(MOCK) SUPREME COURT COMES TO ST. THOMAS LAW

Adjunct Professor Howard Blumberg, who runs our Appellate Advocacy Clinic and coaches our Moot Court Team, will be arguing *Florida v. Jardines* before the United States Supreme Court on October 31, 2012. The case raises the issue of whether a warrantless search in violation of the Fourth Amendment has occurred when police use a drug sniffing dog to detect the odor of marijuana emanating from the front door of a suspect's home. On **October 2, 2012, at 12:00 p.m. in the Moot Court Room**, St. Thomas Law will have a mock oral argument with nine professors playing the nine justices.

The line-up is as follows: Chief Justice Roberts (Professor Light), Justice Scalia (Professor Garcia), Justice Kennedy (Dean Ray), Justice Thomas (Professor Mensel), Justice Ginsburg (Professor Soree), Justice Breyer (Professor Nathenson), Justice Alito (Professor Gilbert), Justice Sotomayor (Professor Lawson), and Justice Kagan (Professor Ronner).

The attorney arguing for the state of Florida will be played by Adjunct Professor Peter Raben, a criminal defense lawyer who worked with Professor Blumberg for many years in the appellate division of the Public Defender's Office before going into private practice, and who is teaching our new Florida Criminal Practice course.

Kudos goes to Professor Gilbert for organizing the mock argument. She began these efforts last February after learning of Professor Blumberg’s forthcoming appearance before the Supreme Court. The facts of the case are interesting, and most law students will be familiar with the basic Fourth Amendment issues. This presentation should not only prove useful to Professor Blumberg as he prepares to go before the (real) Supreme Court, but also provide an educational and entertaining opportunity for the St. Thomas Law Community. Some professors may make the session a substitute or supplemental class session, but all St. Thomas Law students are invited to attend the presentation.

PROFESSOR SIEGFRIED WIESSNER RECOGNIZED BY INTERNATIONAL LAW COMMUNITY

At the 75th Biennial Meeting of the International Law Association (ILA) in Sofia, Bulgaria, the ILA (the equivalent of the American Law Institute on the international front) approved a resolution that is a tribute to Professor Wiessner’s work and his leadership. ILA resolutions are the equivalent of ALI’s Restatements of American law, constituting evidence of international law (ALI, Third Restatement of the Foreign Relations Law of the United States, § 103 Reporters’ Notes No. 1 (1987)).

On August 30, 2012, the ILA adopted the conclusions and recommendations of its Committee on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples as Resolution No. 5/2012 2012. This resolution breaks new ground as it specifically,
recognizes indigenous peoples’ rights to cultural integrity, autonomy, and their lands as well as the principle of free, prior, and informed consent and rights to reparations and redress under customary international law. A path breaking resolution, this was the first time the Association had introduced the concept of collective rights.

Professor Wiessner has served as the Chair of the ILA Committee on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples since 2008 and has written leading pieces of scholarship on the rights and status of indigenous peoples. His recommendations, his scholarship, and his leadership all have borne fruit as the world’s leading international law judges, practitioners, and scholars have now followed his lead in this important area.

**INTERCULTURAL HUMAN RIGHTS LAW REVIEW**

The *Intercultural Human Rights Law Review* would like to congratulate the following students for their newly elected leadership roles: Sarah Strickland (Student Articles Editor for Spring 2013), Nicole Perez (Fundraising Committee), and Janette Valdes (Symposium Committee).

They also would like to congratulate the following students on becoming members: Veronica Cordova, Natalie Eusebe, Sean Gold, Lissette Hall, Aileen Hernandez, Daniel Jovanov, Jen Levy, Glorian Maziarka, Garcendi Registre, Sarah Strickland, Brad Schlesinger, and Justin Werthan.

Last, they would like to congratulate the following students on becoming member-candidates for the Fall 2012 semester. Ulyana Altbregen, Amber Bounelis, Judith Bradshaw, Danny Byers, Krisel Cabrera, Andres Fernandez, Kristina Georgiou, Tamar Hamilton, Robert Klassman, Richard Kravets, Tina Swenor, Loxanne Taylor, Ana Lucia Vera, Cathleen Ward, and Raisa Woodstock.

**RESULTS OF 1L’S SENATORS ELECTION**

The Student Bar Association (SBA) would like to congratulate the newly elected 1L senators: Antoney Azer, Lorena Duarte, Frank Estevez, Kaitlin Joyce, and Anthony Merrill.

**FACULTY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

On September 24 through 26, 2012, as a member of the Board of Directors of the Association of Climate Change Officers (ACCO), Professor Alfred Light is participating in the GreenGov Symposium in Washington, D.C.

**Professor Robert Mensel** had an article accepted for publication by the *St. Louis University Public Law Review* regarding the historical background of the citizenship clause of the Fourteenth Amendment. On September 22, 2012, he will present that article at a conference in Charleston, South Carolina.

**Professor Michael Vastine** argued *Hernandez v. State*, SC11-941, at the Florida Supreme Court in May. *Hernandez* addresses the rights of immigrant criminal defendants to receive effective assistance of counsel, including constitutionally sufficient advice regarding the immigration and deportation consequences of their plea, as defined by the U.S. Supreme Court in *Padilla v. Kentucky* (2010). He argued that the immigration warning in Florida’s plea colloquy is an insufficient safeguard to cure ineffective counsel and that the Sixth Amendment rights discussed in *Padilla* should be applied retroactively.

Professor Vastine was recently re-elected to the Board of Directors of the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA) South Florida Chapter, named Co-chair of the AILA South Florida Chapter Litigation Committee, and named Chair of the Law Student Division. He was also appointed Co-chair of the Membership and Outreach Committee of the American Association of Law Schools (AALS) Clinical Section and re-appointed to the Florida Bar Committee on Law-Related Education.