

# Judge David S. Nelson and Judge Reginald C. Lindsay Fellowship Programs



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*"Justice is but truth in action"*

- Louis Brandeis

# Judge David S. Nelson and Judge Reginald C. Lindsay Fellowship Programs

## *A Visit to the Supreme Judicial Court*

By: Gena White

The Supreme Judicial Court is the apex to the state judicial system in Massachusetts. The beautiful building known by locals as the SJC, houses the highest state court, and is tucked away in the heart of Boston. It currently functions under the oldest written state constitution in the nation. When you first enter the small, yet gorgeous building you find yourself staring at magnificent architectural work, along with statues representing the key values of the judicial system. The halls are wide and often empty during the summer, but still captivating.

Justice Margot Botsford greeted us with a warm smile, as we entered the courtroom where she and her colleagues hear cases. The SJC was one of our first adventures outside of the Moakley. Looking back to that moment the advice and stories were foreign to us but it all made more sense to us as the summer progressed. Justice Botsford was able to show us the difficulty in becoming a judge, but stressed the importance of following your heart. She worked diligently to be where she is today and emphasized



the passion and drive one must have to be part of the field. Many of the fellows asked questions about law school, and although the environment in law school has changed since she graduated, she was honest in her advice.

After answering our questions she offered to let us sit in the chairs that the Justices sit in, along with wearing the robes. We eagerly lined up as we were handed robes and sat in large black, leather chairs with a name tag in front of them. I still remember the huge smiles we all had on our faces as our

coordinators took pictures of us. The courtroom felt like home. Sitting in those chairs, in those robes, helped me decide that law truly was the place for me. Sometimes people see courts and judges as people far from the public, yet they are people just like us. Justice Botsford was an amazing person to talk to and she humanized the justice system that otherwise just seems like this looming entity.

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### *U.S. Attorney Carmen Ortiz*

By: Melissa Rodriguez

This entire summer, we had the amazing opportunity of meeting with a variety of speakers. Each one had inspirational advice and guidance as to how we should tackle these next important years in our lives. Our meeting with Carmen Ortiz was no different. Both the Nelson and Lindsay fellows had the honor to meet with the U.S. Attorney in an intimate setting to ask her questions about her life and her successes. With so many Fellows, not all of us could fit around the table, but Ms. Ortiz was determined to make room for everyone and not leave anyone out. She was also interested in getting to know a little bit about us. She recognized that it would take some time with so many of us, but she still had us go around to introduce ourselves to get a gage of who was in the room.

Ms. Ortiz recounted to us her life, personal and professional. She went through her successes and her challenges, while always looking on the bright side and reflecting on how all of her experiences taught her something and contributed to where she is today.

My biggest take away from our discussion was Ms. Ortiz's seven life lessons that she lives by. (Some other Fellows counted more, some less, but I got seven.)

1. Surround yourself with people that support you.
2. Dare to dream and have it all.
3. Nurture and maintain relationships that you make.
4. Do not let people's perception of who they think you are define and limit you.
5. Don't be afraid to ask for help.
6. Know that you don't know it all.
7. Be nice, don't complain.

All of her advice and guidance was accompanied with examples of how they helped her in her own life. Not only was it an honor to speak with Ms. Ortiz, but it was an even greater honor to have her be so personal with us. At one point, when she was explaining life lesson #5, she told us how some material in her academic career did not come easily to her. She had to ask for help and look for tutors. It was nice to have someone like her reinforce for us that asking for help does not make you any less smart or capable than someone who does not. Listening to someone in her position and the struggles she went through just reinforces for us that anyone who works hard can make it to where she is.



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### *Boston Police Superintendent in Chief William Gross*

By: Saned Diaz

During the Nelson Fellowship, we visited the Boston Police Headquarters. Initially walking in, I didn't know what to expect. I had always had a deep love and passion for criminal justice but seeing policeman around the country committing injustices from Baltimore to New York was disheartening to say the least. As "Brothers in Blue" I was interested in how police brutality would be brought up and discussed sitting in a room surrounded by the Boston Police shield and I had some uncertainty that my high expectations would be met.

Meeting Chief Gross and seeing the passion he had for both his job and community, lifted my anxiety and sparked my curiosity. His candid and humorous answers to tough question regarding how the community perceives figures of authority gave me insight as to how grateful we should all be to have a department serving a community they respect and know. Chief Gross gave me perspective on how police in Boston are vastly different from their Baltimore counterparts. Open communication is one aspect of the Boston Police Department that make racially motivated injustices almost nonexistent. Police are always on the streets getting to know the people they protect whether they are black or white. Racism in simple terms can be defined as ignorance towards your fellow man, however this ignorance is exonerated by the kind-hearted Boston policemen who hold each other to the highest of expectations.

Although the police department tries its best to exhibit moral and ethical equality, there are always going to be a few policemen who go against the grain and reveal their extremely backwards conservative views on the world and

contribute to unnecessary deaths of black people. However, the Boston Police Department does a great job at minimizing these outbursts and keeping the citizens of Boston safe.

Visiting the Police Department and seeing the executive branch at work coupled with my experience at the courthouse has strengthened my resolve for pursuing a career in law and working towards upholding justice.



