



CHARLES HOUSTON BAR ASSOCIATION

67th Annual Gala

DINNER & AWARDS

Advancing Civil Rights Today, Tomorrow, and Forever!





Saturday

DECEMBER 3, 2022

HYATT REGENCY, SAN FRANCISCO

Judicate West is Proud to Support Charles Houston Bar Association

Congratulations to the 2022 Honorees and all of this year's scholarship recipients!

CHARLES HOUSTON BAR ASSOCIATION

Our History

The Charles Houston Bar Association (CHBA), an affiliate of the National Bar Association, represents the interests of African American attorneys throughout Northern California. Its goals are to implement programs designed to increase the access of African American people to the justice system. CHBA is committed to working with the African American community to ensure equal protection under the law. As the challenges we face increase, our commitment grows stronger as we move into the year 2023. This millennium affords new opportunities.

CHBA was founded in 1955 in honor of the legendary litigator Charles Hamilton Houston, known by many as the first "Mr. Civil Rights." Mr. Houston was an outstanding constitutional lawyer and the key legal theorist and strategist in the critical early battles against racial discrimination in education, labor, and housing. He fervently believed that African American lawyers should be "social engineers" who use the law to promote fundamental social change. His career and life were devoted to this precept. He personally argued or contributed to the preparation of the most important civil rights cases that helped eliminate the legal precedents that permitted racial segregation in public schools. Among these decisions are Brown v. Board of Education (1954) and Bolling v. Sharpe (1954).

We believe that Mr. Houston would be very proud of the accomplishments and goals of our Association.

Advancing Civil Rights
Today, Tomorrow, and Forever!

PRESIDENT'S *Welcome*



Dear CHBA Members & Friends:

Welcome to the Charles Houston Bar Association's 67th Annual Scholarship Gala. The theme for this year's Scholarship Gala is **"Advancing Civil Rights Today, Tomorrow, and Forever!"** Over the past year, I have had the honor and privilege of serving as your president. During my tenure, we have made history as we have fought for civil rights, diversity, equity, and inclusion. Here are a few highlights from my year as president of this historic organization:

- We filed an amicus brief in defense of Affirmative Action with the U.S. Supreme Court, which was joined by 24 other civil rights organizations. This was the first appearance of CHBA before the U.S. Supreme Court in decades.
- We raised more than $200,000 for the CHBA Gala—the most in CHBA history.
- Our new 501(c)(3) foundation, the Charles Houston Bar Institute went live, which provides CHBA supporters with an opportunity to make tax deductible scholarship donations.
- We raised funds and awarded more than $80,000 in scholarships during the calendar year – the most in CHBA history.
- We helped numerous African American lawyers, judges, and students earn prestigious appointments and awards.
- I represented CHBA and spoke at and organized dozens of civil rights, diversity, equity and inclusion events around the USA. I have had the honor of representing CHBA at more than 150 civil rights events during my time on the CHBA Board.
- I and other CHBA Board Members appeared on national and local television and public radio to discuss civil rights, diversity, equity, and inclusion issues.
- I authorized the creation of CHBA's social media presence on Facebook, LinkedIn, Instagram, YouTube, and TikTok under the leadership of CHBA Social Media Chair Nathaniel Dunn.
- I had the honor of organizing the CHBA Judicial Advisors and the CHBA Alumni Committee.
- I authorized the creation of the CHBA online store, where you can buy CHBA swag.
- I helped CHBA get featured in Law360, the American Lawyer, the Los Angeles Times, and other publications.

As you can see, we have accomplished a lot over the past year, but we still have more work to do. I look forward to continuing to fight for justice, civil rights, diversity, equity, and inclusion with your support in my role as the new Director of Region IX of the National Bar Association; the Co-Chair and Co-Founder of the California Lawyers Association Racial Justice Committee; a Representative on the Board of the California Lawyers Association, and the incoming Chair of the Charles Houston Bar Institute.

Please enjoy the CHBA Scholarship Gala this evening!

Sincerely,

Terrance J. Evans

President, Charles Houston Bar Association

GREETINGS FROM THE *Co-Chairs*

It is our distinct honor and privilege to greet you as the Charles Houston Bar Association (CHBA) Gala Chairs. We are proud that CHBA is celebrating its 67th year, which is a testament to the rich history and longevity of our organization, the longest established Black bar association in California.

This year's Gala theme "Advancing Civil Rights: Today, Tomorrow, and Forever!" acknowledges that we stand upon the shoulders of those who paved the way for today's opportunities; and that we have a moral responsibility to ensure continued positive change. CHBA fulfills the legacy that our founders created by empowering the community, advancing people of color in the legal profession, and celebrating our accolades and achievements together. We have a powerful program that begins with Civil Rights addresses by Venus D. Johnson, CA Chief Deputy Attorney General and Lonita K. Baker, President of the National Bar Association and counsel for the family of Breonna Taylor. And all are certain to be inspired by the evening's honorees - attorneys, judges, and organizations that lead and/or support efforts to advance civil rights.

If you are a current CHBA member, we urge you to get more involved; you can serve on one of our many committees or lead a special initiative or project. CHBA welcomes and needs your support. If you are considering joining, view our website to learn more or come to a meeting or event. CHBA provides an unparalleled experience.

This Gala is a true labor of love and it would not have been possible without the entire CHBA Board, membership, and our generous sponsors – thank you! Your support enabled CHBA and the Charles Houston Bar Institute to award a record amount of funds to the scholarship recipients – the next generation of lawyers committed to service. We also thank our members and friends who understand and support CHBA's vision and who are dedicated to keeping the goals of Charles Hamilton Houston alive through the work of our Association. Together we continue to advance civil rights today, tomorrow, and forever.

Please have an enjoyable evening.

God Bless,



Vincent L. Brown
Gala Co-Chair
Vice President
Charles Houston Bar Association



Tamara Michael
Gala Co-Chair
Co-Membership Chair
Charles Houston Bar Association



Deborah Moss-West
Gala Co-Chair
Special Advisor
Charles Houston Bar Association

CHARLES HOUSTON BAR ASSOCIATION

67th Annual Gala | PROGRAM

DINNER & AWARDS

OPENING REMARKS - MASTER OF CEREMONIES | **Justin L. Ward, Esq.** – The Ward Law Firm

BLACK NATIONAL ANTHEM: "LIFT EV'RY VOICE AND SING | **Phillip Harris**

WELCOME AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS
Terrance J. Evans, Esq. – President, Charles Houston Bar Association
Vincent L. Brown, Esq. – Vice-President, Charles Houston Bar Association

INVOCATION | **Elder Ronald D. Gilmore, Sr.** – Progressive Church of God in Christ

GREETINGS
David Chui, Esq. – City Attorney of San Francisco
Shumika T. R. Sookdeo, Esq. – President, California Association of Black Lawyers
Yuri Walker, Esq. – Treasurer, National Bar Association
Oyango A. Snell, Esq. – CEO and Executive Director of the California Lawyers Association & California Lawyers Foundation

INTRODUCTION OF CIVIL RIGHTS ADDRESS - PART 1
Damon M. Brown, Esq. – California Office of the Attorney General

