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Cultivating  
**Diversity**

**SHIPMAN &  
GOODWIN**®  
COUNSELORS AT LAW



*We are committed to achieving a workplace that is reflective of the clients we serve and the communities in which we live and work.*

### Robert R. Simpson Is NBA's Commercial Law Chair



Robert Simpson

**Robert R. Simpson**, a partner with the firm, has been elected Chair of the Commercial Law Section of the National Bar Association (NBA). The NBA, the nation's oldest and largest national network of predominantly African-American lawyers and judges, has been a leader in ensuring equal access, rights, equality and jurisprudence. The Commercial Law

Section is responsible for hosting the Annual Corporate Counsel Conference.

Robert has been an active member of the NBA, serving most recently as General Counsel. He has also held other positions in the organization including Treasurer of the Commercial Law Section and Chair of the Corporate Recruitment Committee. "I am excited for the NBA and Commercial Law, as I am certain that Rob will raise the bar for this great Section under his leadership," said John E. Page, General Counsel of Golden State Foods and Immediate Past President of the NBA. "I'm humbled by this opportunity to carry on the vision Cora T. Walker conceived over 25 years ago, and I'm excited that we will be able to continue the mission of diversity in the legal profession with the Annual Corporate Counsel Conference in February 2014 in Austin, Texas," said Simpson.

### Latonia Williams Honored by Lawyers of Color



Latonia Williams

**Latonia C. Williams**, an Associate in the firm's Bankruptcy and Creditors' Rights Practice Group, was named by Lawyers of Color (LOC) to its inaugural Hot List honoring early-to mid-career diverse attorneys in the Eastern Region. Honorees were selected from nominations by mentors, peers and colleagues as well as through extensive research of attorneys with noteworthy accomplishments. Latonia is among a select group of only 100 attorneys chosen to receive this distinction.

In addition to her substantive work on behalf of clients, she frequently takes on leadership roles in the firm and in professional associations. Currently, Latonia serves on the firm's Hiring and Diversity Committees. She is the Vice President of the George W. Crawford Black Bar Association, an organization in which she previously served two terms on the Board of Directors, and is Secretary of the Oliver Ellsworth Inn of Court. LOC promotes exceptional attorneys of color through its social media platforms (including On Being A Black Lawyer) and has been recognized by the American Bar Association, National Black Law Students Association and National Association of Black Journalists.

## ACHIEVEMENTS AND RECOGNITION

### George W. Crawford Black Bar Association



Anthony Shannon

Associates **Anthony R. Shannon, Harrison M. Smith** (left) and **Latonia C. Williams** (pictured on page 1) have been elected to serve in Executive Board positions for the George W. Crawford Black Bar Association for 2013-2014.



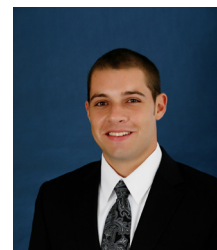
Harrison Smith

Anthony Shannon, a member of the firm's School Law group, was re-elected as Treasurer. Harrison Smith was elected to serve as Secretary and practices in the areas of Labor and Employment and Insurance Litigation. Latonia Williams, who practices in the areas of Bankruptcy and

Creditors' Rights and Litigation, was elected Vice President after serving two terms as a member of the association's Board of Directors.

Crawford is a statewide affiliate of the National Bar Association, the nation's oldest and largest organization for African-American attorneys. Crawford works to increase the role and number of African-American attorneys as well as awareness of legal issues affecting the African-American community. Through its various initiatives, the organization also provides opportunities for professional development, networking, student mentoring and education, service to the community and outreach.

### Connecticut Hispanic Bar Association



Alfredo Fernandez

Associate **Alfredo G. Fernandez** was elected by the Connecticut Hispanic Bar Association (CHBA) to serve on its Board as Director of Communications. Through its substantial efforts to serve the bar and the Hispanic community in Connecticut, the CHBA strives to enhance professional opportunities for Hispanic attorneys; mentor new lawyers and law students; and address issues impacting the Hispanic community, such as access to the courts, judicial diversity and other social challenges.

Alfredo is a member of Shipman & Goodwin's Government Investigations and White Collar Criminal Defense Group, where he focuses on International Trade Compliance and Enforcement.

"We are proud to continue to have our attorneys involved in leadership roles with these important organizations," said Scott L. Murphy, the firm's Managing Partner.

### Shipman & Goodwin Statistics

- » 41% of our attorneys are women
- » 32% of our partners are women
- » 50% of our associates are women
- » 21% of our associates are of color
- » 26% of our women associates are of color
- » 29% of our Management Committee members are women

### Diversity Committee

Scott Murphy, *Managing Partner*

Andreana Bellach

Leander Dolphin

Maria Drag

Susan Freedman

Stephen Gellman

Alex Hwang

Gabe Jiran, *Committee Chair*

Sarah McGinley

Sandy Olearcek

Maria Ramsay

Jessica Ritter

Lori Romano

Kevin Roy

Robert Simpson

Harrison Smith

Megan Tenney

Lyn Walker, *Diversity Partner*

Latonia Williams

If you have questions about our firm or our Diversity initiatives, please feel free to contact Gabriel J. Jiran, Chair. Gabe may be reached at (860) 251-5520 or you may email him at [gjiran@goodwin.com](mailto:gjiran@goodwin.com).



## MENTORING

### Law Day Initiative Celebrates 4th Year

On May 1, 2013, high school students learned firsthand about the legal profession at Shipman & Goodwin LLP's Law Day 2013, an annual event designed to give students from diverse backgrounds an inside view of life at a law firm. (Law Day is observed nationally each year to celebrate a commitment to the law, with activities sponsored by bar associations, courts, and schools.)