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## *WilmerHale & Nelson Fellowship Program*

By: Lornex Rono



The Nelson fellows had a great opportunity to visit the WilmerHale Law Firm and meet their student interns. As soon we arrived, we received a warm welcome from the WilmerHale program coordinator, Anne. When we walked into the conference room, there was several name tags on the tables. "Kevin Prussia" I read the nametag as I sat down on the left. I had a feeling that Mr. Prussia was an employee at WilmerHale because everyone's name tag was in a red paper apart from his, which was in blue. The WilmerHale coordinator then announced that we were going to have a guest speaker after lunch. After a great lunch with the WilmerHale interns, a tall, confident, man walked in and introduced himself as Kevin Prussia, a partner at the WilmerHale law firm. At first, I thought that we had come from two completely different backgrounds considering his success. I did not think that we had anything in common and I believed that there was no way I could be like him. But as Mr. Prussia began sharing his experiences and career path, I immediately began to relate to him.

Mr. Prussia's ethnicity is Jamaican. In the Jamaican community, just like the Kenyan community where I am from, we are encouraged

to pursue the career of medicine and later become a doctor. For fifteen years I was sure that I wanted to be a doctor and just like Mr. Prussia, he was certain that he wanted to be a doctor until college. Kevin Prussia took a great turn in his aspirations after an encounter with a police officer and I changed my career path after my experience as a victim of violence. These moments are what made us realize the injustices that were going on around us every day. His career journey is definitely similar to mine and he inspires me to pursue a career in Law especially because he is so committed and successful to what he does. Mr. Prussia also worked as a clerk for the Judge that I am serving for as a Nelson Fellow and shared some wise advice that he received from Judge Stearns. Mr. Prussia is also my fellow terrier since he studied law at Boston University, where I am an incoming freshman. Mr. Prussia taught me that I have to understand myself and know my interests and regardless of what my community thinks I should do, he inspired me to follow my dreams. I am sure that one day I will look back and say, "I surely attribute my success to not only the Nelson Fellowship but to Kevin Prussia and Judge Richard Stearns, the two men who inspired me."

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### *Civil Rights Class with Jason Wise*

By: Samantha O'Brien

Racism today is still a hard concept to fully understand. Though it is less common and violent than past years, it is still alive and well in our world today. Jason Wise helps students explore the roots of where the logic of race comes from. He teaches in Boston Public Schools and likes the class environment to be very interactive. During the class we watch videos so that we as students can see through the eyes of those who were discriminated against. We hear the stories of young adults who were conflicted with doing the right deeds because of the stereotypes someone may have against them. These stereotypes are formed because of a person's outer appearance. We read about women who feel guilty about becoming to "Americanized" when they come to the United States and are conflicted within themselves on who they truly are. As a class we also see how people's perceptions of us affect how we feel about ourselves. A person can inflict so much judgment on someone that they begin to second guess their own self. Someone's attitudes can make you feel insecure and change the way you see yourself.



Jason Wise designs the class so that every student will want to participate. There are a lot of group activities in order to have different opinions be shared and made. The civil rights class is

where young minds explore history. They understand the level of severity that race and discrimination play in the world we live in. We all see how alike we are because 99.9% of our bodies are the same. And we all see how others can deceive our perceptions of ourselves. The Civil Rights Class made all of us explore the idea of identity within ourselves and within a nation.

### *Public Speaking Class with Jamele Adams*

By: Loriana Jacobs

He walked in with his sports cap tilted to the side of his head, green shirt in correlation to the color of his hat, shorts, and on his feet he wore sneakers. This, Emily and Enki said, was going to be our public speaking teacher. It all came to a surprise to us because he did not look like your ordinary "teacher". Suddenly, he started to speak with authority. The first few lines of his poem awoken us and caused us to have our full attention on him as the words pulled us in. During this time, we weren't concerned about who he was or what he was wearing or the fact that we hadn't known his name. He had power over us by the magic of the words he recited that dealt with real life situations that affected the world tremendously. His name was Jamele Adams, Dean of Students at Brandeis University. We always started the class with him reciting one of his poems and after we'd write our feedback in our note pads. Jamele's poems about racial justice and inequality really stuck out to me especially because of social issues we are facing now with police brutality. In 2 minutes he summed up the problems, struggles, and obstacles that have influenced society to become what it is now: flawed. When we responded to the poems in our notepads he told us to keep in mind, when writing, to have a captivating beginning, beautiful journey, and a gripping ending. Overall,

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these 3 key elements sculpted and changed my responses to tell a story and become interesting.

One class that I remember the most is when we had to create our own language without using any English components. We had to define an English word using our own language. I created the “squiggle” language; it basically was this symbol (-) used repeatedly to form the definition for the word “tired”. To present my language, I stood up and started to move my body in squiggly motions. This was one of the absolute funniest things I have ever experienced in my life. Along with everyone else, I was dying of laughter. Jamele thought my “language” was one of the most unique he has seen presented in the program. I felt proud of the honor but I mostly felt silly. Our last class with Jamele, and our Brandeis tour, was sad because he taught us a lot each day, made us connect with one another, and treated us “as the kings and queens we are”. There was never a dull moment in public speaking class. The class was much more than a class, it was a bond and an experience that I will not forget. I plan on applying to Brandeis University because of the inspiration Jamele was to not only myself but also to my peers.

