LIFE AFTER RICE: BLACK ALUMNI IN LAW

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ALICIA BURNS-WRIGHT ’08

Alicia Burns-Wright has been an Associate General Counsel in the Competition & Regulatory Group at Facebook since June 2020. In that role, she provides global competition advice and guidance in connection with Facebook’s many services and products. Prior to joining Facebook, Alicia investigated proposed acquisitions in the Federal Trade Commission’s Bureau of Competition for 3.5 years and, before that, was in the Complex Commercial Litigation group at Vinson & Elkins for 5 years. After graduating from Rice in 2008, Alicia earned her JD from Harvard Law School in 2011 and has lived in Washington, DC ever since.

JOY GREEN ’04

Joy Green is the Legal Director for Justice for our Neighbors Houston (JFON). She received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science and Policy Studies from Rice University (Baker ’04) and her Juris Doctor from Tulane University Law School (’11). While in college, she spent a semester abroad at the University of Havana in Cuba. Prior to working with JFON, Joy spent four years in private practice in Dallas, Texas with a law firm that exclusively specializes in immigration law. There she represented individuals across the United States with family-based immigration, deportation defense, and humanitarian relief. Joy is a member of the State Bar of Texas, the Texas Bar College, and the American Immigration Lawyers Association. Prior to starting her legal career, Joy was a public school teacher.
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JAMILA MENSAH ’00

Jamila is a partner in Norton Rose Fulbright’s Houston office. Her practice covers all areas of employment law, including extensive experience in discrimination, retaliation, and unfair competition issues. In particular, Jamila represents clients in federal and state court and before administrative bodies, such as the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, the Department of Labor, and the Occupational Health and Safety Administration. Jamila also counsels and trains employers on a wide range of employment issues, including hiring, termination, wage and hour compliance, disability accommodation, employment discrimination, and drafting of employee handbooks and personnel policies. Additionally, Jamila conducts internal investigations for clients on sensitive employment-related issues. Jamila is a proud Houston native. After graduating from Rice in 2000, Jamila worked in Rice’s Office of Admission for three years before attending The University of Texas School of Law, where she earned her JD with honors in 2006.

MICHAEL WARREN ’16

Michael Warren is a member of Strategic Analysis, Inc., a government services firm based in Arlington, Virginia. Michael currently serves as a law clerk to the Office of General Counsel for the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA). In this role, he provides comprehensive legal assistance to DARPA attorneys and government stakeholders in guidance of the agency’s national security mission. Prior to his law clerk role, Michael served as a contracts specialist for DARPA, where he provided acquisition support facilitating procurement of novel research technology. Before law school, Michael gained pivotal litigation and transactional experience supporting corporate clients as a paralegal for Covington & Burling, LLP and Ashby, LLP. Michael earned a B.A. from Rice University in 2016, and is currently pursuing a J.D. part-time at the Georgetown University Law Center. He is a native Texan, former member of the Rice Owl football team and Brown College alum.