



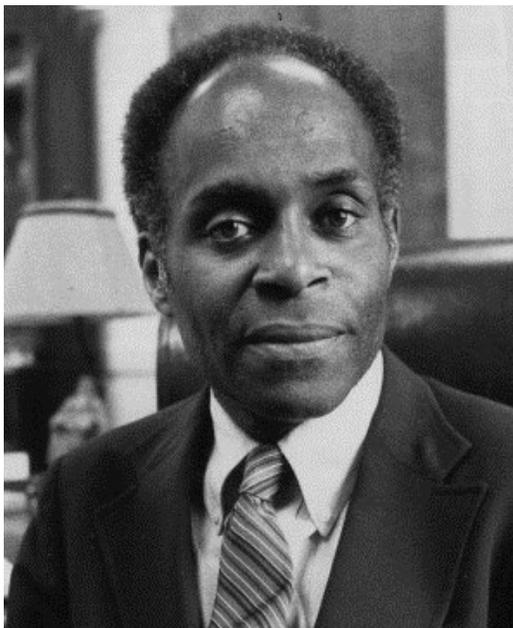
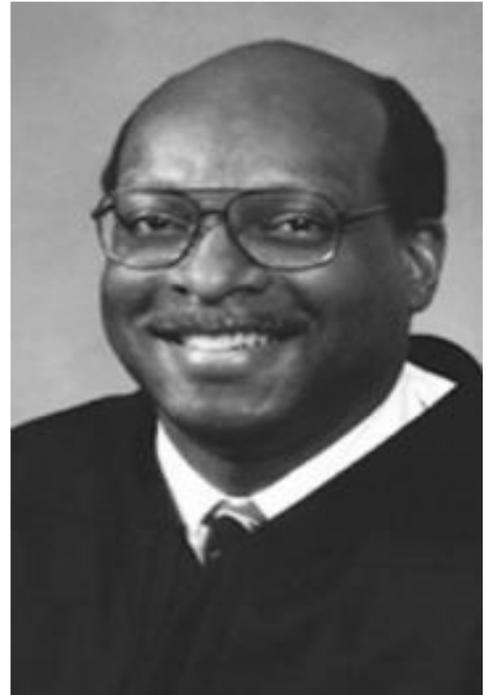
THE REGINALD C. LINDSAY AND DAVID S. NELSON FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMS

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Issue 21

“My summer as a Nelson Fellow was an unforgettable experience that I will recall fondly as I transition to college. This program was not what I had expected...it was better. The Nelson Fellowship confirmed my interest in the legal field, but also sparked my interest in other potential career paths.

-Willie Gomez, 2017 Nelson Fellow



In This Issue:

- ◆ Meeting with Former US Attorney Carmen Ortiz
- ◆ 2017 Nelson Fellows Mock Trial
- ◆ Visit to the US Marshals

And more!

The Public Defenders Office by Erik Solis , Lindsay Fellow



When I walked into the Federal Defender's Office the first day, I immediately thought to myself, "What does justice mean to a Federal Defender"? Justice for a Federal Defender is to represent the client as best as they can in hopes of minimizing their sentence or to demonstrate that their client is not guilty of the crime he is being accused of. If there is anything I can tell you about a Federal Defender, it's not easy being one.

After shadowing public defenders like Jessica Thrall, Timothy Watkins, Charles McGinty, and Miriam Conrad, I realized that the odds are stacked against them. They have fewer resources than the prosecution. The prosecution has resources like the FBI, the ATF, Forensic Analysts, undercover police officers, and surveillance equipment to assist them in proving that the client is guilty. Not only do they have the resources but the sentencing guidelines are in favor of the prosecution. Nonetheless the Federal Defenders still seem to amaze me. Their dedication and hard work is shown in these courtrooms. I have seen Miriam Conrad turn 60 years of jail time to 30 years of jail time for her client. I have seen her tear down a witness on cross-examination. She would take arguments prosecutors make and poke holes in them. The way she structures her arguments in court are logical, precise, and straight to the point. I had the honor to work with people who are passionate about the work they do, seeking to do justice for their clients.

In my observation empathy is something that is strongly emphasized in the office. No matter what kind of prior convictions they had, no matter how severe their crime may be, Federal Defenders are able to see past that and see the humanity in their clients. They show the court that these 'criminals' are people too. Some clients have mental health issues that have led them to commit certain acts that brought them to the Federal Court. Some clients have been raised in an environment where drugs, violence, and delinquent behavior were all they were exposed to. But the truth of the matter is, we are all human beings who have lived different lives with very different circumstances. Most of these clients have never had anyone stand up for them. In order to stand up for them a Federal Defender needs to understand them, and the way to do that is through empathy.

Meet the Coordinators Veronique Similien

Veronique Similien is a rising junior at Centre College in Kentucky where she majors in Sociology and minors in Politics. Veronique was a Nelson Fellow in 2014 and she interned in Judge Casper's chambers/ She is interested in becoming a teacher and will be spending the next semester studying abroad in Shanghai, China and is interested in law and education. Veronique, who served as the Deputy Coordinator this year, will return to the Court next summer as the Coordinator.



Meet the Coordinators Elti Skendaj

Eltjon (Elti) Skendaj is a rising senior at Tufts University studying International Relations. He was a Nelson Fellow in 2013 and interned in Judge Young's and Judge Wolf's chambers. He was the Deputy Coordinator last summer, and the Coordinator of the Fellowship Programs this summer. Elti will be applying to law school this fall and plans on pursuing a career in international affairs.



Probation & Pre-Trial Services, Leticia Marquez, Lindsay Fellow

My time at the Probation Office made me realize that people need more help once they get out of prison than what people actually think. If a prison sentence was their punishment, no matter how long they were in incarcerated for, they need help re-adjusting to life outside of prison. Everything is much different in prison than out in the community. In the community people have support, they have people who care for them and try to give them what they need in order to succeed. While in prison, they have to fend for themselves, they don't get any support, no one is on their side to make sure that they succeed. If it was not for being placed in the Probation Office I would not have noticed all the work that goes into making sure those coming out of prison are getting the help that they need.