### Senator William “Mo” Cowan



By: Manny Cruz

When we met Maverick Afonso, one of Judge Lindsay’s Nelson Fellows, he provided us with his experience working with Senator “Mo” Cowan in the State House. He described Senator Cowan as a larger than life character, with the physique to match. Maverick told us in his first meeting with Senator Cowan, the senator smiled as he promised to crush Maverick with the full weight of the law if he broke any rules. Maverick thought it was a joke, and left with the impression that Senator Cowan had a really good sense of humor. Shortly afterwards his colleagues assured Maverick that Senator Cowan was very serious. A week later, the Lindsay Fellows would travel to Mintz Levin for our meeting with Senator Cowan. When we entered the conference room, Senator Cowan had not yet arrived. There were cookies and refreshments on a nearby table. We had remembered Maverick’s story about Senator Cowan. *“If you break any rules I will crush you*

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*with the full weight of the law*". None of us dared to touch the cookies. When Senator Cowan entered the room he immediately put us all at ease. The cookies and refreshments were in fact for us, and he encouraged us to enjoy them as he shared his story.

I was fascinated by Senator Cowan's career arc because it is one that I aspire to emulate. Senator Cowan's career began in the private sector, and he forged a path into the public sector. I was excited to meet a public servant with such an esteemed reputation. Senator Cowan had gone to Northeastern University School of Law, and upon graduation became an associate at Mintz Levin. His work ethic, intellect, and skills as a litigator would eventually result in him achieving his goal of becoming a partner at the firm. In discussing his current role as the Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of Mintz Levin Strategies, Senator Cowan really inspired me. In his new role with Mintz Levin, Senator Cowan represents the political interests of clients to members of Congress and other policy makers. It was inspiring to hear that Senator Cowan did not have to compromise his own personal values for a client. If he felt he couldn't provide a vigorous and passionate defense for a client whose values didn't align with his, he could defer to someone else. Senator Cowan also shared with us stories of his exploits on Beacon Hill at the State House. He informed us that in his private sector career he became good friends with Governor Deval Patrick prior to his governorship. Governor Patrick would eventually call on Senator Cowan to serve as his chief legal counsel, and later as his chief of staff. When Senator John Kerry was selected by President Barack Obama to become Secretary of State, Senator Cowan earned a rare opportunity to serve as an interim United States Senator. Senator Cowan credited the support he had received from his friends, support system, and colleagues for much of his success. He imparted to us an important

lesson about being a member of any organization. Every employee, irrespective of position or title, should be treated with respect. This important lesson resonated with me, as it demonstrated that he had retained his humility, and valued the work of others.



### Meeting Maverick Afonso

By: Vanessa Nedd

When opportunity knocks just go for it. Maverick Afonso was one person who was a perfect example of this motto because he lived by it. At such a young age he had already had so much experience, intelligence and insight. Maverick taught us networking is key and that it only worked well when you were able to self-advocate. Sometimes it is not what you know but who you know. There are millions of people in this world but you need to make it a point to stick out and make a good impression on people so they remember you. You have to have something to offer that people can't get elsewhere. He had been to DC for an internship at which he learned with everything you do, "do it, do it well, do it on time, and do it with a smile"; there will be jobs that are tedious and that are not exciting but it's not what you do but how you do it. To build a good reputation you must be the best version of yourself at all times and you have to be open minded and willing to do any job that is offered to you whether or not it helps get you to your

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main goal because knowledge is key. Besides what he taught us and the advice he gave us to help us grow in life he was a really good person. He was open and honest in a very refreshing way because compared to many people that talked to us he was young and connected to us more because of that. He knew what to say and how

to say it to get us to understand. It was even better since he was a Nelson fellow and a coordinator. Overall he was fun entertaining and informing, he was personally my favorite person to meet with.

### *A Day at the Dorchester District Courthouse*

By: Briana Lindsey

Throughout the Lindsay Fellowship my colleagues and I have visited various places and people in the law field. Although each place we saw gave us perspective on life as an attorney, the Dorchester Courthouse was the most memorable.

Upon entering the court, the Lindsay fellows met with Nancy Hurley, a former District Attorney at the Dorchester Courthouse, gave us a thorough tour of the courthouse, and an explanation of what an average day in court would look like. We then got to see several court proceedings and met with court personnel. Each person that we met made it a point to highlight the relatively large differences between state and federal court. Federal Court usually consist of quiet litigation between two attorneys in front of a judge. The defendants are normally quiet, if there at all. It was different to go to Dorchester Court, where parties did not have legal counsel and were allowed to speaking freely. There was no legal jargon or training. It was "raw and unfiltered", making it impossible to predict what would happen next. It was refreshing. Even when there were cases that involved attorneys, the set up was completely different from Federal Court. The Dorchester Court rooms were filled with side conversations between attorneys, defendants and their families. There were no U.S Marshalls around to enforce silence, which resulted in one of the Judges stopping in the middle of proceedings to silence the chatter among on lookers. Even the appearance of the court house was different. Anyone who has ever been on a tour of the federal Court house would know that the entire building was thought out to reflect a maritime theme. From the wood of the tables to the height of the judge's benches, everything was designed with a purpose. Dorchester court does not have these features but incorporates the community through artwork in the main halls, giving a more laid back and welcoming feel. This is important in its own right for defendants to not feel the intimidation most courts give off.

I left Dorchester Court with a new outlook on what a career as an attorney would look like. I had found myself liking the informality of state and trial court, where I was surrounded by people who looked like me, and lived in my community. I loved the unpredictable environment, because for a lot of people that's what life is. Justice is not always as clear cut as it should be. From the moment I walked in, the feel of Dorchester court reminded me of why I wanted to become an attorney in the first place. In the end, I found a place where I could see myself working in the future.

