



Atlanta's John Marshall Law School

*Commencement Exercises
Class of
Two Thousand and Twenty-Three*

The Rialto Center for the Arts

One Thirty p.m.

*May 21, 2023
Atlanta, Georgia*

PRELUDE.....	<i>Prelude, Sigurd Jorsalfor</i> by Edvard Grieg
PROCESSIONAL.....	<i>Pomp and Circumstance March</i> by Edward Elgar
PROCESSIONAL MARSHALLS	<i>Katie Forrester Adams, Class of 2023</i> <i>Bethany Rell Keyes, Class of 2023</i>
NATIONAL ANTHEM	Amadeus String Ensemble
INVOCATION.....	Rev. Dr. David Anthony Spencer, Jr.
WELCOME	Jace C. Gatewood Dean
REMARKS FROM PRESIDENT OF STUDENT BAR ASSOCIATION	Keith A. Collins President, Student Bar Association
AWARDS	Jace C. Gatewood Dean
INTRODUCTION OF HONORABLE JUDGE DUSTIN HIGHTOWER	Jace C. Gatewood Dean
ADDRESS	Judge Dustin Hightower Superior Court, Coweta Circuit
CONFERRING OF DEGREE.....	Jace C. Gatewood Dean Scott Boone Associate Dean of Assessments and Outcomes/Associate Professor
REMARKS FROM THE CLASS.....	Jacob Holden Gregory 2023 Valedictorian – Part-Time Division Allyssia Constance Andrews 2023 Valedictorian – Full-Time Division
REMARKS FROM PRESIDENT OF THE ALUMNI BOARD	Jennifer Gore-Cuthbert Class of 2012
BENEDICTION	Rev. Dr. David Anthony Spencer, Jr.
CLOSING REMARKS.....	Jace C. Gatewood Dean
RECESSIONAL.....	<i>Grand March from "Aida"</i> by Verdi

The Audience is requested to remain seated during the recessional.

As a courtesy to our guests, we ask that you silence all communication devices and assure that all small children are monitored or removed if causing a distraction.

Atlanta's John Marshall Law School Honors The Honorable

Judge Hightower, 41, was appointed by Gov. Nathan Deal and sworn in as a Superior Court Judge of the Coweta Judicial Circuit on May 26, 2016. Judge Hightower was then elected to serve as a Superior Court Judge by the citizens of the Coweta Judicial Circuit in 2018 and 2022.

Judge Hightower grew up in Carroll County, Georgia where he graduated from Central High School. He then went on to attend the University of West Georgia earning his bachelor's degree in business management, and graduated *cum laude*. Judge Hightower followed that by attending John Marshall School of Law where he received his Juris Doctorate. While in law school, he was selected to serve as Notes and Comments Editor on John Marshall's inaugural law review journal, John Marshall Law Journal, and he was honored by having his comment, *Student Searches and Seizures: Georgia's Current Approach and Recommended Change*, chosen to be published in the journal.

From 2008 through 2016 Judge Hightower practiced law in his home area of Carroll and Douglas County with his former law firm, Miller & Hightower, Attorneys at Law. The firm focused their practice on personal injury cases, criminal defense, and divorce cases. Further, for over 6 years during this time, Judge Hightower also served as the city prosecutor for both the City of Mt. Zion and the City of Buchanan.

In January 2012, Judge Hightower was elected to the Georgia House of Representatives where he represented the 68th House District. During his legislative tenure, he received the ***"Defender of Liberty Award"*** from the American Conservative Union, and based on his efforts to fight against family violence, the Georgia Commission on Family Violence selected him to receive their ***"Legislative Leadership Award"***. Further, in 2015 he was recognized as ***"Legislator of the Year"*** for both the Georgia Trial Lawyers Association and SPADD, Service Providers Association for Developmental Disabilities.

In an effort to give back to his community, Judge Hightower has served on the following boards: Carroll County Child Advocacy Center Board, Carrollton Main Street Board, the University of West Georgia's National Alumni Board, and the University of West Georgia's Athletic Foundation Board. In 2012, the University of West Georgia selected Judge Hightower to receive the ***2012 Outstanding Young Alumnus Award***. Further, in early 2013 he was recognized as a ***Top 10 Young Professional in Douglas County***.

Judge Hightower is married to Christina Camp Hightower. They have two children together, Stella June and Waylon.

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JURIS DOCTOR DEGREE
December 2022

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Isa Harrison
Anaia Johnson

Thomas Joseph Krupinski
Joseph Richard Moss
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May 2023

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Lance Carruth
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Sanghun Kim
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2023 STUDENT HONORS & AWARDS

Pro Bono Distinction Award

Allyssia Constance Andrews

Lloyd Jean

Carlton Adam LeRoi Lewis

Excellence in Pro Bono

Victor J. Gordon

The Chief Justice Leah Ward Sears Pro Bono Award

Esther Yeeun Ko

**Atlanta's John Marshall Law School Award for
Excellence in Appellate Advocacy**

Keith Andre Collins

Jude Harold R. Banke Advocacy Award

Katie Forrester Adams

**Henning Award for The Atlanta Bar Association
Dispute Resolution Section**

Brooke Janese Harrison

Georgia Association of Women Lawyers Outstanding Graduate Award

Rose Laren Love

National Association of Women Lawyers Outstanding Law Student Award

Ashley Starnes

Order of Quill

Davis Milton Feder, Member of the Order

Allyssia Andrews, Scholar of the Order

Raford Kelly III, Scholar of the Order

Jessica Jenese Regalado-Bailey, Scholar of the Order

Jacob Holden Gregory, Exemplar Scholar and Marshall of the Order

Atlanta's John Marshall Law School Outstanding Graduate Award

Full-Time: *Chauncey Alexander Graham*

Part-Time: *Jacob Holden Gregory*

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*Director of Law Library
and Professor of Law*

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J.D., University of Michigan Law School

M. Librarianship, Emory University

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As we celebrate our 90th anniversary, we are reminded of the vital role that private philanthropic support plays in the continued success of Atlanta's John Marshall Law School. Your generosity makes it possible for us to provide financial assistance to the next generation of legal professionals, ensuring that they have the resources and opportunities they need to succeed.

Make a Secure Online Gift Today at www.johnmarshall.edu/giving

For additional information on giving, please contact Wendy Aina, Chief Development Officer, at waina@johnmarshall.edu or via phone at (678) 916-2674.

*Music by Amadeus String Ensemble
Photography by Grad Images*