CIVIL RIGHTS ADDRESS - PART 1
Venus D. Johnson, Esq. – Chief Deputy Attorney General, California Office of the Attorney General

DINNER

INTRODUCTION OF CIVIL RIGHTS ADDRESS - PART 2
Terrance J. Evans, Esq. – President, Charles Houston Bar Association

CIVIL RIGHTS ADDRESS - PART 2
Lonita K. Baker, Esq. – President, National Bar Association & Counsel for Family of Breonna Taylor

PRESENTATION OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT KAMALA HARRIS WOMAN OF EXCELLENCE AWARD
Terrance J. Evans, Esq. – President, Charles Houston Bar Association

ACCEPTANCE OF THE KAMALA HARRIS WOMAN OF EXCELLENCE AWARD
Lonita K. Baker, Esq. – President, National Bar Association & Counsel for Family of Breonna Taylor

PRESENTATION OF STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS
Tylyn Wells, Esq. – Young Lawyers Chair, Charles Houston Bar Association
Nichelle N. Holmes, Esq. – President, Charles Houston Bar Institute

ACCEPTANCE OF THE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS
Emma Hattie Humphrey Pendergrass Memorial Scholarship | **Lovia Ofori-Ampofo, University of the Pacific McGeorge School of Law**

CHBI Racial Justice Scholarship | **Sierra Williams, Golden Gate University School of Law**

Dolan Law Firm Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Scholarship | **Ester Mendez, Southwestern Law School**

Sheppard Mullin Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Scholarship | **Lois Winn, UC Hastings College of the Law**

Google Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Scholarship | **Amir Wright, Stanford Law School**

Yolanda M. Jackson Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Scholarship | **Marquise Crear, UC Hastings College of the Law**

John L. Burris Scholarship | **Lora Jones, Southwestern Law School**

California Lawyers Association, Litigation Section Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Scholarship | **Chelsey Jordan, Santa Clara University School of Law**

California Lawyers Association, Litigation Section Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Scholarship | **Karla Noyles, University of the Pacific McGeorge School of Law**

Hiawatha T. Roberts Memorial Scholarship | **Philip Agee, UC Hastings College of the Law**

CHARLES HOUSTON BAR ASSOCIATION

67th Annual Gala | PROGRAM

DINNER & AWARDS

PRESENTATION OF PRESIDENT'S AWARD
Terrance J. Evans, Esq. – President, Charles Houston Bar Association

ACCEPTANCE OF PRESIDENT'S AWARD

PRESENTATION OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS CHAMPION SPONSOR AWARD
Nichelle N. Holmes, Esq. – President, Charles Houston Bar Institute

ACCEPTANCE OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS CHAMPION SPONSOR AWARD
Judicate West | **Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton**

PRESENTATION OF THE MILLENNIUM SPONSOR AWARD
Nadim Hegazi, Esq. – Treasurer, Charles Houston Bar Association

ACCEPTANCE OF THE MILLENNIUM SPONSOR AWARD
Dolan Law Firm | **Google**

PRESENTATION OF THE HONORABLE JUDGE BENJAMIN TRAVIS COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD
Tamara Michael, Esq. – Membership Chair, Charles Houston Bar Association

ACCEPTANCE OF THE HONORABLE JUDGE BENJAMIN TRAVIS COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD
Oakland African American Chamber of Commerce

PRESENTATION OF THE CHBA CORPORATE RECOGNITION AWARD
Saron Tesfai, Esq. – Secretary, Charles Houston Bar Association

ACCEPTANCE OF THE CHBA CORPORATE RECOGNITION AWARD
Hanson Bridgett LLP | **Vedder Price**

PRESENTATION OF THE THELTON E. HENDERSON JUDICIAL EXCELLENCE AWARD
Mariah Cooks, Esq. – Pipeline Chair, Charles Houston Bar Association

ACCEPTANCE OF THE THELTON E. HENDERSON JUDICIAL EXCELLENCE AWARD
The Honorable Jennifer Madden – Judge, Alameda County Superior Court

PRESENTATION OF THE SPECIAL LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD
Nedra Shawler, Esq. – Special Advisor, Charles Houston Bar Association

ACCEPTANCE OF THE SPECIAL LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD
Walter P. Riley, Esq. – Law Office Of Walter Riley

PRESENTATION OF THE HALL OF FAME AWARDS
Terrance J. Evans, Esq. – President, Charles Houston Bar Association

ACCEPTANCE OF THE HALL OF FAME AWARDS

Eleanor M. Manuel and **The Honorable Wiley W. Manuel** (posthumously)

Otis J. McGee, Esq. (posthumously)

Yolanda M. Jackson, Esq. – Bar Association of San Francisco

Raymond C. Marshall, Esq. – Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton

The Honorable Demetrius Shelton – Administrative Law Judge, State of California

INSTALLATION OF 2023 OFFICERS & BOARD OF DIRECTORS
The Honorable Jennifer Madden – Judge, Alameda County Superior Court

INCOMING PRESIDENT'S REMARKS
Mindy Wong, Esq. - Incoming President, Charles Houston Bar Association

Closing Prayer
Reverend Dr. Jacqueline Thompson – Senior Pastor, The Allen Temple Baptist Church, Oakland, CA

Dancing
DJ Russell "Big Russ" Gatewood

BLACK NATIONAL ANTHEM

Lift Ev'ry Voice and Sing

Lift every voice and sing
Till earth and heaven ring,
Ring with the harmonies of Liberty;
Let our rejoicing rise
High as the listening 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 till 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,
Till 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.

"Lift Ev'ry Voice and Sing" (1900) was written by James Weldon Johnson for a presentation in celebration of the birthday of Abraham Lincoln. The music was composed by his brother and songwriter partner, J. Rosamond Johnson. The song was originally performed in Jacksonville, Florida, by children. The popular title for the work is THE NEGRO NATIONAL ANTHEM.



Phillip Harris

Black National Anthem Singer

Phillip Harris has been or is associated with Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, The San Francisco Symphony, Aspen Music Festival, Oakland Symphony, Reno Chamber Orchestra, Opera Las Vegas, Mountain Play, San Mateo Masterworks Chorale and Orchestra, Head-Royce School, Convent and Stuart Hall, San Francisco Conservatory of Music, John Hopkins University, Westminster Choir College, West Valley College, Beth Eden Baptist Church, Beebe Memorial Cathedral, First Congregational Church of Ann Arbor, Youth Musical Theater Company, 42nd Street MoonSchool, The African American Art Song Alliance, and Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. and more. He holds degrees from UCI, University of Michigan, and UNLV.



Elder Ronald D. Gilmore, Sr.

Progressive Church of God in Christ, Sacramento, California

Elder Ronald Gilmore currently serves at the Progressive Church of God in Christ on the preaching and teaching staff, as a member of the Board of Directors and as president of the Ambassadors of Hope ministry and along with his wife, Sister Phyllis Gilmore who he has been married to for 42 years, as Lead Mentors of the Love in Action Marriage Ministry under Superintendent Dr. Bennie L. Toliver.