There is more to probation than just an ankle bracelet. There's Interactive Journaling where the probation officer sits with the probationer and goes over topics within a book to address issues of family support/relationships, dealing with addictions, problem solving and solutions and more. In these meetings the probation officer really talks with the probationer and helps identify why they need these support systems and why it is important to maintain that connection. Also talking about why it is important to realize that their addiction affects more people than just themselves and allows them to see the consequences of the choices that they are making.

Through probation there are also a lot of opportunities for offenders to get help. They recommend that those on supervision attend programs such as the CARE program where they meet with a judge on a weekly basis and really talk out loud what their problem was for the week and where they stand after they have been released with their addiction and what they are doing in order to improve and get better in life. There is also the RISE program which is like the CARE program but it is before the individual is sentenced and it gives them a chance to have a year of proving to the court and society that they can get better and that they know how to behave in a manner that is beneficial to them and society.

Probation and Pre-Trial Services has really opened my eyes to seeing the good in people, even those who have done something bad because they all deserve a chance at getting better. Just because they need a little extra help doesn't mean that they are not worthy of living within the community. I've also noticed the bond/relationship that probation officers and probationers have. It takes someone who is committed to be able to put aside all the probationer has done and deal with them as a person and not as a criminal.





United States Attorney's Office by Edwin Ortiz, Lindsay Fellow

My time within the U.S. Attorney's Office was absolutely incredible. This opportunity would not have been so valuable if it were not for the dedicated guidance that I first received from Judge Kelley. My everyday encounters with Judge Kelley within her chambers led to a developed feeling of comfort. This allowed me to communicate freely with members of the courthouse and ask innumerable questions. Upon entering the U.S. Attorney's Office, I worked closely with AUSA Jordi De Llano Campos. My work with AUSA Campos included, among other things, translating and transcribing audio recordings. Participating with AUSA Campos on various tasks in reference to ongoing cases and investigations truly allowed me to glean insight on the work trial attorneys do in order to execute their game-plan in the courtroom. Professor Hamdan's legal research and writing course further prepared me for the work being done during my time within the U.S. Attorney's Office. I was comfortably able to use WestLaw and Lexis Nexis in order to find cases that would support the arguments the AUSA's were trying to make. In addition, I was able to have discussions with the AUSA's in regards to binding precedent in reference to their specific cases, among other key legal terminology.

Having the opportunity to be part of such a prestigious office presented me a hands-on experience of what it is like to be a federal prosecutor. I also worked meticulously with AUSA Anne Paruti and AUSA Deana El-Mallawany. Some of my assigned tasks with them included writing case summaries, and drafting emails, among others. Upon the completion of my projects, constructive feedback was always given in order to ensure positive progression every step of the way, highlighting the testament to craft the attorneys had for my work to be its best. I was always comfortable to ask questions in regards to career paths and law school knowing how friendly the attorneys are and their willingness to help me pursue my own educational endeavors.

My time with the U.S. Attorney's Office shed light on the fact that there is far more to the office than the courtroom drama. During my time in the office I had the privilege of working with various units including ECU (economic crimes unit), MCU (major crimes unit), and ACE (affirmative civil litigation unit). As a result of my work with the MCU, I was able to examine various types of serious offenses defendants had committed and the charges being brought against them, including bank robberies. Furthermore, with the ECU I was able to look at cases regarding white collar crime. With the ACE I got a close look at different pharmaceutical companies allegedly involved in health care fraud.

The fundamental aspect of my time in the U.S. Attorney's Office was the opportunity to network and meet with various attorneys. All the AUSA's I met with were gracious enough to take time out of their day and offer advice in regards to a variety of topics including LSAT prep, law school, and different career paths within the legal field. Their advice has further motivated me to pursue my own endeavors. I personally would like to thank acting U.S. Attorney William Weinreb and all the AUSA's who helped me during my time in the office. I am forever indebted for the experience and the impact that it will have as I pursue my trajectory towards law school.



Meeting with Mrs. Cheryl Lindsay by Kayhla Wiggins, Lindsay Fellow

During our time at the courthouse this summer, I, along with five other fellows had the honor to meet with Cheryl Lindsay, the wife of the man who this fellowship is named after, Judge Reginald Lindsay.

One of the things I thought about after getting accepted into this fellowship was to research who Judge Reginald Lindsay was. I read the articles online about him and also talked to some of his former colleagues. It gave me a good sense of who he was as a judge, but not so much into the man he was. The best way to acquire insight about a person is to get to know the person themselves. Unfortunately in this case, Judge Lindsay passed away in March of 2009, so the next best thing was to meet with the person who knew him best, his wife, Mrs. Lindsay. Upon hearing that I would be meeting with Mrs. Lindsay during my time at the courthouse, I became very excited. I knew she could provide me with more insight better than anybody else could in regards to Judge Lindsay. And I was right.

Upon entering chambers, there was an immediate presence of elegance when I first met Mrs. Lindsay. Through the words she spoke, I could tell she was a very wise and educated woman. She articulated her thoughts very well and provided insightful responses to our questions. I still remember the response she gave after I asked her my question. I had asked her "Was there an event or time in Judge Lindsay's life that prompted him to have such a desire to help and mentor youth?" She recalled the time he spent in Spain and how having such an opportunity was so wonderful to obtain. This opportunity prompted his desire a little bit more as it helped him in the journey of becoming such an inspiration in the legal profession. It shows how the right opportunity can change the life of a young individual. This is evident not only in this case but in this fellowship as well.