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## “Alexism”

By: Quan Le Phan

“If you want to change the world, you first must acquire the building blocks.” This is one of the many lessons I learned from Alexis Hamden this summer. Alexis was the Legal Writing and Research instructor for the Lindsay Fellows. Prior to our first day of class, I expected Alexis to be strict. I was right, but I did not expect her to be



invigorating. We were definitely challenged. Alexis emphasized using the active voice and short sentences. I distinctly recalled the one-on-one session when Alexis reviewed my writing sample. There were a lot of red markings on my writing sample. Alexis illuminated my grammatical issues and indicated that I used “fancy” words when I did not need to. After the one-on-one session with Alexis, I altered my writing style and this assisted me with legal writing.



The legal writing and researching class was organized because of Alexis’s meticulous effort. She encouraged and facilitated debates. She played devil’s advocate too. No two classes were alike. For legal writing, she ingrained tips that can either make or break legal documents into us. One example was “The court does not argue. The court holds.” I will certainly not forget it because Alexis has emphasized this repeatedly to the Lindsay Fellows. I can hear her voice in my head right now.



I am grateful for the opportunity for the Legal Writing and Research class with Alexis. This was an amazing exposure to see what lawyers do and to have a taste



of what law school is like. I feel like I have an advantage if I would to go to law school. If I decide to not pursue law, I can certainly apply the materials I learned from class to other endeavors. Legal writing is a marathon. Alexis provided us the equipment to run this marathon and project what we learned in our moot court. And I am thankful for her and I am positive that the other Lindsay Fellows are too.

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### *Federal Public Defenders or Superheroes?*

By: Lesly Suriel Guerrero



As soon as you walk into the Federal Public Defender Office, you are greeted with a welcoming smile and a "good morning." Like any first day anywhere, I was nervous because it was the start of a new experience as a part of the Lindsay Fellowship. My nerves disappeared, however, as soon as Briana and I met with Martin Richey, Supervising Assistant Federal Public Defender, who served as our supervisor in the office. He explained the details of the work they do, asked us questions about ourselves and allowed us to ask questions of him. We were given a tour of the office, where we were able to meet most of the assistants, investigators, paralegals, legal writing attorneys and public defenders. Martin Richey became a mentor to us, his intelligence is uncanny and his determination to give the best legal defense for his clients has inspired me to work hard to do the same. As the days passed, we became part of the team. The office and the people are professional, respectful, trustworthy, hardworking and passionate. Everyone that works in the office is an essential part of the success of the team, which is demonstrated by the way every one connects with and supports one another. Meeting Miriam Conrad, the Federal Public Defender, was a great moment, and sitting down and talking to her about her life, career, and ourselves felt natural because she is such an approachable individual with an amazing spirit and a dedication for justice that is remarkable.

A concept that resonated with me during this experience was that of redefining victory. I was told about this concept during my first day but was able to experience it while seeing or hearing the sentences received by the individuals represented by the Federal Public Defenders. The idea of redefining victory is that if the public defender was able to accomplish a lower sentence for the defendant that was a victory; if they were able to preserve an issue for appeal it was a victory; and, if the judges agreed in part with some arguments it was a victory. To redefine victory is to put into perspective the justice system.

One of the trial lawyers in the office said " I prefer to push back against the encroaching concrete wall and have it move a few inches rather than being on the other side and crushing people with it" when asked about the challenges of working in the Federal Public Defender Office. This quote impacted me; it increased my passion for public interest and demonstrates the drive for justice in the office. The Federal Public Defenders are the hardest working individuals I have ever met, they try each case with such effort and motivation it is inspiring to witness. The way they speak about their job and the passion you hear in their voice is astounding. The Federal Public Defenders give the human story of their clients, they do not just present a statistic but want the life of the individual[s] to be portrayed. During my experience, I learned about the commerce clause, restitution, ethics, and was able to read cases, probation sentencing reports, and memorandums. The experience has given me the tools to improve my research and writing skills and learn more about the justice system. This experience has confirmed my interest in law.

The most memorable part of working at the Federal Public Defender Office is the individuals I was able to work with and meet, they made this opportunity a privilege and honor. Their passion for their work and public interest has inspired me to continue in a similar path. To me the Federal Public Defenders are real life superheroes, ones to be admired and applauded.

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## Community Dispute Settlement Center

By: Jerry Rodriguez

Every person comes in contact with conflict, yet every person approaches conflict in different ways. Conflict comes in many forms, such as two friends arguing over the last piece of pizza or two corporate companies disputing over an ad they both believe to be their own. The CDSC Mediation course was a very insightful exercise that taught the Nelson and Lindsay Fellows how to deal with conflict. The course was a duration of 3 days long for about 2 hours. We all traveled to Cambridge not knowing what to expect from this class, what we could potentially learn.

The first day of the mediation course was an introduction for everybody on what the class would consist of. This also paved the way for the Nelson and Lindsay Fellows to get to know one another, since it was our first time gathering together to work with each other. We discussed what conflict means to us, and how people respond differently to conflict. Listening to everyone share their experiences with conflict, I realized that many of us are similar when dealing with conflict: people like to avoid it, be the mediator, or stand up for themselves. However, we all do not like conflict at all.