He committed his life to Jesus Christ in July of 1979 under the ministry of Pastor Ralph Houston at Emergency Line Deliverance Center. He was baptized in the Holy Ghost in August of 1982. After answering the call to the ministry in 1983, he studied under the tutelage of Bishop Cage who taught at the Charles Mason Bible College in Oakland. He was licensed as a Minister and subsequently ordained as an Elder in 1984 and served there faithfully. In 1988 he moved to Northern California where he united with the Tehama Assembly of God Church under Pastor Tim Nelson.

In 2003 he and his wife Sister Phyllis Gilmore visited the Progressive COGIC and were led to join the church in 2004. He transferred his credentials and was ordained as an Elder in the Church of God in Christ in 2005 under the leadership of Pastor Bennie L. Toliver. His guiding scripture is II Timothy 2:15, "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the Word of truth." (KJV)



Reverend Doctor Jacqueline A. Thompson

Senior Pastor, The Allen Temple Baptist Church, Oakland, CA

Described as a Transformational Preacher, Dynamic Leader and Ministry Trailblazer, Rev. Dr. Jacqueline A. Thompson is an inspiring example of what God can do with a life committed to the call. She currently serves as the beloved Senior Pastor of The Allen Temple Baptist Church in her native Oakland, California. Her 2019 election made history nationwide as the first woman called to serve as Senior Pastor of this historic African American Baptist Church founded in 1919. Before being called in this capacity, Dr. Thompson served as the Assistant Pastor at Allen Temple and as Youth Minister at Shiloh Baptist Church of Washington, D.C., the first woman to serve in both capacities.

She is a member of the NAACP and Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated. Among other honors, Dr. Thompson has been inducted into the distinguished Morehouse College Martin Luther King Jr. Board of Preachers. She is currently on the teaching staff of the Berkeley School of Theology in the area of Public Theology and Preaching.

MASTER OF *Ceremonies*



Justin L. Ward

Managing Attorney, The Ward Law Firm

Justin L. Ward grew up in Fremont, California. He attended college at UC Irvine and law school at the University of Southern California Gould School of Law. He started his legal career doing personal injury defense work in Los Angeles. In 2005, he began working as a criminal prosecutor for the Los Angeles City Attorney's Office. Wishing to return home to Northern California, Justin left the LA City Attorney's Office in 2007 to work for the Sacramento County District Attorney's Office.

After a year at the Sacramento County District Attorney's Office, Justin left to pursue his lifelong dream of opening up his own practice in 2008. The Ward Firm's primary practice areas are personal injury, employment law, civil rights and criminal defense.

Justin has handled approximately 37 criminal jury trials and 12 civil jury trials to verdict. He has also obtained many successful civil settlements and verdicts, including a $2.5 million settlement in a motorcycle crash case. His prior criminal jury trial victories have included many serious and violent crimes. Justin works tirelessly to obtain justice for all his clients.

In Justin's spare time, he has dedicated himself to bettering his community. Helping underserved and at-risk youth is his main passion, which is why he currently sits on the Board of Directors of the Center for Fathers and Families. Justin is also the current President-Elect of the Capitol City Trial Lawyers Association. Additionally, Justin is currently the Greater Sacramento NAACP Legal Redress Chair. Justin is the Immediate Past President of the Wiley W. Manuel Bar Association, and sits on the Board of Directors for both the Sacramento County Bar Association and the California Association of Black Lawyers.

When not working or volunteering, Justin enjoys swimming, working out, snowboarding, traveling and spending time with his Godchildren.

DOLAN LAW FIRM

Personal Injury | Motorcycles & Bikes | Truck & Auto | Employment Law | Elder Abuse

CALIFORNIA'S PREMIER PERSONAL INJURY AND EMPLOYMENT LAW FIRM

OVER 1 BILLION DOLLARS IN VERDICTS AND SETTLEMENTS

The award-winning attorneys at the Dolan Law Firm are dedicated to relentlessly representing their clients in the pursuit of justice. The skilled trial lawyers at the Dolan Law Firm have recovered hundreds of millions of dollars in verdicts and settlements for their clients.

THE BEST LAWYERS WE HOPE YOU'LL NEVER NEED

When Tragedy Strikes, We Strike Back

Ethical, Principled, Approachable and Aggressive Advocates

In order to deliver equal justice for all, the Dolan Law Firm is committed to advancing and nurturing a diverse, equal and inclusive workplace that reflects the communities we serve.

To facilitate this mission, the Dolan Law Firm created and foster a **Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DE&I) Committee** to fulfill the following objectives:

1. Recruit, develop and retain talented employees with diverse backgrounds and experiences in all areas and at all levels;
2. Build a workplace community where everyone feels safe and empowered to be their authentic selves, where every voice is heard, and where everyone has what they need to flourish while contributing to shared goals; and
3. Expand the firm's community engagement and impact by building and leveraging a diverse and inclusive workforce and workplace.

THE DOLAN LAW FIRM IS A PROUD SPONSOR OF THE CHARLES HOUSTON BAR ASSOCIATION 67TH ANNUAL GALA CONGRATULATIONS ON A SUCCESSFUL YEAR!



DOLANLAWFIRM.COM

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LA Downtown
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Los Angeles, CA 90012
213.306.4221

Redondo Beach
2614 Artesia Blvd,
Redondo Beach, CA 90278
213.306.4221

CIVIL RIGHTS ADDRESS – PART 1

Speaker



Venus D. Johnson

Chief Deputy Attorney General, California Office of the Attorney General

Venus D. Johnson serves as a senior advisor to California's first Filipino Attorney General, Rob Bonta, in the Department of Justice. She oversees the Divisions of Legal Affairs, Law Enforcement, Operations, Policy, and Technology, and the following Executive programs: Office of Solicitor General, Opinion Unit, Equal Employment Rights and Resolution Office, and the Office of Program Oversight and Accountability.

With over 15 years of legal, law enforcement, and criminal justice expertise, Venus has served in senior staff roles in the Contra Costa County District Attorney's Office, as well as with the City of Oakland, and the California Department of Justice. She most recently served as Chief Assistant District Attorney for District Attorney Diana Becton, where she managed the overall administration of the Contra Costa District Attorney's office — overseeing the general operations, budget, and personnel decisions of all units within the office and serving as the District Attorney in her absence. Some of her many accomplishments in this role include creating the office's first Conviction Integrity Unit and Human Trafficking Unit. Venus previously served in the executive office of Attorney General Kamala D. Harris as Associate Attorney General where she oversaw the Attorney General's executive team and served as a senior legal and policy advisor in the areas of civil, criminal, consumer protection, e-crimes, and environmental law. Prior to this role, Venus served as Deputy Attorney General/Legislative Advocate for California Attorney General Kamala D. Harris and Deputy District Attorney for Alameda County District Attorney Nancy O'Malley. She received her J.D. from University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law and her Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from Loyola Marymount University.

CIVIL RIGHTS ADDRESS – PART 2

Speaker

and recipient of the



KAMALA HARRIS

Woman of Excellence Award

Lonita K. Baker

President of the National Bar Association
& Attorney for the Family of Breonna Taylor

Lonita K. Baker serves as an Associate Corporate Counsel for Waystar, Inc. following a notable career in personal injury litigation. Additionally, she previously served as an Assistant Jefferson County Attorney in Louisville, KY. Attorney Baker began her legal career as an Assistant Public Defender in Louisville.