During her time with us, she spoke about herself and the journey she had to take to get to where she is now. One of the particular things I remembered she mentioned was that she used to be a teacher. This stood out to me because just like her husband, she too had a profound understanding of young people and was dedicated to helping them learn and grow. Her ability and desire to educate young people is so admirable because she is shaping the minds of the next generation. Through Mrs. Lindsay's wisdom and her strength of character, it helped me understand who Judge Reginald C. Lindsay was as a man. I thank her for not only coming to speak to us but also serving as an inspiration to us all.



My Time in Judge Young's Chambers by Valerie Nieves, Lindsay Fellow

Whenever I thought of a judge, I thought of someone that was untouchable. A person I aspired to be, but someone I would not be able to approach. Being a Lindsay Fellow truly changed my perspective. I interned in Judge Young's chambers, where I was welcomed in with open arms. Judge Young is a Federal District Court Judge who was appointed by President Ronald Reagan to serve on the Court in 1985. He has been a Judge for more than three decades and he has never let his tenure stop him from connecting with whoever comes to visit his chambers. While I was interning in his chambers, Judge Young made sure that he and I had a one on one conversation before my work began.

Before that conversation, I was able to see him in action during a court proceeding. The way he handled the case was so inspiring. After the case was over, he allowed me to be a part of the debriefing of the case with his law clerks and I already felt like I was a part of the team. I then was able to have my one on one with the judge and we got to know each other on a personal level through our legal conversations. I quickly learned that the judge was also a visiting judge in the District Court of Puerto Rico. My family is from the island and it was easy to connect with the judge on that level. Through that connection, I was able to do some translation work for him as well as gain more knowledge on the Puerto Rican judicial system and how it works.

After one of the court proceedings that Judge Young presided over, I had the opportunity to hear him talk to a group of law students. He was talking about his experience as a judge and someone asked him a question about sentencing. His answer was so inspiring to me that I began to reevaluate my trajectory in terms of my career. His answer was that although his law clerks and legal interns were all in chambers to provide him with suggestions and support, when it comes to sentencing, he does not allow them to help because the sentence that the defendant receives should lay solely on his conscious. That was impactful to me because it reiterated the notion of being purposeful with everything you do.

All of your choices will lead to either wanted or unwanted consequences. Therefore, you cannot act off of impulse nor based off of emotions, you must be logical and purposeful. Judge Young exemplified that and inspired everyone else to do so as well. A task as simple as printing out law review articles had a purpose and was considered as equally important as anything else that was going on in chambers. My role was never seen as less important than anyone else's because I was a Lindsay Fellow or because I was an undergraduate but I, just as everyone else, was an employee of Judge Young's chamber.



Legal Research & Writing Class with Alexis Hamdan by Nancy Ramirez, Lindsay Fellow

The Lindsay Fellowship 2017 orientation was on June 8, 2017. The six fortunate Fellows were met by Elti, one of the coordinators, at the lobby of the Courthouse. After all the Fellows were situated and checked in, Elti took the six strangers, at that moment, to a kind of hidden room at the back of the Courthouse. Silence pervaded the room for a while. The coordinators, Veronique and Elti, tried to “break the ice” by asking basic questions: name, what city were you from, what did you study in school, etc.

Fortunately, Judge Dein came to save the eight strangers from themselves. Everyone in the room rose for Judge Dein and welcomed her. While the eight strangers talked with Judge Dein, a tall and serious-looking woman walked in. As soon as she entered, the room went quiet. Judge Dein was very happy to see her. The Judge said, “she is tough, but you will like her.” Indeed, Alexis Hamdan is tough. She is direct. She is intelligent. She is open-minded. She is nice. You might be intimidated by her personality, but you will end up liking her—that is Alexis

Once Judge Dein left the room, the Fellows and Coordinators were left alone with Alexis. She skimmed the room for two seconds and proceeded to introduce herself. She then asked the Fellows to introduce themselves. As the enthusiastic young man that Elti is, he started. Edwin and Kayhla went next. When it came down to Leticia’s turn, things turned challenging. Alexis was determined to say Leticia’s name correctly. As determined Alexis is, she spent 2 minutes on Leticia’s name until she finally got it right. Since that day, it was clear that Alexis is the type of human being who does not give up until she achieves what she wants.

That part of her personality was evident during class. If one of the Fellow in the classroom was unsure about something, Alexis would repeat the concept until it was clear to everyone. Just as persistent Alexis was with making sure a topic was clear to everyone, so was she equally persistent when challenging a Fellow’s idea. On the very first day of class, Alexis said “whatever you say, I will counter argue it. That way, you know both sides of the argument and you can make your argument stronger.” She definitely kept her word. Whenever any Fellow would say something, Alexis would passionately make a counter-argument. Alexis’ approach is helpful and efficient. After taking Alexis’ class, I find myself questioning arguments and trying to see the other side of the story.

We Fellows will most likely end up hearing Alexis’ voice in their head when writing. “How can I make this better?” “I need less words.” Not only will Future Fellows gain critical thinking skills, but they will gain great writing skills. By the end of the day, you will know that if you started writing in the past tense, not matter what you do, you *must* finish your writing in the past tense.

Public Speaking Class with Jamele Adams by Bayla Kamens, Nelson Fellow



It was Nelson Fellowship day one, and I was sitting in the jury box of Courtroom 7 along with eleven people I barely knew. In walks a man in a sideways baseball cap, sports jersey, and shorts, and stares at us from behind a table. He approaches the jury box suddenly, and opens his mouth to deliver a slam poem for the ages. This is how we were introduced to public speaking with Jamele Adams.

It took me until maybe the second day of our classes with Jamele to realize that “public speaking” was nearly synonymous with “spoken word.” Suddenly, the Moakley Courthouse was a little less stuffy and formal, and a little more of an authentic space where we were being encouraged to develop our creativity along with our professional skills. By day one we were writing coherent responses to real world issues, and getting up and participating in a formal debate. By day two we were standing up in front of a teacher and each other and reading personal pieces of writing, allowing them to be open to critique as well as support and praise. By day three Fellows were joking that the class was actually group therapy. By day four we were out in teams interacting directly with local businesses.