On day two, we focused on strategies on how everybody can deal with conflict. An important strategy that everybody seemed to really fluctuate toward was the "IMessage" strategy. This strategy emphasized a person's feeling toward any particular situation, rather than blaming the other party for any issues or conflict. This strategy is very helpful for a person to take ownership of their part in an issue, and try to compose a resolution so the conflict would not

continue. We also did a few skits on conflict, the wrong way and the right way, on how to approach a situation. This portion was very fun because everyone was able to be silly and make the skits their own piece of art, while still delivering the message of the skits.

The final day of the Mediation course had arrived and it was a bittersweet moment for all of us. We learned so much from Gail, the Executive Director; Max, the Mediator/Conflict director;

and Aldis who was an enthusiastic intern. For our last class we watched a humorous video of what it is like to be a mediator. Soon after our last exercise was to act out a scenario where two friends are at their wits end with one another, and they

seek for a mediator to help them. This exercise taught me that it is better to guide people to their own solutions, rather than fixing the issue yourself. At the end we took a great group picture, and gave our goodbyes to our wonderful teachers. The CDSC Mediation class was definitely one of my favorite parts of the Fellowship. I was able to learn how to properly deal with conflict, in ways that I have never even thought of before. The class also gave me a chance to get to know the Lindsay Fellows and become friends with them, since we all worked so diligently with one another. The class also gave me a chance to understand how people deal with conflict, and why much conflict escalates to a level that it does not need to be at. Now I know for future occurrences that whenever I am faced with a conflict, I just have to use my IMessage strategy to diffuse the conflict!



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### *Wayne Budd*

By: Brandy Rosario

Meeting Wayne Budd was inspirational. Dreaming big, he took control of his future with his hard work and grit. He knew that he needed to expand his education to reach his dreams. He went to Boston College for undergrad and then attended Wayne State University, where he received his law degree. Wayne Budd is the senior counsel in the Goodwin Procter's Litigation Department. He was Judge David Nelson's dear friend and mentee. Wayne took the time to tell us a bit about himself and share some great advice too. One piece of advice that he shared with us was The Five R's.



The first R is Respect. Respect yourself, respect others, and demand respect from others.

The second R is Risk. Take risks both in your personal life, and in your career. Reach for things that others may say you have no business reaching for.

The third R is Resilience. You will reach bumps your path. People will try to belittle your dreams and put you down. You have to get back on your feet, and continue on your path. You must not let these things block your path. Wayne told us about a professor that told him that he didn't belong in law school. He didn't allow this to stop his grind. Wayne graduated from law school, and now works in one of the most prestigious law firms in America.

The fourth R is Responsibility. Take responsibility for your actions. You are responsible for your own success. Work hard, and build a good reputation.

The last, but definitely not least R is Return. Give back to the community. Once you have reached what you believe is success, look back at what has helped you get there. Meeting with the Nelson Fellows is a great example of giving back, both to the community and to his contributors. The future lies in the hands of the youth. By helping guide us, Wayne is contributing to the future of the country. Judge David Nelson was a memorable role model for Wayne Budd. Enlightening scholars that are a part a program dedicated to David, is a great way to give back to him. Wayne stressed the importance of hard work. He said that he doesn't really believe in luck, unless you consider luck to be amount of opportunity. With that in mind he told us this quote "The harder I work the luckier I seem to be." This really stuck with me because it reminds me that the harder I work, the more doors will open for me. I feel like you have to build the door for opportunity to knock on.

Even though Wayne covered a lot, there was one thing that he said that caught my attention that really isn't mentioned enough. We were talking more in-depth about opportunity and he says "One thing I love about our country is that we really can do whatever we want." He mentioned that in other places, people are subject to doing what their parents did. If your father was a farmer, and everyone before him was a farmer, chances are that you will be a farmer. He told us that his grandfather worked in the sewers. Since he lived in America, his father did not have to follow his grandfather's footsteps. Wayne's father went on a different path and became a police officer. There is nothing wrong with working in the sewers, but it is important to realize that we are not forced to be anything.

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### *Naturalization Ceremony*

By: Kevin Adusei

100 men and women, of different nationalities and races, stand up. With a smile on their face, flag in their hand, and family by their side, the new citizens of the United States stand. 100 men and women stand, and one little African child, privileged and favored, one little African child who should be standing with the rest, remains seated. But what's worse, never once in his life, will he be able to stand. I was born a US citizen. The people around me had to wait in line, some for two years, others for three, some for ten, but I was privileged, never once having to learn the struggle of wait. When you're privileged, you don't wait in line, you cut the line. You go to the front, demand, and receive; no time wasted, no question asked, just an answer received. In one moment I had gained the world, but in the midst of these people, I felt like I had acquired nothing. They simply told all the new citizens to stand. And I'd like to say I wanted to stand to, singing God Bless America, saying what a great land I live in, but I decided to sit and be a spectator. Because I, like many Americans, didn't have the right to stand as they did. They were part of an elite group of citizens, those who savor the taste of America freedom, never once letting it go. But that's the impact of that ceremony. It's a monumental moment for new and old citizens alike. It allows the privileged to crawl into the skin of their descendants, opening the opportunity for both the old and new to stand.