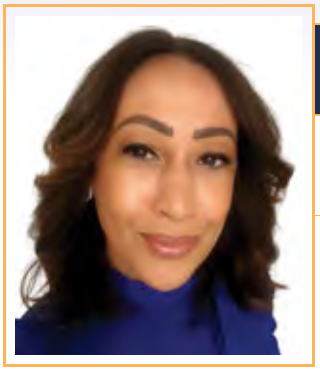
In 2020, Attorney Baker gained national attention in her representation of the family of Breonna Taylor. This case was one of the pivotal points in Attorney Baker's career resulting in a ground- breaking settlement with the City of Louisville which included terms of police reform in addition to one of the largest financial awards for an individual civil rights case to date.

Attorney Baker has shown her commitment to the legal community consistently throughout her career. She is the current President of the National Bar Association ("NBA"), after previously serving multiple terms as the President of her local NBA Affiliate.

Attorney Baker has received several awards for her service to the legal profession including being named a Top 40 Under 40 Attorney by the NBA, receiving five NBA Presidential Awards and receiving the Justice Award from the Louisville Urban League. In 2020, Attorney Baker earned recognition as a Top 40 Under 40 by Louisville Business First, a Wiley Branton Awardee by the NBA, and the Daniel M. Alvarez Champion for Justice Award by the Louisville Bar Association. In 2021, Attorney Baker was awarded the Equal Justice Award by the National Bar Association. Attorney Baker is a proud member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated.

2022

Honorees



THELTON HENDERSON

Judicial Excellence Award

Honorable Judge Jennifer Madden

Alameda County Superior Court

Hon. Jennifer Madden was elected to the Alameda County Superior Court bench in June of 2016 and sits in a Criminal Law assignment in Oakland, CA. Prior to serving on the bench, Judge Madden served as an Assistant District Attorney and a Deputy District Attorney at the Alameda County District Attorney's Office for nineteen years. She last served as the head of the Human Exploitation and Trafficking (H.E.A.T) Unit and managed a team who prosecuted traffickers and engaged the community and law enforcement in trainings on Human Trafficking. She founded a number of programs to assist children who were victims of human trafficking in Alameda County and worked closely with community-based organizations who supported these youth.

She attended the University of California at Berkeley where she majored in African American Studies and Political Science, graduating with Honors. Judge Madden is a 1997 graduate of the Berkeley School of Law, where she served as President of the student body and was very active in issues affecting African American students and issues of diversity as the law school.

Judge Madden is passionate about service to the legal community. Since 1998, she has dedicated many hours to the Charles Houston Bar Association and the California Association of Black Lawyers, where she served as President of both organizations. Judge Madden also served as a Special Assistant under National Bar Association Past President, Hon. Demetrius Shelton. She has mentored a number of young lawyers, law students and high school students and continues to serve as a Judicial Advisor to the Charles Houston Bar Association and the Women Lawyers of Alameda County. This year she was recognized by the National Bar Association with the inaugural Power 50 Award and as a Distinguished Alumni by the Law Students of African Descent at the Berkeley School of Law.

Past community service includes serving on the Board of the YMCA, Urban Services Division in West Oakland and a trek to India in 2012 to build houses with Habitat For Humanity. Judge Madden is most proud of her nineteen-year commitment volunteering with the Charlotte Maxwell Clinic, where she assisted low-income women living with cancer. In her free time, Judge Madden is a passionate globe-trotter and lover of fashion.

2022

Honorees



SPECIAL

Lifetime Achievement Award

Walter P. Riley, Esq.

Grew up in Jim Crow South, became a civil rights activist at an early age, chaired Durham N.C.'s Young Adult NAACP, organized voter registration, sit-ins, job campaigns, (awarded a NAACP life membership by Roy Wilkins) later chaired Congress of Racial Equality CORE and was a Field Secretary for CORE Southeast Region; worked with major icons of the period, Malcolm X, James Farmer, MLK, Fred Shuttlesworth, Medgar Evers, Floyd McKissick and others.

At San Francisco State activist in the late 60s organized for ethnic studies. Worked with Black Panther Party, chaired Kathline Cleaver campaign for CA Assembly, Black Anti Draft Organizer labor activist at SF Muni, welfare rights and housing organizer in mid-west, auto factory worker, UAW rank-and-file organizer.

Walter is currently a member of the National Lawyers Guild, Charles Houston Bar Association, and the ACLU. And #BlackLivesMatter. He is Chair Meiklejohn Civil Liberties Institute, Co-Chair of the John George Democratic Club, National Board member of the Black Worker Center and has served on the Boards of Global Exchange, Berkeley Jazz School, Oakland Music Conservatory and The East Bay Center For Performing Arts. Walter Riley is the Chair and founder of the Haiti Emergency Relief Fund an all-volunteer organization with minimal overhead whose aid goes directly to Haitians on the ground in the fight for self-determination.

He was the lead attorney for the BART 14, and other #BlackLivesMatter protesters.

Association Presidents Award, National Lawyers Guild San Francisco Chapter Champion Of Justice, and National Lawyers Guild Nation Law for the People Award, East Bay Sanctuary Covenant Award, Honored in the U.S. Congressional Record By Hon. Barbara Lee and California State Assembly by Hon. Jackie Goldberg, and Black Panther Commemoration Committee Award.

1980 – Present, State Attorney, Dept of Industrial Relations; solo practice in criminal defense, employment rights - discrimination; and police misconduct. Continues to active in community, around schools, housing, criminal justice reform, cultural work, progressive electoral campaigns.

2022

Honorees



BENJAMIN TRAVIS

Community Service Award

Oakland African American Chamber of Commerce

Cathy D. Adams, President, and CEO

The Oakland African American Chamber of Commerce is synonymous with "We support Oakland businesses." OAACC was established in 2003. We are a private nonprofit whose mission is to advance economic opportunity and strengthen Oakland's Black business community.

We provide numerous services for our business associates and members including workshops for: Access to Capital, business development, marketing and branding, and advocacy. We are happy to help members of our Chamber and the community, who reach out to us for business advising, notary and certificate of origin services.
In 2020, OAACC President and CEO, Cathy Adams, led a campaign raising over $1.1 million dollars providing grants to over 230 of our members. That same year, OAACC was voted Black Chamber of the Year by the U.S. Black Chamber of Commerce.
We are continuously "in the room" during local and national conversations that impact our businesses.

Of course, at OAACC everything we do is for our members! We're excited to finish another year of appreciation and celebration with our businesses. On December 4, 2022, we will host our fourth annual Black Sunday Holiday Expo in partnership with Akoma Market at Liberation Park in Oakland, from 11A-5P. Join Us! During the month of November and December we will celebrate our 2nd Annual "Oakland Open for Business Campaign" with KRON 4, where you will see several of our businesses featured in the commercials to encourage the community to support and shop Black Owned Businesses.

2022

Honorees

CORPORATE

Recognition Award

HansonBridgett

Founded in 1958, Hanson Bridgett LLP is a multidisciplinary AmLaw 200 law firm with approximately 190 attorneys across California. Clients range from individuals to state and local highway and transportation authorities to multinational Fortune 500 corporations. Hanson Bridgett LLP is a certified B Corp and a proud socially responsible member of the communities in which they are located and serve. The firm is driven by a commitment to fostering and developing its unique culture, which is focused on excellence in service and leading by example.