Students from Bloomfield High School and Hartford's Capital Preparatory Magnet School were treated to a "behind the bench" tour of the Connecticut Supreme Court. They also participated with lawyers, paralegals and administrative staff in panel discussions about career possibilities in the law and related fields. A dialogue, centered on students' rights, generated a great deal of curiosity as students explored real-life scenarios such as free speech versus freedom of expression and searches of students and their property.

### High School Internship Celebrates 3rd Year

For the past three years, Shipman & Goodwin has partnered with Hartford's Capital Preparatory Magnet School to afford a diverse high school senior the opportunity to spend two mornings per week at the firm.

Over the course of the winter and spring, the intern learns about different areas of the law, interacts with practitioners and further develops legal reasoning, written and oral communication skills.



Our 2013 intern, Briana Sanchez, is pictured at right. Briana was salutatorian of her high school class and began at Providence College this fall.

## Just the Beginning Foundation's Summer Legal Institute

Shipman & Goodwin hosted a successful one-day program in July for the Just the Beginning Foundation's Summer Legal Institute which was sponsored by MassMutual. Attorneys from the firm worked with twenty-one high school students from Springfield, Massachusetts, providing them with suggestions and tips on how to prepare for an oral argument. Students then had an opportunity to practice their mock oral arguments and obtain feedback.

Partner Ross Garber welcomed students and presented "Courtroom Tips." State Representative Matt Ritter, also a Shipman & Goodwin attorney, gave an interactive presentation on the state's legislative process. Students then participated in a panel discussion on what lawyers do on a day-to-day basis in firms, government and legal services. The panel, moderated by Partner Gabe Jiran, included Victor Bolden, Corporation Counsel for the City of New Haven; Partner Vaughan Finn; Jillian Griswold from Connecticut Legal Services; and Associate Anthony Shannon. It was an informative and educational experience for the students, who later that week presented their oral arguments in Federal District Court in Springfield, Massachusetts.



## RECENT DIVERSITY EVENTS

### » OCTOBER 2013

Host of Lawyers Collaborative for Diversity Mentor Dinner and Program, Shipman & Goodwin's Hartford office, October 3.

Equality Sponsor, the Connecticut Women's Education and Legal Fund's (CWEALF) Annual Awards Dinner, Plantsville, CT, October 1.

### » SEPTEMBER 2013

Bronze Sponsor, Corporate Counsel Women of Color's Ninth Annual Career Strategies Conference, Washington, DC, September 25-27.

Host, George W. Crawford Black Bar Association's First Quarterly Membership Meeting, September 19.

### » AUGUST 2013

Friend Level Sponsor, National LGBT Bar Association 2013 Lavender Law Conference & Career Fair, San Francisco, CA, August 22 - 24.

NEBSA Job Fair Participant, New York, NY, August 16.

### » JULY 2013

Shipman & Goodwin Movie Night with Hartford Summer Associates - Screening of 42, July 30.

Host and Programming for Just the Beginning Foundation's Summer Legal Institute, Shipman & Goodwin's Hartford office, July 11.



For a comprehensive list of diversity events, visit [www.shipmangoodwin.com/7900](http://www.shipmangoodwin.com/7900) or scan the QR code at left.

### » JUNE 2013

1L LCLD Scholars Retreat, Denver, CO, June 17 - 19.

The Amistad Center for Art & Culture's Juneteenth Celebration Gala: Jubilation, Wadsworth Atheneum, June 15.

### » MAY 2013

Bronze Sponsor, The Connecticut Gay & Lesbian Film Festival, Cinestudio, Trinity College, Hartford, May 31 - June 8.

Shipman & Goodwin Celebrates Asian Pacific American Heritage Month with screening of Whale Rider, May 30.

Origins of Yoga and Mindfulness Meditation, part of Shipman & Goodwin's Celebration of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month, Hartford Office, May 28.

Gold Sponsor, Lawyers Collaborative for Diversity's 9th Annual Edwin Archer Randolph Diversity Award Celebration, Wadsworth Atheneum, Hartford, May 9.

Law Day Program & Celebration, May 1.

### » APRIL 2013

Diamond Sponsor, George W. Crawford Black Bar Association Annual Dinner, Hartford, April 25.

Take A Child To Work Day, April 25.

## In the Spotlight

### Lavender Law Conference

Shipman & Goodwin sponsored the National LGBT Bar Association's 2013 Lavender Law Conference and Career Fair in August.

Lavender Law is celebrating its 25th anniversary, and Shipman & Goodwin has been a long-time participant in the Career Fair. Kevin Roy, a member of our Hiring and Diversity Committees, attended and handled recruiting at this year's career fair. Kevin is one of only a few openly gay partners in large law firms in Connecticut. He actively supports and has worked with several LGBT law school student groups and notes, "Shipman & Goodwin is proud to be the only Connecticut-based law firm to have participated every year for over a decade in the Lavender Law Career Fair."



Kevin Roy

### Law School Diversity Week

Shipman & Goodwin was the sole law firm sponsor of the University of Connecticut School of Law's Diversity Week which took place March 18 - March 22. Diversity Week 2013 is a celebration by the University of Connecticut School of Law Student Bar Association's Diversity Committee that highlighted diversity initiatives at the law school and in the Connecticut legal community. This year's events explored diversity of ethnicity, gender, politics, disability status and religion. Presenters included leaders and advocates in the legal community, area law school professors and guest lecturers. The week's highlights included an informative panel entitled *Unequal Under the Law: A Discussion About DOMA* and a viewing and discussion of *Divided We Fall*, a documentary on post-9/11 racism by critically acclaimed lawyer, civil rights advocate, and filmmaker, Valarie Kaur.