUNCHEON RECEPTION WILL FOLLOW IN THE GREAT ROOM

Byrne was born and raised in Mobile and attended University Military School in Mobile. After earning his law degree from the University of Alabama School of Law, he practiced law in Mobile for more than 25 years.

In 1994, Byrne entered the public arena, offering his candidacy as a member of the Alabama State Board of Education. He was elected, and then reelected in 1998. In 2002, he won the Republican nomination and general election to the State Senate, and was reelected in 2006. While in the Senate, he served on the Education Committee, the Education Budget Committee, and the Judiciary Committee, and chaired the Joint Oversight Committee on State Parks.

**THIS EVENT IS FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

## Death Penalty Seminar



REV. BILLY MOORE

Rev. Billy Moore, death row exoneree from Rome, Georgia, will discuss capital punishment in the Moot Court Room at Cumberland School of Law on Thursday, January 28, 2010 at 3:30 PM.

Moore spent almost 17 years on Georgia's death row for a murder that he admits committing. He had his sentence commuted to life in 1991, after the victim's family spoke out against his execution. He was paroled a year later, making him the only death row prisoner who admitted his guilt to have been freed. He has spent the last 12 years determined to show that the death penalty is no solution to crime. The Georgia parole board, which can commute death sentences, did so for Moore at the urging of his victim's family and a number of other advocates, including Mother Teresa. Today, at age 57,

he is a minister who lives in Rome, Georgia, and he travels the country to share his story.

The students, faculty and staff of Cumberland School of Law are invited to hear Moore's unbelievable story and share in a discussion regarding capital punishment in America. Rev. Moore will be a keynote speaker at the Alabama Criminal Defense Lawyers annual death penalty seminar to be held in Birmingham on January 29 and 30. Cumberland School of Law is a co-sponsor of this annual event where capital case defenders from around the Southeast will gather to learn the latest courtroom strategies for the defense.

## SBA Blood Drive

On Wednesday, January 27, from 10 AM to 3 PM in the Great Room, the Student Bar Association and Student Health Lawyers Association will sponsor a Blood Drive. Beverages and snacks will be provided to give a little energy after giving the gift of life! All donors receive an American Red Cross T-shirt and are eligible to participate in a drawing for a \$1,000 gift certificate. To make an appointment, visit [www.givelife.org](http://www.givelife.org) and enter sponsor code "cumberlandlaw."

## Helping Haiti Together



The Cumberland community is coming together to raise funds for the people of Haiti who have been stricken by two disastrous earthquakes. The faculty, staff and students of the Cumberland community will participate in a Bake Sale and Krispy Kreme Donut Sale (\$5/box on pre-sale and \$6.50 on Friday January 29, 2010). The Bake Sale will take place on Wednesday, January 27, 2010 in the Student Lounge.

The proceeds will be donated, 100%, to Haiti via Global Faith Missions Agency through Ms. Pam Nelson's Church. Your participation in this effort will make a difference in at least one Haitian victim's life.

## Faculty Colloquium

Professor William Ross will speak to the Cumberland faculty Thursday, January 28 at 2:30 PM in the Dean's Conference Room. Refreshments will be provided. If you plan to attend, please RSVP to Laurie Zimmer at 726.2411 or [lzimmer@samford.edu](mailto:lzimmer@samford.edu) no later than 4:00 PM on Wednesday, January 27.

The topic of Professor Ross' presentation is:

*Presidential Aspirations Among U.S. Supreme Court Justices:  
A History and a Cautionary Warning*



## The Governor Albert Brewer Client Counseling Competition

*SIGN-UPS END JANUARY 27 • SIGN-UP SHEET LOCATED OUTSIDE TRIAL BOARD OFFICE*

The Competition Begins January 30 at 9 AM • Meet at the Friendship Room in the Law Library

ALL Law Students are eligible to participate!

Participation in this competition and one other ADR competition can satisfy your ADR requirement for joining Cumberland's Trial Board

No prior experience/participation in other Client Counseling Competitions required!