At Hanson Bridgett, a centerpiece of their practice is community service. In 2021, Hanson Bridgett was instrumental in partnering with CHBA to reestablish the Charles Houston Bar Institute.

VedderPrice

With 315 lawyers and growing, Vedder Price serves sophisticated clients of all sizes and in virtually all industries from offices in Chicago, New York, Washington, DC, London, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Singapore and Dallas.

Vedder Price partners with public service organizations around the world including CHBA to provide pro bono legal assistance to those in need. In 2019, Vedder Price lawyers dedicated nearly 7,000 hours to those who cannot afford legal services. Recent pro bono highlights include working with the National Immigrant Justice Center and KIND (Kids In Need Of Defense) to represent low-income immigrants, refugees, and people seeking asylum in the United States; working with Chicago Volunteer Legal Services to act as guardians ad litem in court cases involving the interests of children; and working with the TransLatin@ Coalition to assist with their mission of advocating for the issues and needs of transgender Latin@ community living in the United States.

2022

Honorees



CHARLES HOUSTON BAR ASSOCIATION

Hall of Fame Award

Justice Wiley W. Manuel (posthumously) & Eleanor M. Manuel (wife of Wiley Manuel)

Justice Wiley W. Manuel was born in Oakland, California, grew up near Ward and Dohr Streets in South Berkeley, and was educated in the public schools. After graduating in 1945 from Berkeley High School he studied at the University of California, Berkeley. He attended Hastings College of Law and in 1953 received his LL.B. degree with Order of the Coif honors. He also served as Editor-in-Chief of the Hastings Law Journal.

Following law school, Manuel worked for 23 years in the California Attorney General's office, rising to chief assistant attorney general in the San Francisco office. In March 1956, then-Deputy Attorney General Manuel announced that municipalities adding fluoride to public drinking water cannot be charged with practicing dentistry.

In February 1976, Governor Jerry Brown appointed Manuel to the post of judge of the Alameda County Superior Court.

On February 12, 1977, Governor Brown elevated Manuel to the Supreme Court. On March 8, 1977, he was approved by the Judicial Qualifications Commission, he was sworn in on March 24, 1977, and took his seat on April 5, 1977. He was the first African American justice of the Supreme Court.

Also in 1977, he delivered the keynote address at the first meeting of the California Association of Black Lawyers. Among his notable cases is the criminal prosecution against William and Emily Harris of the Symbionese Liberation Army on charges of kidnapping Patricia Hearst in 1974. In August 1977, Manuel wrote the 6 – 1 majority opinion that the trial court abused its discretion in denying the defendants' request for state-appointed counsel of their choosing.

In honor of Manuel, there is a non-profit scholarship foundation in Northern California. Manuel, who was known for his dedication to pro bono work, has a pro bono award named after him awarded by the State Bar of California each year. The Wiley Manuel Courthouse, part of the Alameda County Superior Court, was named after him.

In 1948, he married Eleanor M. Williams, and she currently resides in Oakland, California. He died on January 5, 1981. He is survived by his wife, Eleanor, and their two children, Yvonne and Gary Manuel.

2022

Honorees



CHARLES HOUSTON BAR ASSOCIATION

Hall of Fame Award

Honorable Judge Demetrius Shelton

The Honorable Demetrius Shelton is an Administrative Law Judge for the California Department of Social Services and prior to this served as Deputy City Attorney for the City of Oakland for over a decade. Judge Shelton, the 68th President of the National Bar Association ("NBA"), is also Past National General Counsel of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. and a Past President of NBA affiliates the Charles Houston Bar Association and the California Association of Black Lawyers ("CABL").

In 2005/2006, Shelton served as Vice President of the State Bar of California, the largest mandatory bar association in the country and the governing body that regulates the practice of law throughout the state of California. He has the distinction of having been elected to the Board of Governors in 2003 and in his victory became the first African American in the history of the State Bar of California to be elected to represent the 3rd District. During this time Shelton was also instrumental in establishing the State Bar's historic "Pipeline Task Force" and first ever Judicial Summit on Diversity.

Judge Shelton is the recipient of numerous awards and recognitions, including the City of Oakland's "Juneteenth Legacy Award", the "Jefferson Award" sponsored by CBS and KPIX News, the Oral Lee Brown Foundation's "Pioneer Award", the Oakland NAACP's Centennial Anniversary honoree, the Judicial Council of the State Bar of California's Bench-Bar Coalition "Bar Leader of the Year", the Alameda County Bar Association's "Distinguished Service Award", the Charles Houston Bar Association's "Clinton White Advocacy Award", "Attorney of the Year" by CABL, and named one of the "101+ Men Making a Difference in Our Community" by Black Expo. Ltd." In the 50th Anniversary Issue of Ebony magazine in 1995 he was prophetically recognized as one of the "Thirty Leaders of the Future" for his many contributions to the community.

Judge Shelton's leadership has also been recognized by many local and national leaders, including May 6, 2006 being declared "Demetrius Shelton Day" in the cities of Oakland by Mayor Jerry Brown and San Francisco by Mayor Gavin Newsom, and eight years prior the City of Oakland proclaiming November 5, 1998, "Demetrius D. Shelton Day in the City of Oakland" and the City of San Francisco and then Mayor Willie Brown passing a resolution honoring him "for his courage, and outstanding leadership."

Shelton has also been recognized by the National Bar Association with its "Presidential Award" on six occasions, the Charles Houston Bar Association with its "President's Award", Congresswoman Barbara Lee, the Hon. Tani Cantil-Sakauye, Chief Justice of the California Supreme Court, United States Senator Dianne Feinstein, Senator Don Perata – President pro Temporate of the Senate of the State of California, California Assembly Member Sandre Swanson, the Hon. John Chiang – Chair of the California State Board of Equalization, the Office of the San Francisco City Attorney, and the Office of the Oakland City Attorney for his continuous efforts.

Shelton was born in Bernice, Louisiana and is a long-time resident of Berkeley, California. He received his Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics from the University of California, Los Angeles, a certificate in Public Policy/Administration from the University of California, Berkeley's Graduate School of Public Policy as an Alfred P. Sloan (Ford) Foundation Fellow, and his Juris Doctorate from the University of California, Davis School of Law (King Hall).

2022

Honorees



CHARLES HOUSTON BAR ASSOCIATION

Hall of Fame Award

Otis J. McGee, Jr. (posthumously)

Otis McGee, Jr., Esq. (1946-2022) Was a JAMS San Francisco neutral and retired trial attorney and litigator.

Mr. McGee passed away on February 14, 2022.

Before he joined JAMS in 2019, Mr. McGee practiced law for more than 40 years. He was cofounder and managing partner of Alexander Millner & McGee (later Arnelle, Hastie, McGee, Willis & Greene), which went on to become the largest minority-owned law firm in the United States of America.

He later served as partner at Sheppard Mullin Richter & Hampton LLP and then Chief Assistant City Attorney at the Oakland City Attorney's Office.