The first integral part of Jamele’s class was the way in which he treated all of us, encouraging us to follow his suit in the way we treated each other. He referred to us often as “Scholar Kings,” and “Scholar Queens,” inviting us to own both our intellect and our regality.

Second, the learning began immediately. We were always expected to be improving our writing and speaking. Our first piece of writing was a response to Jamele’s first surprising poem. Directly after finishing it, we were instructed to make sure all our future writing had a “captivating opening, beautiful journey, and gripping ending”. This instruction applied to everything from any our poetry responses, to our daily journals, to our mock trial legal writing. To constantly improve our mindful speaking, we were given the difficult task of ridding our talk of “like”s and “um”s. The overall lesson was to be constantly mindful and to fill our space in the world with intention.

We only got to spend eight days with Jamele, but by the end it felt like so much more. We concluded our time together at Brandeis University, Jamele’s homebase. There we presented on important social issues to each other, as well as having our most epic and final debate. Both of those closing events truly demonstrated how far each individual had grown as a speaker and as a writer. And not only did Jamele teach us all so much, he created a space that allowed us to bond with our fellow Fellows and recognize each person’s individual journey.

Stay Connected!

Past Lindsay and Nelson Fellows are doing amazing things and we would like to hear all about it!

Please send us your most recent contact information and let us know what projects you are involved in!

Send an email to:

**Fellowship_Coordinator@
mad.uscourts.gov**

Civil Rights Class with Jason Wise by Denezia Fahie, Nelson Fellow

What do you want your legacy to be? What do you want to be known for?"

Within the first few moments of my civil rights journey, I was captivated. The presentation of such a question alongside the time and space to ponder deeply was incomparable to any other introduction and gave an indication as to the deep analysis awaiting.

This class is indeed mind transforming. Within the space, one is exposed to the past from a different perspective, not simply in regards to the history that set foundation to many still active and prevalent ideologies and cultural practices, but the analysis behind these idiosyncrasies and traditions. A highlight of this class for me was being reminded of the racial segregation and the impact the Jim Crow era had on society, then translating it to today's racial discord and truly unveiling the root of these inequalities. Now, this reminder was not what excited me the most nor was the resurrection of previously dormant emotions and the awakening of new indescribable ones, but attempting to empathize and psychologically analyze those who possessed the greatest power and maintained superiority during that time was most impactful.

The ability to embrace another person's character and justify actions that seemed illogical was not easy. However, intellectual or personal growth and development isn't easy either. This class made it apparent that challenge is necessary and that there is a great importance in stepping out of your comfort zone and adapting to different situations because these are conducive for development. Often times when discussing the issues of civil rights and injustices there is a certain veil or sanitation in order to prevent a negative bias or change in perception of a specific people.

This class provided fact, with no "sugarcoat" which created the platform for participants to develop and often times defend various opinions or ideas. For anyone in the future who maybe taking this class under Jason's astounding teaching and facilitation it is imperative to maintain an open mind and not fear the change of an idea or tradition, as fearing to adapt can be more of a hindrance than a benefit in the strive to continue to learn and understand.

Mock Bail and Detention Hearing Session with the Magistrate Judges by Esmeralda Callejas, Nelson Fellow

This year the 2017 Nelson Fellows did Mock Bail with the Honorable Judge Campbell, Judge Boal, and Judge Dein. This was a new activity and a new way to get a better idea as to what the judges have to think about when they are considering whether to grant someone bail. For this activity we were given a scenario about a hypothetical defendant and we were supposed to decide whether to release them or detain them. While trying to decide what to do, you realize that there is not an easy answer to it, which makes sense because you are determining if someone will be free pending their trial or whether they will be behind bars. At times it could last for years until their hearing, and if they get a verdict of not guilty, you realize they wasted a part of their life in jail for nothing. I realized this is why judges think long and hard about what decision to make. They make sure to include factors such as someone's financial circumstances, employment, family history, prior record, substance abuse, etc. The judges do their best in trying to see the person, see their actions, and see whether or not they can trust them to behave until their actual trial/hearing.

During this session the judges asked us questions and let us ask them question. What I found interesting was how different the Federal and State court treat bail. The State can sometimes put bail at unreasonable amounts so that people won't be able to pay and will have to remain in custody. However the Federal court cannot do that, they must give a bail that is reasonable for the person's financial situation.

This was the first year for the Nelson Fellowship Program to do the Mock Bail and I believe that my fellow Fellows enjoyed the activity and also learned a lot from it. I personally enjoyed it, however it also made me realize how stressful it can be for the judges. The life and the time of one individual is determined by another individual. Sometimes people don't realize that it's hard on the person being charged but also it's hard for the judge to make a decision that is in everyone's best interest. I hope that for the years to come that this activity will continue on and help people realize what determines the judgment of a judge. I also want to thank all three judges that gave the Nelson Fellows their time and were able to teach us about the process of setting a bail.

Meeting the Former United States District Attorney of Massachusetts by Chrisleen Herard, Nelson Fellow

I had the honor of sitting in the same room with the first woman to serve as a United States Attorney in Massachusetts.

Selected by the senator of Massachusetts and appointed by former president Barack Obama himself, Ortiz began memorable work from 2009-2017 while making history as the first Latina woman in this position. Even though before this opportunity she was hit with the stereotypical thoughts of a woman not being able to fulfill the duties of a lawyer, she quickly demolished all doubt and became the one everyone would turn to. I sat in admiration as she spoke to us, and hoping to accomplish the same goal. Being a double minority, I would like to turn heads and create a different belief for what an African American woman is capable of, just as Ortiz did for the Latina woman.