See that day, 100 men and women, of different nationalities and races, stood up. The beauty of this ceremony is it allows the past and present to dine for a brief moment. And in that moment, Nathaniel M. Gorton becomes Samuel Gorton, a small African child his proud mother, and along with 100 men and women, the citizens of America, both old and new, stand up. And with a smile on their face and flag in hand, they sit back down, as true citizens of America.

### *Doris Fitzpatrick, Former Nelson Fellow*

By: Erinett Oliveras

"Mastering others is strength mastering yourself is true power" a quote by Lao Tzu that perfectly describes an amazing woman like Doris Fitzpatrick. The Nelson Fellows had the honor to meet Doris and learn about her experiences as a Nelson Fellow and a Probation Officer. I admire Doris because as a Latina with a similar background as hers, she has proven to overcome any adversity. It was amazing hearing how this fellowship has opened so many doors for her and she has been able to receive the support she needed through the program and Judge Wolf. An important lesson she taught us was commitment and doing everything you can to your best ability. Before starting her career, she shredded paper for 5 hours every day at the Probation Office. But one day she covered the front desk and did things so well that when a position opened up it was offered to her. The fellows connected with Doris the most out of many speakers because we could relate to her as she once struggled academically and personally but continued to pursue her education as a key to a better life. Doris is passionate in helping her community that is the reason why she chose to be a Probation Officer. I enjoyed meeting Doris and I am confident she is one of the best role models we have met so far, as a Latina in the field and a Nelson Alumni.

# Judge David S. Nelson and Judge Reginald C. Lindsay Fellowship Programs

## Bottom Line & POSSE Foundation

By: Tyisha Berry

Bottom line is a program that can benefit you and help you get ready for college and become more aware about the colleges. Bottom line is for juniors going in to their senior year in high school which helps write your college essay, helps you fill out FAFSA, look what is affordable and least affordable, helps you look and get jobs and internships, and prepares you for oncoming events such as job interviews and how to present yourself. Bottom line gives their members fee waivers for FREE meaning you don't have to pay for applying to colleges unlike high schools where there is a limit on the amount of fee waivers you can get there is no limit in this program. Bottom line also follows up and guides you through college till you graduate it's like a one on one relationship. If this is something high school juniors are interested in then... all you have to do is go to [www.bottomline.org](http://www.bottomline.org) and send in your application.



Another program high school juniors may be interested in is Posse. Posse got its name in 1989 when someone said "I would of never dropped out of school if I had my posse" Posse is almost like bottom line but posse has 6 schools that are connected. Which they are all liberal arts colleges and are the top 50 colleges in the country (bonus). Posse also has one on one working that help you in your senior years in high school and all four years in college, they even fly out to visit and see you to check up on everything since all the colleges are out of Massachusetts.

## C.A.R.E Program

By: Jonathan Peralta

The Court Assisted Recovery Effort (C.A.R.E) is a program that allows individuals on supervised release, with a previous history of substance abuse to have an opportunity to become sober, and a receive a year off their term of supervised release. The program is officiated by Magistrate Judge Kelley, the Probation Office, the U.S Attorney's Office, a treatment facility, and the Federal Defender Offices. The program can be used as an example to reform the belief that court is a negative place by demonstrating that it is actually a place where conflicts are faced and people are being helped.

By rehabilitating the formerly incarcerated and putting them on the path to becoming sober, law abiding citizens C.A.R.E works to ensure that its participants are employed and

appropriately housed. C.A.R.E ensures that a structure is in place that forces the participants to keep everything scheduled and remaining up to date with their calls to probation, drug test, and attendance of the C.A.R.E sessions.

The difference between C.A.R.E and other drug rehabilitative programs is the authority of the people running the program and their ability to punish and reward participants. If a participant tests positive for drugs, the judge can send them to jail for the night. Understanding the opportunities ahead of them, participants are devastated when they receive such a punishment.

C.A.R.E is comprised of four three-month phases that decreases the attendance requirements as the participant's progresses. Phase one requires that participants report to probation twice per week to be drug tested and attend in court sessions once a week. Once a participant

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progresses to phase two they must attend sessions once every other week. In phase three the requirement decreases to every third week and phase four requires appearance once every four weeks and is accompanied by a reduction in supervision from probation. With eight graduates per year, C.A.R.E has received a lot of support from the courts yet does not have funding. This would be the next step in the expansion of C.A.R.E because the ability to give participants something tangible would likely increase their compliance. Similar programs around the country that have funding report positive results with the use of a reward system. Thus, C.A.R.E.'s ability to obtain funding would not

only increase the amount of people entering the program but would likely produce satisfactory statistics illustrating the positive effect the program has on its participants. This would be a substantial improvement for C.A.R.E. because the number of formerly incarcerated with a significant history of substance abuse is only increasing, this program would be able to reach out to a larger number of individuals who are in need of assistance. C.A.R.E evaluates its participant's entire lives and determines the best outcome for each individual, understanding that despite their term of incarceration, they remain good at heart.