Sign-up with a partner (\$15 per person)

Questions? E-mail:

Andrew Brashier ([aebrashier@gmail.com](mailto:aebrashier@gmail.com))

Daniel Milton ([dnmilton@samford.edu](mailto:dnmilton@samford.edu))

## Faculty News

JUDGE JOHN CARROLL

On January 20, 2010, Judge Carroll was a panelist on a nationally broadcast Webinar on "E-discovery Ethics." He will also be a faculty member at a national training conference entitled "E-discovery Dispute Resolution for Special Masters and Mediators." The training seminar is sponsored by the Sedona Conference, a national complex litigation think tank, and will take place in Phoenix, Arizona on January 28 and 29.

## HELP Project Summer Internship

The Cumberland Public Interest Project is proud to announce an available stipend, provided by the ABA Commission on Homelessness and Poverty, for a student interested in providing legal assistance to the homeless over the summer. The student will assist the Public Interest Project with the Homeless Experience Legal Protection (HELP) program under the direction of attorneys from various firms in the Birmingham area.

Firms scheduled to participate include Bradley Arant Boult Cummings, LLP; Burr Forman, LLP; Lightfoot, Franklin, & White LLC; and Sirote & Permutt, PC. The amount of the stipend is \$2,500 and all law students are eligible. First year law students are especially encouraged to apply.

Applications are due **March 11**.

Please see **Tim Cook** or **Cassandra Adams** in room 215 for an application.

## Title Exam Workshop

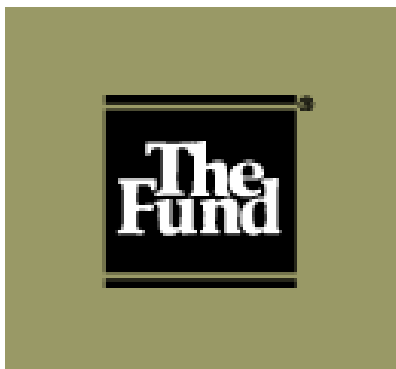
A Title Examination Workshop presented by the Attorneys' Title Insurance Fund, Inc. is scheduled:

**Thursday, February 11, 2010**

**NOON in the Great Room**

**Lunch Will Be Provided**

A real estate transaction involves many parties and the potential for numerous conflicts of interest. At its core, is the title to real property: its quality, and its transfer and/or encumbrance. Historically, the evaluation of the quality of title to real property, and the rendition of an opinion with respect thereto, has belonged to attorneys. Title insurance policies are issued based on the results of the title examination process. Attorneys earn a portion of the title insurance premium when they serve as an agent for a title insurance underwriter. In some areas of the country, a major source of attorneys' fees associated with real estate transactions is the title insurance premium. It is a "bread and butter" practice area for most attorneys in small firm practice. Knowing how to examine title to real property is thus an essential skill newly minted attorneys must have.



The Fund's Title Examination Workshop is designed to provide law students with an introduction to the knowledge and techniques necessary to accurately examine titles. The workshop will include the creation and review of a chain of title and a critical analysis of the documents in the title chain. It will also include an overview of the role of title insurance in transactions, an overview of the title insurance industry, and the types of coverage available.

*Continued on next page*

*From previous page (Title Exam Workshop)*

The mission of the Attorneys' Title Insurance Fund, Inc. (The Fund) is to preserve and facilitate the real estate practices of its 6,000 member attorneys in their protection of the public. The Fund supports the needs and promotes the success of attorneys' real estate practices by providing valuable, relevant, and timely information, as well as innovative products and services that allow attorneys to conduct transactions electronically, easily, and efficiently. As the nation's first Bar-related® title insurance underwriter, The Fund has been providing extensive support for the real estate practices of attorneys since 1948.

For more information about this program, please contact:

Professor Mike Floyd ([mdfloyd@samford.edu](mailto:mdfloyd@samford.edu)) or your Property professor

UPCOMING EVENTS • CUMBERLAND SCHOOL OF LAW

Please follow the link for a list of upcoming events:

<http://cumberland.samford.edu/events-list>

SAMFORD UNIVERSITY  
CUMBERLAND  
SCHOOL of LAW  
1847

WHERE GOOD PEOPLE BECOME EXCEPTIONAL LAWYERS