Ortiz delivered words of wisdom that had only increased my determination and excitement for my future. If she could do this, why can't I? Even though she was the oldest of five, even though her parents came to the US with little education, even though she faced prejudice, she has left a successful path that I hope to walk through in her footsteps. Ms. Ortiz still continues to walk on that path today, she plans on teaching law at Boston College. From the outside, it's easy to say that she has done everything and that she is already successful, but Ms. Ortiz seeks to continue working hard to have a positive impact on her community. She showed us that the grind never stops, even if you already made a difference, there is still much more to do.

I, as many, can always wish to be something as she is, but only few will actually do the hard work needed to accomplish the success she has. Ortiz has a goal and always strives for it. Every strain of effort is put into her work, and it shows it. I found it surprising that she found the time to even talk to us! I hope that my determination can match hers, because with such mentality, you can truly do anything.

I would like to be a defense attorney in the juvenile court system. To me, helping the community means helping the foundation of our community, young people, realize their full potential. Ms. Ortiz does this by taking time to talk to us kids, like the Nelson Fellows, and serving the people in any way that she can. It's one thing to just do your job, but it is another thing to do your job, while helping people in the process.

From this meeting, I learned that anything is possible. Whether you're a woman, Latina, African American, Asian, or just looked down upon in society, you can prove everyone wrong if you work hard and are focused. Carmen Ortiz serves as living proof of this statement, and I know that I will look back to this day as motivation as I pursue my goals.



Working in the Chief Judge's Chambers by Luis Garcia-Robles, Nelson Fellow

As we sat at the conference table at orientation waiting to find out to which judge's chambers we were going to be assigned to, nerves sparked through all of me. To make matters worse, my seat positioning placed me as one of the last ones to wait. Previously I had researched some judges and the work they did, yet I had no clue what to expect what lay ahead. As my peers heard their judges, I remembered reading about some of them and I kept track in my mind of the judges that remained unassigned. Then the moment of truth came, Alexis looked at me, looked back at the list and gave an "oh" of surprise. "You have the Chief Judge" she said with a smirk. I barely knew what the Chief Judge did, but I knew no other fellow had a judge with chief in their title. It was there that my nerves calmed and my excitement came up.

Then the nerves rerouted. As I was getting comfortable with the staff and the fellows, more people started coming in. As I learned they were all the judge's clerks, I felt intimidated and started to wonder which clerks I was paired with. Only after they all left did I learn that my judge's clerks were the only ones not able to come. As Elti was escorting me to chambers, I felt as though I was going through a maze of government offices that never ended. Only then when we reached the correct chambers, no one was answering the door. As we waited, I started losing hope in meeting anyone in chambers. Yet just as disappointment invaded me, a Lindsay fellow greeted us. Walking through Chief Judge Saris' chambers, felt so much comforting than the rest of the courthouse. The most obvious were comical cartoon sketches of her previous clerks and all had certain themes pertaining to events while they clerked. They were followed by satirical sketches of English Judges from colonial times that were just as entertaining. Yet nothing could beat the bobblehead of Chief Judge Saris. The experience certainly made me feel less intimidated and reminded me that Judges are human too.

Unfortunately I didn't meet my Judge until a few days later because she was out of town. When we did meet, it was a weird encounter. As she saw me through her glass door, she stared at me with a questioning look. As I entered she still was wondering who I was. As I told her I was the Nelson Fellow appointed to her, her face turned joyful. "Oh I thought you were a lawyer," she said. She then invited me to her desk and had a very fun and close conversation. From the beginning talking to Chief Judge Saris felt so comforting and gave me pride in being appointed to her.

The very interesting duty that I had in chambers was initially hard, confusing, but I felt determined. Having only read case law very few times before coming to the court, it was a little challenging understanding and summarizing opinions made by the Chief Judge. I had only read famous opinions by the Supreme Court and they were very different from that of my Judge. Reading the cases and learning of the rulings made me want to keep reading and pursue a full understanding of what my Judge ruled.

The other part of my assignment was attending my Judge's court proceedings which I wished I had more opportunities to do. The most interesting part of it all was during recesses or when the clerks, Judge, and I freely discussed what we had just observed and predicted future outcomes. It made me better understand what I watched and made me even more eager to pursue a career in the legal field.

Prior to coming to the fellowship, I felt lost, and was unsure about what I wanted to do in the long term. Somehow after the numerous questions I asked the clerks and my Judge, they kept answering them with enthusiasm and didn't seem annoyed by them. I would ask about law school, their paths, the court, their experiences, and anything that came to mind. As I turned in my badge, it was with great sadness that I had to leave the court. It was one of the few places that I really felt comfortable. It wasn't like school where drama occurs and teachers are sometimes annoyed with you. It was not like other internships where the staff assigns you boring work and rarely check up on you. Rather, I felt like I was at a second home where I was valued for my contributions.

Meeting with US Marshal Gibbons by Henry Rich, Nelson Fellow

At the courthouse every day, the marshals are known as friendly faces, greeting everyone as they enter the world of law. No one thinks twice about the job they do, gladly accepting their appearance as facilitators of the courthouse--but taking a second look reveals so much more. When we went to visit the marshals in their office, we saw the other side. Initially introduced to the most wanted posters, the mood begins to become obvious approaching the offices. Then, after entering, a whole different universe is opened. Organized crime, drugs, gun violence and witness protection are just some of the issues that the marshals remain quietly content with handling. Speaking to US Marshal Gibbons was intriguing, learning about what it takes to be a marshal and his experience doing so, along with Kevin Neal who broke down the details of what marshals typically do. The excitement of our group was palpable when Mr. Neal locked Teaka in leg irons and handcuffs, a picture sure to resurface in the future; equally as captivating, the demonstration of a taser buzzing definitely shocked the entire crowd. Learning about a relatively unknown branch of law enforcement was a fantastic experience. The statistics were impressive, showing the amazing amount of hard work and effort the marshals put in.

