

JAMES CLIFTON (“CLIFF”) JOHNSON II

University of Mississippi School of Law

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EDUCATION

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW

New York, New York

Juris Doctorate – 1992

- Charles Evans Hughes Fellow (recognition of students with demonstrated commitment to addressing legal problems of economically and culturally disadvantaged)
- *Columbia Human Rights Law Review*
- Jerome Michael Jury Trials

MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE

Clinton, Mississippi

B.A. Political Science, *With High Honors and Special Distinction* - 1989

- Mississippi College Hall of Fame
- Mr. Mississippi College
- Student Body Vice President
- Student Senate President
- Student Body Attorney
- Debate Team President
- Omicron Delta Kappa Honor Society President
- Outstanding Graduate in Pre-Law
- Young Democrats President
- Honors Thesis – *The End of Democratic Dominance: Republican Popularity and Growth in Mississippi Politics, 1977-1987*

PREVIOUS WORK EXPERIENCE

LAW CLERK TO HONORABLE WILLIAM H. BARBOUR, JR.

Chief Judge, United States District Court for Southern District of Mississippi – 1992-1993

BUTLER, SNOW, O’MARA, STEVENS & CANNADA – 1993-1996

Jackson, Mississippi

Associate – Handled variety of complex civil litigation; litigated federal “conditions of confinement” cases; assisted with federal habeas litigation

**UNITED STATES ATTORNEY'S OFFICE FOR SOUTHERN DISTRICT
OF MISSISSIPPI – 1996-2001**
Jackson, Mississippi

Assistant United States Attorney – Responsible for all health care fraud cases throughout district; handled criminal jury trials of cases involving complex fraud schemes; participated in jury trials of narcotics cases

PIGOTT & JOHNSON, P.A. – 2001- 2014
Jackson, Mississippi

Shareholder and Founding Partner – Handled wide variety of complex civil and criminal matters: litigated *qui tam* actions filed throughout United States under the federal False Claims Act; frequent interaction with Department of Justice in Washington, D.C. and United States Attorney's offices throughout the country; handled numerous white-collar criminal matters; recovered more than \$12 million on behalf of 20 victims of international investment fraud scheme; represented hundreds of private prison employees in multiple Fair Labor Standards Act cases; represented hundreds of factory employees in settlement of race discrimination class action; represented death row inmates in federal appeals; successfully challenged Senatobia, Mississippi youth court system; litigated challenge to Mississippi "Personhood" initiative; successfully represented federal inmate in deprivation of health care litigation; litigated numerous LGBT discrimination matters; successfully represented six aerospace engineers in criminal and civil actions alleging theft of trade secrets; variety of *pro bono* and court-appointed matters

FULBRIGHT SCHOLAR - PROFESSOR OF LAW – 2005-2006
Lund, Sweden

Taught (History and Law of American Civil Rights Movement) and conducted research (Influence of Anti-Immigrant Sentiments on Swedish Politics and Culture) as Fulbright Scholar at Raoul Wallenberg Institute for Human Rights and Humanitarian Law and Lund University School of Law; lectured throughout Sweden, in Beijing, China, Wuhan, China, and Sofia, Bulgaria on behalf of Wallenberg Institute

LECTURES / TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- In addition to dozens of lectures during Fulbright fellowship, lectured in Sweden on numerous occasions from 2006-present, including lecture at Nobel Museum in Stockholm and commencement address at Wallenberg Institute in Lund
- Moderator - *Developing a Human Rights Toolbox - An International Session for Practicing Lawyers* - annual week-long conference in Stockholm, Sweden - 2009-present
- Harvard Law School - *The [Dis]United States: Diverse Experiences & Goals in LGBT Law* - Panelist - 2012
- Over 40 presentations locally and nationally to lawyers and other professionals concerning issues related to criminal and civil fraud actions
- Adjunct Professor – Trial Practice - Mississippi College School of Law
- Guest Lecturer - Mississippi College Masters of Health Administration program
- Supervised numerous high school mock trial teams

PROFESSIONAL / COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- Member: Mississippi Bar, Magnolia Bar, United States District Courts for the Northern and Southern Districts of Mississippi, Fifth Circuit Bar, United States Supreme Court Bar
- Baptist Joint Committee for Religious Liberty (works to maintain separation of church and state) – National Board of Directors
- Alliance of Baptists – National Board of Directors
- Habitat for Humanity - Volunteer Coordinator
- New Horizon Ministries, Inc. - Board of Directors, Past Chair – Inner-city programs providing residential treatment for drug and alcohol abusers, after-school programs for inner-city youth, job training, and daycare
- American Inns of Court, Charles Clark Chapter
- Mississippi Bar Association Minority Involvement Committee – Past Chair
- Stewpot Community Services - Board of Directors
- NAACP
- American Civil Liberties Union
- Lambda Legal (LGBT advocacy) – Mississippi Cooperating Counsel

HONORS/AWARDS

- *Inspector General's Integrity Award* – United States Department of Health and Human Services award recognizing outstanding service in protecting viability of federal health care programs
- *Top 40 Under 40* – Recognized by *Mississippi Business Journal* in 2003 as one of Mississippi's 40 most outstanding professionals under age 40
- *Distinguished Alumnus of the Year* - Mississippi College Department of History and Political Science - 2010
- *Mississippi Super Lawyers* - 2011 - present