### *Jermaine Kidd*

By: Katerina Hillotari

Over the past month and a half I have had the greatest experience in the Nelson Fellowship Program. As fellows we have had the opportunity to meet with many important figures. They all have shared their personal stories and offered us advice. One of them being Jermaine Kidd, a former Nelson fellow. Jermaine is originally from Boston, he grew up in Dorchester and attended Boston Latin Academy. He went to Morehouse College for Undergraduate and then pursued his law degree in Boston College. He now works in a law firm and helps people who have been discriminated against in their jobs. Jermaine shared some personal stories and was very honest when answering questions. One story included how much he had struggled academically during high school. I related to him a lot, he didn't have the best grades but did his best during his senior year to get into a good college. Jermaine made me realize that I still have time to prove myself in school and get the best grades. The lesson he was trying to teach us all is to look past all the struggles and not to worry about the past because it has already happened. He was telling us to plan our futures and make our dreams happen so when we are all grown up we won't have any regrets. Jermaine kept it real with us because he has experienced some of the stuff we are going through. He told all of us to really take the Nelson fellowship seriously because it had changed his life for the better. The fellowship had opened many doors for him. Also he advises us to continue to keep in touch with our judges and everyone we have met. Jermaine also mentioned how important it is to give back to the community. He said "We can start to change our communities for the better by getting involved". Overall Jermaine is an amazing example of what we can one day become.

## Judge David S. Nelson and Judge Reginald C. Lindsay Fellowship Programs

### *Special Trips and Visits: The Highlights of the Summer!*

This summer both the Lindsay Fellows and Nelson Fellows had the pleasure to visit and meet influential people. To kick off the summer, the Lindsay Fellows had the opportunity to be hosted by Professor Karen Blum who organized a wonderful afternoon at Suffolk Law School. Professor Blum coordinated for a tour and financial information session, as well as a meeting with Judge Michael Bolden. The Lindsay Fellows had a great time and were proud to see that Suffolk Law School's library was named after John Joseph Moakley. Another educational trip the Lindsay Fellows enjoyed was their day at Northeastern Law School. We would like to thank Caitlin E. Chamberlain, Senior Assistant Director of Admissions who coordinated our visit, as well as allowing us to sit in on Professor Ramirez's Balancing Liberty and Security Seminar. The fellows got the experience of what a law school seminar is like and also were able to interact with law school students during lunch.



Aside from their academic exposure the Lindsay Fellows and Nelson Fellows were able to learn more about potential careers in the area of law. We'd like to thank the attorneys at Sherin & Lodgen, LLP for hosting the fellows to an afternoon at the firm. The fellows were eager to learn about corporate law and the panel of attorneys did an amazing job answering our questions. We'd like to thank Matt Moschella and Jahna Barbar for coordinating this visit for our fellows. It is always great to expose the

fellows to another sector in the law other than the courthouse. The Nelson Fellows had the opportunity to visit the Springfield District Courthouse where we enjoyed a tour of the beautiful courthouse. Although it looks very different to our courthouse in Boston, the Springfield courthouse has the same welcoming atmosphere. We had the chance to meet District Judge Mark Mastroianni and Magistrate Judge Katherine Robertson, who had recently been appointed to the court. We'd like to thank Judge Mastroianni and Magistrate Judge Robertson for being so candid with our questions and taking time out of their busy schedules to meet with us, we had a great time! We'd also like to thank Janelle Cole for not only coming with us on this trip, but also for the continuous dedication to this program.

## Judge David S. Nelson and Judge Reginald C. Lindsay Fellowship Programs

### *Meeting Joseph Oteri*

By: Troy Fredericks

The Nelson Fellowship had the privilege of meeting with Joseph Oteri, the best friend of Judge David Nelson throughout most of his life. Oteri provided Nelson a job once he got out of



law school, and they were inseparable from that point on. Joe told us that "You never invited him, he was just there." From birthdays, to Christmas, to vacations, Nelson was continuously present within the Oteri family. Joe affectionately referred to Judge Nelson as "Dave", because in many ways Joe was a mentor to Nelson in the early stages of his career.

His humor shined brightly throughout the entire meeting, and on many occasions he had the room bursting with laughter. He spoke to us in the perspective as a friend and someone who worked with Judge Nelson. His smile was infectious and his voice was that of a storyteller, as he took us on a journey through the life of David Nelson. Many of these anecdotes detailed

the shenanigans that the Judge pulled in his early life. My favorite tale was a time when Nelson accompanied Joe on a vacation to a fancy hotel in Bermuda. Nelson followed Oteri into the hotel, carrying all of the luggage, and saying, "Master, where do you want the bags?" On another occasion, Nelson unexpectedly arrived at the Oteri household on Thanksgiving Day with five guests along with him. This truly encapsulates the witty humor of Nelson that Joe depicted so fondly throughout his time with us. It was so sentimental and heartwarming that it was no longer a meeting, but a celebration of the life of the Judge. Because of Oteri, we were able to discover man under the robes of the great David Nelson. Joe Oteri was also an instrumental figure in setting up the Nelson Fellowship program, so I my colleagues and I are tremendously thankful.

### Stay Connected!

Past Lindsay and Nelson Fellows are doing amazing things and we like to hear all about it!

Please send us your most recent contact information and let us know what projects you are involved in!