Marshals may greet you at the door every day, but that same day they also do so much more. On any given day, the marshals could be in the field, apprehending a drug operation, making a neighborhood, a town, a city, a country safer for everyone. Or maybe they spend their day protecting the brother of a gang leader who is ready to come forward and testify about everything in front of a judge, dismantling an entire organization of crime. Even still, they could be chasing down a fugitive, risking their lives to bring in a murderer and maintain justice in America. To do all this, the marshals have to uphold the highest standards of fitness and sharpness, dissecting situations intelligently and then executing procedures flawlessly. After the years spent eliminating the harms to society and serving the justice system, the marshals return to the courthouse and become the friendly faces that greet you with a smile--reminding you every day of the security and safety they fought for and still represent.

While most of the Nelson Fellows steer their interests towards being in and around the courtroom, the visit with the US Marshals may make some want to trade in suits and dresses for vests and uniforms. The other aspect of enforcing and enacting the law is surely not for everyone, but its intrigue remains. Children dream of being heroes, the Fellows dream of being lawyers; the job of a US Marshal combines a traditional hero and the law perfectly.



Visiting the Juvenile Court with Migdalia Nalls. by Teaka Ennis, Nelson Fellow

On Wednesday, July 12th, the Nelson Fellows visited the Juvenile Court at the Edward Brooke Courthouse where we had the great pleasure of meeting Migdalia Nalls, a former Nelson Fellow and Fellowship Coordinator. Migdalia is currently a defense lawyer in the Committee for Public Counsel Services office in Roxbury. For many years, she worked on the other side as an Assistant District Attorney in Dan Conley's office. She enlightened us about the juvenile court process. She told us about how as a prosecutor she had a significant amount of discretion in deciding how to deal with each youthful offender. She felt that her job was not about locking kids up and punishing them but was more more about finding the right solution in each case that would be in the best interest of both the juvenile and society in determining how to rehabilitate the young person.

The Juvenile Court Department is a statewide court with jurisdiction over civil and criminal matters involving children under the age of eighteen. There is a wide variety in the types of cases including delinquencies, youthful offender cases, care and protection, and children requiring assistance cases. It is the duty of the Juvenile Court to protect children from abuse and neglect, to develop opportunities for children to stay in a safe, stable, permanent family environment, to strengthen families, to rehabilitate juveniles, to protect the public from delinquent and criminal behavior and to decide all cases fairly and impartially with dedication, integrity and professionalism. The Juvenile Court has 41 judges, including the Chief Justice, in over 40 locations.

During our visit to the Brooke Courthouse we had the opportunity to visit the section of the building where they temporarily hold juveniles who have been transferred from a juvenile detention facility to the courthouse for a court hearing. It was clearly not a place where I would want to spend any amount of time. There were no windows and the air conditioning was not working very well. Because it is a temporary holding area, there were no beds in the cells, toilets with no privacy, and it appeared very lonely. We saw a cell, called the rubber room, where they put kids who are in danger of hurting themselves. Fortunately it was empty when we were there.

We also learned that Migdalia is a graduate of English HS, Boston College, and Boston College Law School. She is an inspiration to all of us young women in the Boston Public Schools. This strong woman makes me believe I can do anything I put my mind to. No matter how hard life gets I can still succeed and that's basically her job. She gives juveniles hope that they can make it in life and that they can become better than their past story, and that they should not let their past define their future.

I have had some difficult challenges in my family life but I am proud that I have worked so hard to get where I am today and that I never let the actions of others or selfish spoken words bring me down. Thanks to the Nelson Fellowship I feel that my life is better because I have something professional to look forward to in the mornings. My advice to anyone who has it rough in life: just remember, your life is not over because you can change your story. You should not make your past mistakes or your parent's mistakes define your life or be the story you are stuck with forever. You are kings and queens and never let anyone tell you otherwise; just hold your head high and become somebody great and improve your life story.

Community Dispute Settlement Center by Melissa Gutierrez, Nelson Fellow



The Nelson and Lindsay Fellows this summer had the joy of going to Cambridge Massachusetts, to the Community Dispute Settlement Center. We spent 6 hours over the course of two days learning how to settle disputes through mediation, as the Director Gail S. Packer does every day. The two days spent as a team opened us to the life of what mediation training consists of. We started off by introducing the main word, "Conflict". Most people, when they think of this word, they think it has just negative connotations. But, as a group, the negatives and positive associations we made with the word "conflict" balanced the scale! We didn't just think of anger when we heard the word, but we also thought about opportunity as well.

We also learned about the types of styles that many of us have for responding to conflict and how they may all be helpful in different circumstances. There were ways that we could de-escalate or prevent these situations from arising, which are applicable not only in our daily lives, but also throughout whatever career we decide to choose.



At CDSC, we got to interact with the Lindsay Fellows more than we had during the first part of the summer. As a group, we had plenty of laughs and analyzed how in a good scenario, there are many conflict resolution skills you can use to prevent a bad situation from occurring. For example, using constructive language and "I-messages" so that the other side doesn't get defensive and is willing to hear you out. This takes into consideration the other person's emotions and addresses the action that was bothersome. This is another helpful skill we Nelson and Lindsay Fellows can now use in a heated situation.

The second day, the term "ADR" was introduced. This being Alternative Dispute Resolution, that is the opening of the 5 main words affiliated with definitions playing a major role. The words being negotiation, mediation, conciliation, arbitration, and adjudication were scattered around the room with poster paper. We formed teams and presented the pros and cons about these methods of resolving problem and how they can be used negatively and positively. The groups then presented their ideas and how each would correlate with a dispute.