He was a Fellow in the American College of Trial Lawyers. Mr. McGee received the President's Award and the Justice Clinton White Award for Trial Page 1 of 2 Advocacy from the Charles Houston Bar Association, who remembered him for "promoting diversity, equity and inclusion in the legal profession before there was even a name for it."

Mr. McGee was a revered mentor who was known for breaking down barriers and paving the way for Black lawyers and mediators. He continued his commitment to DE&I at JAMS, where he was respected for his professionalism and thoughtfulness. Mr. McGee is survived by his wife, Valerie Lewis, his son Aaron and his daughter Kellyn.

2022

Honorees



CHARLES HOUSTON BAR ASSOCIATION

Hall of Fame Award

Yolanda M. Jackson

Yolanda M. Jackson is the Executive Director and General Counsel of The Bar Association of San Francisco (BASF) and The Justice & Diversity Center (JDC). She is also the Diversity Director of the JDC. As the Executive Director she leads two organizations that focus on excellence in the legal profession, promoting humanity and cultivating diversity and equality in the legal profession (BASF); in addition they advance fairness and equality by providing millions of dollars in pro bono legal services to low-income people and also educational programming for students and young lawyers to foster diversity in the legal profession (JDC).

She has years of experience as a litigator, mediator, arbitrator, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion trainer and a facilitator, and has helped businesses address diversity and organizational development needs, community outreach and conflict resolution methods. Ms. Jackson was an Adjunct Professor at UC Hastings College of the Law, where she taught negotiations and settlement courses and classes on Negotiations and Settlement. She has presented over one hundred "elimination of bias" training sessions for law firms, bar associations, corporations/entities, and law schools. She was also an Adjunct Professor at Golden Gate University Law School where she taught Insurance Law and Practical Legal Writing. She has coached many law graduates who were preparing to take the California State Bar Examination.

She has served on the boards of numerous professional and community organizations throughout the country and has won several awards including the District 17 Woman of the Year Award, the California Association of Black Lawyers President's Award, the Association for Dispute Resolution of Northern California "Gil Lopez Award", the League of Women Voters of San Francisco's "Women Who Could Be President" award, the National Diversity Council "California's Most Powerful and Influential Women" award , the National Bar Association Presidential Award and the San Francisco Department of Police Accountability Black Woman Trailblazer in San Francisco Award. Much of her time is spent helping to enhance communities and under-served populations. She does this through mentoring, being a sponsor for and accessing her vast network to create opportunities for students of all ages and for those entering and/or navigating the legal profession.

2022

Honorees



CHARLES HOUSTON BAR ASSOCIATION

Hall of Fame Award

Raymond C. Marshall

Raymond C Marshall is the founder of the Black Partners Group of San Francisco through which he has mentored Black Lawyers for over 30 years. He has represented clients in civil, criminal and administrative proceedings brought by governmental authorities, including the Department of Justice and the offices of various U.S. Attorneys, State Attorneys General and District Attorneys.

Mr. Marshall serves on Sen. Dianne Feinstein's Judicial Advisory Committee for the Northern District of California, and as an adviser to the American Law Institute on the Model Penal Code Sentencing Project. He is immediate past-President of the ABA Retirement Fund Board of Directors, a past member of the ABA Standing Committee on Federal Judiciary, and former president of both the State Bar of California and the Bar Association of San Francisco. In 2004 and 2007, he was appointed by Chief Justice Ronald M. George to chair the California Supreme Court's Advisory Task Force on Multijurisdictional Practice.

In addition to his professional affiliations, Raymond is extremely active in community affairs and serves on the boards of the Equal Justice Society, the United Negro College Fund, and HomeBase/The Center for Common Concerns. In March 2009, he argued on behalf of five of the leading civil rights groups in the country (Asian Pacific American Legal Center, California State Conference of the NAACP, Equal Justice Society, Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund, NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund) before the California Supreme Court, arguing that allowing Proposition 8 (a proposition which sought to outlaw gay marriage) to stand could be detrimental to other minority groups who could easily become the targets of initiative campaigns seeking to take away their rights.



Yolanda Jackson

Executive Director and General Counsel, Bar Association of San Francisco; Executive Director, Justice & Diversity Center



Raymond C. Marshall

Sheppard Mullin;
Past President (1994), Bar Association of San Francisco

The Bar Association of San Francisco congratulates Executive Director and General Counsel Yolanda Jackson and Past President Raymond C. Marshall on their induction into the Charles Houston Bar Association Hall of Fame.

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STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT *Awardees*



Emma Hattie Humphrey Pendergrass *Memorial Scholarship*

Lovia Ofori-Ampofo

University of the Pacific McGeorge School of Law

Lovia Ofori-Ampofo is a third-year law student at McGeorge School of Law. She grew up in Ghana and emigrated to America at the age of eight. She was raised by a single mother who worked multiple jobs to ensure that she could afford a home in a good school district for Lovia and her sister. Growing up in Ghana, Lovia learned the importance of having a community and feels blessed to have found an excellent legal community here. During 2L, Lovia became the Student Bar Association's (SBA) treasurer and oversaw over $200,000.
Lovia was also the co-chair for planning the Barrister's Ball for my law school. I was Treasurer of the Unity Caucus (UC), which consists of underrepresented groups. While servicing UC, I helped facilitate conversations between the administration and the student body on various issues that affect the underrepresented students on campus. I was also Treasurer of BLSA. I was a research assistant for Omar Shehabi, a J.S.D candidate at Yale School of Law and an attorney at the United Nations Office of Administration of Justice. Mr. Shehabi and I are co-authoring an article together regarding Qatar's Kafala (Sponsorship) System.



CHBI *Racial Justice Scholarship*

Sierra Williams

Golden Gate University School of Law

Sierra is an ambitious mother of three, full-time employee, law student, volunteer, and mentor. Sierra has obtained her master's degree in Business Administration as well a bachelor's degree in Marketing and a bachelor's degree in Business. Non-traditionally, Sierra began her law school journey 9 years after graduating with her master's degree. Yet, she has hit the ground running and still gaining momentum as she proceeds throughout the law school experience. Sierra is currently President of Golden Gate University's chapter of the Black Law Student Association, Founder & Co-President of Prosecutors Alliance of California Law Society, Co-President of the Public Interest Law Foundation, and a founding board member of HASSANI, a student led mentoring organization named after bay-area activist, Hassani Bell. In addition to her student involvement and networking, Sierra has been awarded the Cali Award in Legal Research and Writing and she has remained on the Dean's List each semester to date. Sierra is committed to advancing African American representation in the legal profession.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT *Awardees*



DOLAN LAW FIRM
Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Scholarship

Ester Mendez
Southwestern Law School

Ester Mendez is a first generation Oaxacan American second year student at Southwestern Law School. She interned at the Alternate Public Defender's Office, and is currently volunteering at Loyola's Project for the Innocent. Ester hopes to successfully establish a formerly incarcerated student organization at Southwestern Law because she would not be where she is today without my mentors. As a formerly incarcerated law student, her dream is to become a public defender that gives back to her community.



SHEPPARD MULLIN
Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Scholarship

Lois Winn
UC Hastings College of the Law

Lois Winn is a graduate of Alcorn State University, where she earned her degree in English Literature. During her time at Alcorn, she was recognized for founding the school's Pre-Law Society and named "Outstanding Graduating Senior." Currently, Lois is a third-year law student at UC Hastings College of the Law. On campus, Lois has been active in several organizations and activities, including BLSA, the Business Law Society, and the Negotiation and Dispute Resolution Competition Team. This semester, she is also a law clerk for the UC Hastings Social Enterprise and Economic Empowerment Clinic. In her free time, Lois enjoys bowling and going to the movie theatres. Post-graduation, she will be working at Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT *Awardees*



GOOGLE
Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Scholarship

Amir Wright
Stanford Law School

Amir Wright is a 3L at Stanford Law School. He serves as the Lead Symposium Editor for the Stanford Law Review and remains and active member in BLSA. Amir spent his 1L summer at the U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee and this past summer at the White House Counsel's Office. After graduation, he looks forward to clerking at the Southern District of Ohio in 2024. Amir received his B.A. in Political Science from the University of California, Berkeley, where he served on the City of Berkeley's Housing Advisory Commission and was honored with the Priestley Award for Outstanding Leadership. He is a proud Los Angeles native and member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated.



Yolanda Jackson-Thomas
Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Scholarship

Marquise Crear
UC Hastings College of the Law

Marquise Crear is an Oakland native. He attended California State University, Monterey Bay, where he graduated with a B.A. in International Studies and a minor in Psychology. He studied abroad in South Africa for six months, examining the relationship between crime and society. Glad to be back in the Bay, Marquise attends UC Hastings, where he is currently a 3L. He has competed on the Hastings Negotiation Team and has successfully represented two clients in criminal matters as a Student Attorney. As for what's next, Marquise is thrilled to announce that he has accepted a position with the Alameda County District Attorney's Office as a Deputy District Attorney.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT *Awardees*



JOHN L. BURRIS *Scholarship*

Lora Jones

Southwestern Law School

Lora Jones attended Spelman College where she was empowered to partake in many civil and human rights issues in the Atlanta community which was a defining moment for her. Since then she has continued to be an active member of the NAACP as well as mentor and volunteer in her communities. During the summer of 2022, she had the opportunity to intern at the District Attorney's Office, District of Columbia in the Civil Litigation Division. This spring semester she will be participating in The Hague University Applied Science Exchange program in the Hague, Netherlands. Lora aspires to become an international civil and human rights attorney.



CALIFORNIA LAWYERS ASSOCIATION, LITIGATION SECTION *Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Scholarship*

Chelsey Jordan

Santa Clara University School of Law

Chelsey Jordan is a first-generation law student at Santa Clara Law School. She grew up in Knoxville, TN, and went to Williams College for undergrad. She came to law school wanting to become a litigator. On campus, she is co-president of BLSA and spends her free time helping 1Ls learn how to succeed in her ASP group, which stands for Academic Success Program. Currently, she is interning at the Contra Costa Public Defender Office. In this upcoming summer, she will be interning at WilmerHale in their litigation practice group. She plans to spend her career in the courtroom and fight for her clients.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT *Awardees*



CALIFORNIA LAWYERS ASSOCIATION, LITIGATION SECTION

Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Scholarship

Karla Noyles

University of the Pacific McGeorge School of Law

Karla M. Noyles is a second year student at McGeorge School of Law, pursuing a concentration in Capital Lawyering and Public Policy. On campus, She is involved in the Student Body Association, is BLSA president, and is on the Mock Trial Team. Her favorite pastimes are painting and hiking. After law school, she plans to pursue a career in criminal law in the bay area and hopes to one day open a youth center.



HIAWATHA T. ROBERTS

Memorial Scholarship

Philip Agee

UC Hastings College of the Law

Phillip Agee is a second-year student at UC Hastings College of the Law. Legal research and writing are his favorite skill-building activities, and he plans to employ these skills to make a positive impact for victims of the status quo. Phillip currently competes with the Moot Court team, constantly working to develop his ability as an oral advocate. He is excited to grow as a legal professional and looks forward to working with other Black lawyers to make the law more accessible and equitable.

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- Filed an *amicus brief* in defense of affirmative action with the U.S. Supreme Court, which was joined by 24 other civil rights organizations
- Raised more than $200,000 for the CHBA Gala–the most in CHBA history
- Raised funds and awarded more than $80,000 in scholarships during the calendar year – the most in CHBA history
- Helped numerous African American lawyers, judges, and students earn prestigious appointments and awards
- Spoke at and organized dozens of civil rights, diversity, equity and inclusion events around the USA
- Appeared on national and local television and public radio to discuss civil rights and diversity, equity and inclusion
- Authorized the creation of CHBA's social media presence on Facebook, LinkedIn, Instagram, YouTube, and TikTok
- Created the CHBA Judicial Advisors and the CHBA Alumni Committee
- Authorized the creation of the CHBA online store
- Featured in Law360, the *Los Angeles Times* and other publications

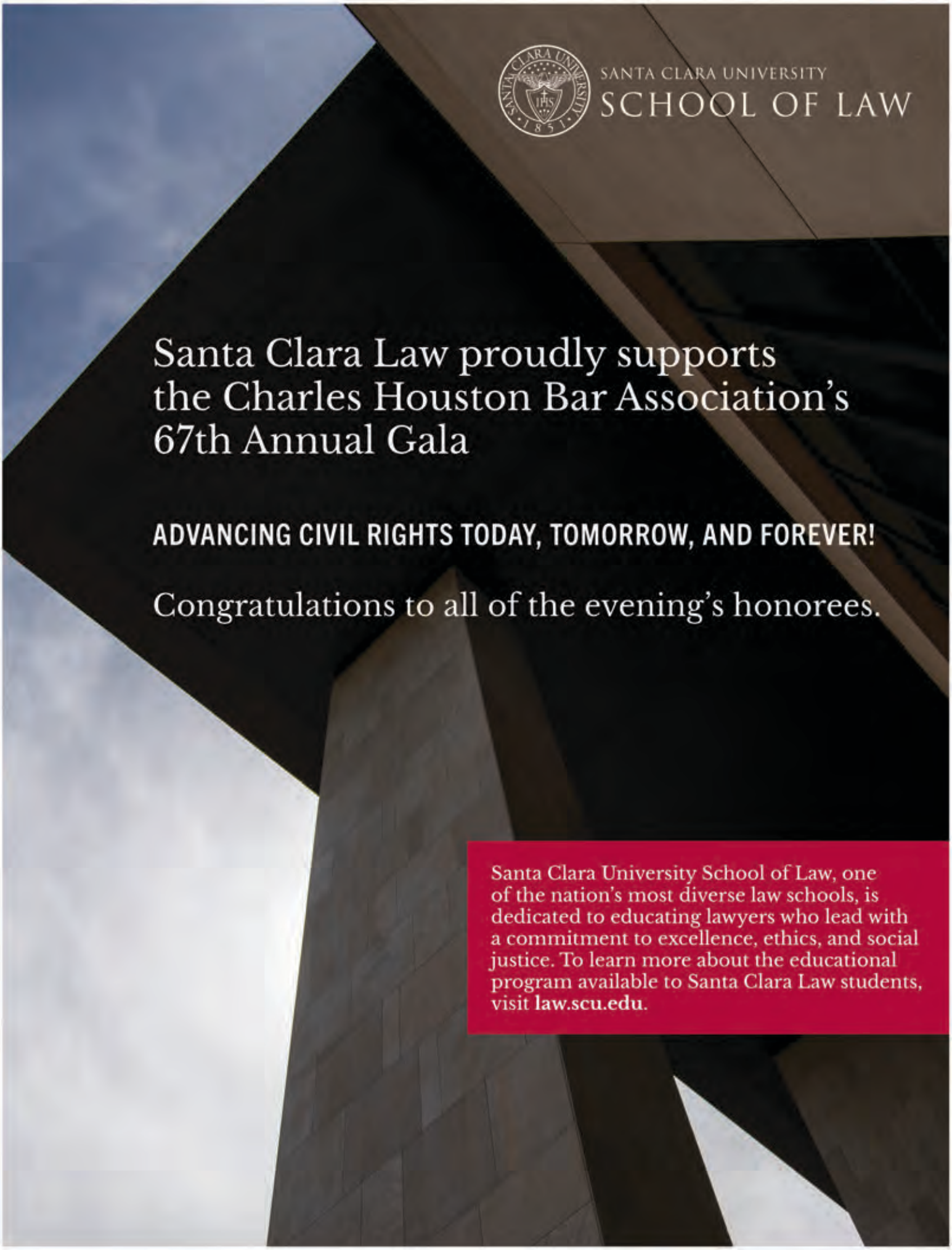
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> "Police reform is personal to me. There is scarcely a Black man in America who has not personally felt the unchecked force of police power; I am no exception," Max says. "I want to be a part of reimagining how police can play a productive role in our democracy."