Learning about the strategies it takes to be a mediator was quickly followed by a video, which gave us a real life example of what it is like to mediate a family feud. The effectiveness was shown towards the end when realizing that the family had clear intentions on still being a family, keeping a bond and not letting money rip them apart. Towards the end of our session, we had a mediation Role Play. This, many of us discussed was challenging by the amount of patience and neutrality that a mediator has to uphold when hearing both sides. Listening to a situation gets difficult when it is relatable, so the bias comes almost naturally. That's when using the strategies CDSC taught us was immensely helpful.



C.A.R.E Session with Judge Kelley by Aminata Sheriff, Nelson Fellow

The C.A.R.E (Court Assisted Recovery Efforts) program was originally created by Judge Sorokin to help adults recovering from alcohol or substance-abuse to become resilient and aims at the goal of getting them to live comfortably in the outside world. The participants have to become and stay sober, and lead employed and law abiding lives. The program has been proven to be successful due its ability to promote both public safety and rehabilitation of the participants. C.A.R.E consists of strong supervisions of the participants and regular check-ins. These actions illustrate that the program's main goal is for the participants to succeed and not go back to their unhealthy way of living. I found the program to be very important and know that it can be hard at times for judges to make tough choices for the participants but nevertheless they make the well-being of the participants the priority. It was very unique to see how much the judge and probation officers really care about the participants

The Nelsons Fellows got to meet Judge Sorokin and Judge Kelley. From Judge Sorokin we got a better understanding of why the program was created. By meeting him I got to learn that if you see something in your community or workplace that needs fixing then try to do something about as he did by making the program. From Judge Kelley we learned that the C.A.R.E program is amazing because they try to make the participants more comfortable, for example, when we visited they brought in a service dog for the men in the program to make them more comfortable in a stressful environment. I had the joyful experience of meeting the men in C.A.R.E and see how the program has really shaped their lives and try to get more out of their lives than they had. The members of the program proved that they have benefited through the program by advancing to new levels and doing their best to make sure that they are on track to having normal lives. I learned through C.A.R.E that everyone wants the best for themselves and it's not always easy getting on the right path even if you know the right path. All you can do sometimes is hope that there are people behind you who are willing to make tough choices and push you the right way. I wish the program would expand more and provide more, for instance helping them find homes for the participants, which I hope will happen in the near future.

Lunch with Judge Young by Michael Griffin, Nelson Fellow

What is there to say about Judge Young? Judge Young is one of the most well-known and well respected judges in all of Massachusetts and certainly the whole country. Judge Young has had his share of famous cases such as the Big Dan case which was even made into a movie and the biggest case of them all, the Shoe Bomber case. To be in presence with such a judge was quite remarkable, and to be honest quite nerve racking, you certainly want to make a lasting impression. Nevertheless meeting Judge Young was quite different than most would expect, when meeting a Judge usually you feel as though the Judge is superior than you and you get this feeling that you're almost meeting the Queen of England or the President, you have to be polite, have good posture, pronounce every word correctly,...etc. But meeting Judge Young was almost the opposite. Right from the beginning Judge Young made us feel at home, as though we belonged in the courthouse. We didn't have to call him Your Honor, or stand up when he entered the room, he allowed us in many ways to be who we are, to act as though Judge Young was just a fellow colleague of ours. That's not to say I wasn't still nervous when meeting him because you bet I was. Regardless of my emotions, as we entered the room there was almost a feeling a coziness as if the chambers was a home away from home.

As Judge Young entered the room, there was all of sudden a silence, we were probably all just nervous because it was all our first lunch with a Judge and we have never actually had a full conversation with a Judge. Therefore, when Judge Young finally sat down and reassured us not to stand up or call him your Honor, I knew then that was nothing to be nervous about and that I could just be who I am.

During the conversation the most particular aspect that struck me was the way Judge Young spoke, it was though I was listening to Morgan Freeman but in all honesty it was just his choice of words and thoughts. Just by sitting there I thought I was getting smarter and Judge Young's way of thinking was quite unique, I have never thought of thinking the way Judge Young thinks. The way we are taught to think it quite differently than the way Judge Young thinks, I argue that we are taught to think emotionally and frankly we let our emotions oftentimes cloud our judgement. The way Judge Young thinks was eye opening to me because when I think I usually think in a larger picture, I don't think of the smaller details and my morals affect my judgment in some cases but having lunch with Judge Young helped me reevaluate the important ways of thinking, that sometimes even though your heart is telling you something you want to hear and want to happen, it is your brain you have to follow and listen to.

To gain a new perspective was quite helpful to me and the rest of my colleagues. I thank Judge Young for allowing us to be in his chambers, and to be so open to us and treating us not as just these annoying millennials but as student of the law. Thank you Judge Young.

Law Class & Mock Trial Prep with Mr. Howland by Willie Gomez, Nelson Fellow



Preparation is a primary focus in a courthouse and can be applicable to any setting in life. Mr. Howland emphasizes the importance of such discipline in his law class and especially in the anticipation of our mock trial. The true essence of a mock trial lies in the format of a well written essay. As a prosecutor or defense attorney, one of the focal objectives is to convince the jury. With precision and connection of ideas, you are explaining your side of the story through the use of tone and word choice which will influence the decision of the jury.

Through the mock trial the Nelson Fellows got our first taste of the strategic and laborious procedure of being an attorney. In our situation, Mr. Breedy was accused of murdering his great aunt who had a will of approximately 20 million dollars. Mr Breedy who had a loving relationship with his aunt, Ms. Dana K Liberson, had a variety of dubious implications of him being the murderer. He was accused of tampering with his aunt's pills when he visited her.

Dana Liberson (also called DK) who was 90 years old and suffered dementia, was also close to her live-in caretaker Ms Loiselle. Loiselle, who was in charge of DK's medication, was a part of DK's will along with her covetous nephews. One of the more blatant nephews was named Kocap. He felt he was being double-crossed out of his money when DK decreased the percentage he would receive from the will to provide more for her nurse. Another imperfection in the case was the lack of evidence collected by the detective of the case Mr. Holloway.