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The Charles Houston Bar Association's work to raise over $150,000 over the past three years alone has made a huge impact on the next generation of Black legal talent. The California Lawyers Association and the California Lawyers Foundation are honored to celebrate with you and partake in the theme of "Advancing Civil Rights Today, Tomorrow, and Forever!"

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Charles Houston Bar Institute

501(c)(3) Public Benefit Corporation

Beginning in early 2020, the Board of the Charles Houston Bar Association worked diligently to create a non-profit corporation to better serve our community and allow us to expand the reach of our mission. Recognizing the numerous benefits that come with establishing a non-profit corporation, CHBA was resolute in our decision and persisted toward our goal despite the countless challenges we faced. As we dealt with the complications brought on by a global pandemic and worked tirelessly to fight for social justice and create aRacial Justice Task Force in the wake of George Floyd's death, we continued to develop a plan to establish a tax-exempt non-profit corporation. Today, almost two years later, the Charles Houston BarAssociation is excited and immensely proud to announce the creation of the Charles Houston Bar Institute.

The Institute is a non-profit public benefits corporation with tax exemption status under section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal RevenueCode. Donations and other contributions to the Institute are tax deductible under section 170 of the Internal Revenue Code. The purpose of the Institute is to (1) provide educational services and programs to improve access to justice; (2) provide legal services to under-served San Francisco Bay Area communities; (3) promote the access of African Americans to justice and the courts; (4) support social justice causes that promote the elimination of bias, systemic racism, and racial inequality; (5) increase diversity within the legal community and on the bench; and (6) engage in any other charitable activity, including supporting our pipeline to the profession. More information about the Institute, including the structure of its Board, can be found in the Bylaws for the Institute. The Internal Revenue Service's letter granting the Institute its tax-exempt status is also available for review upon request.

The Institute is created in the same spirit of its namesake, Mr. Charles Hamilton Houston. The campaign for African American rights went forward in the 1940's through a litigation campaign that was planned in deliberate steps by Mr. Houston. In the courts, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) fought to dismantle Jim Crow laws and segregation in housing, transportation, and education. As we know, the movement made huge strides despite continued setbacks, which culminated in the signing of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

However, the gains made by the Civil Rights movement are continuously under attack and it is our duty to ensure that we not only protect those gains made by our predecessors but continue to push forward and break new ground. Although CHBA has been able to make a significant impact in our community over the past several decades, our reach has been limited as a 501(c)(6) organization. Today, with the creation of the Institute, we can reach further and impact our community in ways that we previously could not. With your help, we can fight racism and ensure that we continue the legacy of Charles Hamilton Houston.
Your support is crucial in our fight for racial equity, and we hope you will consider contributing to the Institute. Your contribution will go toward advancing racial justice for Black people and people of color and eradicating systemic racism.

Thank you in advance for your contribution and support and, we hope you enjoy yourselves tonight at our 2022 Charles Houston Bar Association Gala!

NOTES



In recognition of his lifetime commitment to racial justice, diversity and inclusion we are happy to congratulate our partner, Raymond C. Marshall, on his induction to the Charles Houston Bar Association Hall of Fame.

Sheppard Mullin is proud to support the Charles Houston Bar Association and its efforts to promote diversity in the legal profession.

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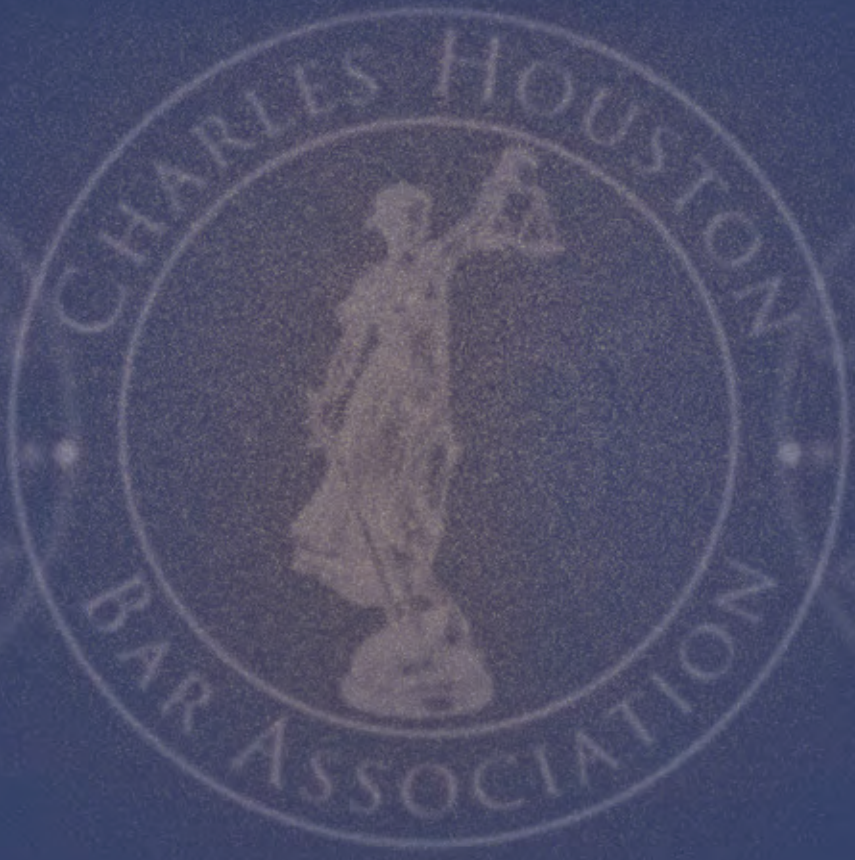
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