Deciphering the truth is not the objective of the defense. Our law system is built like a puzzle, the commonwealth puts together pieces of evidence building a credible story of what could have been the truth. However, the defense breaks and separates pieces of this "puzzle" that don't match and adjusts them into an alternative explanation of the scenario. Even though it seems like a hostile competition, the big picture illustrates both parties working together to reach justice.

Mock trial prep inculcates a skill-set used in almost any setting in the professional world—the ability to convey ideas and challenge others to think critically. For example, it is likely that as a businessman or woman, social interaction skills are vital towards success. Mock trial improves presentation skills and outlines the key components of an effective and assertive essay. I am so grateful to have been a student of Mr. Howland's and to have done the mock trial with my fellow Fellows.



MEET THE 2017 LINDSAY FELLOWS



Leticia Marquez is a recent graduate of Worcester State University where she majored in Criminal Justice. She recently passed the Police Exam.

Valerie Nieves is a rising senior at Northeastern University where she majors in Political Science with a concentration in legal studies and minors in Law & Public Policy as well as Portuguese.



Edwin Ortiz is a rising senior at the University of Massachusetts Boston where he double majors in Criminal Justice and Spanish Translation.



MEET THE 2017 LINDSAY FELLOWS



Nancy Ramirez is a rising junior at Union College where she majors in Latin American & Caribbean Studies and minors in Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies.

Erik Solis is a rising senior at the University of Massachusetts Boston where he majors in Criminal Justice and minors in Political Science.



Kayhla Wiggins is a rising senior at the University of Massachusetts Boston where she majors in Psychology.

MEET THE 2017 NELSON FELLOWS



Esmeralda Callejas is a rising senior at Boston Latin Academy and interned in Judge Kelley's chambers.

Amaya Rivera-Cartagena is a rising senior at Edward M. Kennedy Academy for Health Careers and interned in Judge O'Toole's chambers.



Teaka Ennis is a rising senior at Urban Science Academy and interned in Judge Cabell's chambers



MEET THE 2017 NELSON FELLOWS



Denezia Fahie is a rising senior at North High School in Worcester and interned in Judge Burrough's chambers

Willie Gomez is a rising senior at Margarita Muniz Academy and interned in Judge Boal's chambers



Michael Griffin is a rising senior at Boston Latin Academy and interned in Judge Young's and Judge Wolf's chambers.

MEET THE 2017 NELSON FELLOWS



Melissa Gutierrez is a rising senior at East Boston High School and interned in Judge Dein's chambers.



Chrisleen Herard is a rising senior at Boston Latin Academy and interned in Judge Casper's chambers



Bayla Kamens is a rising senior at Boston Latin Academy and interned in Judge Zobel's chambers.

MEET THE 2017 NELSON FELLOWS



Henry Rich is a rising senior at South High Community School in Worcester and interned in Judge Gorton's chambers.

Luis Garcia-Robles is a rising senior at Boston Latin Academy and interned in Chief Judge Sari's' chambers.



Aminata Sheriff is a rising senior at Tech Boston Academy and interned in Judge Saylor's chambers.



The Ginny Hurley Memorial Scholarship



Ginny Hurley joined the Clerk's Office of the United States District Court, District of Massachusetts in 1976 as a Deputy Clerk. Through the years her responsibilities grew and she touched the lives of virtually every member of the Court family. From 2003 until her passing, Ginny was responsible for organizing all of the educational programs at the Court for the bench, bar and public. Her title of "Outreach Coordinator" reflected the fact that she was the face of the court, welcoming all who came to take part in the judicial system, including dignitaries from around the world, international and national press, and students from down the street, all with grace and a smile. Ginny was a good friend, teacher and mentor. She was a quick wit, and had the ability to make people laugh.

Ginny derived great satisfaction coordinating the Court's summer programs for high school and college students - the Lindsay and Nelson Fellowship programs. She helped nurture and train the next generation to appreciate and participate in the legal process.

In memory of her tremendous work for these students, the Massachusetts Chapter of the Federal Bar Association has established the Ginny Hurley Memorial Scholarship. This scholarship, for books or tuition expenses, will be awarded annually to all graduating Lindsay and Nelson Fellows.



Donations are welcome. Checks should be made out to Federal Bar Association— Massachusetts Chapter. Please include a note designating the funds for Ginny Hurley Memorial Scholarship. Donations should be sent to FBA Treasurer Jonathan Handler at c/o Day Pitney, One International Place, Boston, MA 02110.

Special Thanks To:

A special thank you to Alexis Hamdan who has been working closely with both fellowships. We would like to thank her for her support and dedication.

Thank you for a successful summer!



Thank you Judge Dein and Judge Casper for overseeing the fellowship programs!

We appreciate your dedication and efforts!

Thank you!

Cheryl Lindsay

Alexis Hamden

Jamele Adams

Jason Wise

Gerald Howland

Hon. David Barron

Hon. Frank J. Bailey

Nancy Hurley

Joyce Hurley

Corey Saunders

Lon Povich, and Staff

William Weinreb, Acting United States Attorney, and Staff

Miriam Conrad, Federal Defender, and Staff

Christopher Maloney, Chief United States Probation Officer, and Staff

William Gross, Boston Police Chief Superintendent

John Gibbons, US Marshal, and staff

Carmen Ortiz, Former United States Attorney

Gail Packer and staff, Community Dispute Settlement Center

Lisa White, and Library Staff

Barbara Morse, and Pro-Se Staff

Robert Farrell, USDC Clerk, and Staff

Sherin and Lodgen LLP

Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP

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Doris Fitzpatrick

Migdalia Nalls

Bottom Line

Boston Bar Association

Jermaine Kidd, Esq.

Mavrick Afonso

Chambers' Staff, Law Clerks, Interns and the numerous Fellowship Alumni

who shared their knowledge, experience and support