Send an email to:

[Fellowship\\_coordinator@mad.uscourts.gov](mailto:Fellowship_coordinator@mad.uscourts.gov)

or to Ginny Hurley:

[Ginny\\_hurley@mad.uscourts.gov](mailto:Ginny_hurley@mad.uscourts.gov)

# Judge David S. Nelson and Judge Reginald C. Lindsay Fellowship Programs

## *U.S. Probation Office*

By: Kasandra Garcia

Applying to be a fellow for the Lindsay Fellowship was one of my better decisions. As a proud participant in this fellowship, I have had many remarkable opportunities and have met numerous extraordinary people. For the last four weeks of this program, I was assigned to the U.S. Probation Office. At first blush, I thought the Probation office was a good fit for me because I had always been interesting in the rehabilitation and reintegration aspects of the Criminal Justice system. In the long run, interning at this office proved to be an exceptional experience. Here's why:

On my first day at the Probation office, I met with Allyson Crews. Allyson is the Deputy Chief U.S. Probation Officer for the Boston office. She was incredibly welcoming and eager to work with Quan, the other Lindsay fellow assigned to the office, and I. She told us how excited she was to work with us, and that it was the U.S. Probation office's first summer with Lindsay fellows. Throughout the course of the four weeks at the Probation office, Allyson would consistently check in to make sure I was successfully navigating my way around the office. She was always ready and eager to answer any and all questions that I had. On my last day at the office, Allyson wanted to hear my feedback in relation to my experience at the office. It pleased me to know that Allyson genuinely cared about me and about my experience at the office. Her concern was gratifying and I greatly appreciated her kind demeanor.

I was assigned to Field Services for the first two weeks. Each day, I was assigned to the Probation Officer that was on duty for the day. Each and every single officer I was assigned to was unique in character and incredibly enlightening. They were intelligent both in their individual and professional capacity. When assigned to Field Services, I observed intakes,

attended revocation hearings, and sat in on behind-the-scene meetings concerning the success of court assisted rehabilitated programs among other things. Working for Field Services was a rewarding experience.

For the last two weeks, I was assigned to Court Services. Similar to when in Field Services, I was assigned to the on-duty officer for the day. I enjoyed being assigned to the officer that was on duty because I was able to attain the full experience of a probation officer. In Court Services, I observed bail and pre-sentence interviews with defendants, read and worked on pre-sentence reports and other non-public information, and accompanied probation officers in the courtroom during hearings.

One of my favorite things about the Probation Office is the atmosphere there. Everyone—and I mean everyone—in the office was incredibly welcoming. Despite it being the first time the Probation office was assigned Lindsay Fellows, my stay there was very structured and organized. The only critique I have concerning my experience is the time constraint; I wish I could have stayed there longer. Interning for the U.S. Probation office was not just an opportunity, but a privilege.



## Judge David S. Nelson and Judge Reginald C. Lindsay Fellowship Programs

### *U.S. Attorney's Office*

**By: Dario Hernandez**

The minute we walked into Rayford Farquhar's office, we were met with a big smile and a warm welcome. Soon enough, Mr. Farquhar asked us to call him Ray and offered us a seat in his office. Within a matter of minutes we felt comfortable and at ease seeing how personable Ray was, and how interested he was in hearing who we were.

Ray became our guide through our month at the U.S. Attorney's office and made sure we each felt a strong sense of belonging. From inviting us to the Civil Department's monthly meeting to the Staff luncheon, we went from being merely the interns of the office to being a part of the office. Soon we became Ray's team, and the office knew who the four Lindsay fellows were and why we were there.

What made our time at the U.S. Attorney's office memorable was the work we did. Ray was sure to let us know that we were to be held to the standard everyone else in the office was held. That standard made certain that we put in our very best in all the assignments we received. Most interns quickly learn how the photocopy machine works or how to shred paper, yet we were given assignments that did not resemble any ordinary internship. We were given the task to observe eight different court proceedings. We were each assigned a court proceeding to report on and give an oral presentation to Ray at the end of the day. With the presentation came the task of writing a memorandum addressing various legal

issues surrounding the specific case. In the span of a month we wrote eight memos dealing with a diverse set of issues ranging from real estate and its relationship with bankruptcy to Rule 11 plea hearings. Not only did we refine our presentation skills, we were given the opportunity to put into practice what we had learned in our Legal Research and Writing course. Such an

opportunity is rare and we were fortunate enough to have a mentor like Ray to challenge us and guide us through the process.

My peers and I grew closer because we became a team. Although we were individually assigned to write the memorandums, we worked as a group and wrestled with the legal issues together. There was no air of competitiveness. We pushed each other to write, present and think better. We became our brother and sister's keeper and ensured

our success was a shared success. No one was left behind and we each took each other's thoughts and ideas seriously. Ray pushed us in the right direction and as we embarked on the journey together. Very few people ever step foot in the U.S. Attorney's office and even fewer people are blessed with an inspiring mentor like Ray and phenomenal fellows. I was given the opportunity to work with both and will be forever grateful.



## Judge David S. Nelson and Judge Reginald C. Lindsay Fellowship Programs

### *Mock Trial Prep with Mr. Howland*

By: Ben Delahunt

Mr. Howland is a man of intrigue. This man has lived an interesting life that has led him to the court system. In this journey he has arrived at the Moakley Federal Courthouse as an essential part of the Nelson Fellowship Program as he conducts our mock trial practice. Mr. Howland visited us several afternoons for hours, helping us understand the case, preparing us for our roles and making sure we performed to our best abilities. He teaches us to present ourselves well, to get our point across effectively, and how to conduct oneself in court. My peers and I enjoyed time with Mr. Howland as he brought a great attitude and personality into our program. Week after week our progress was noticeable and we felt confident in our arguments. The day of our mock trial my peers and I shined in our performance and excelled in our statements and examinations because of the readiness and teachings we learned from Mr. Howland. Mr. Howland also oversees the Judicial Youth Corps summer internship where he also helps our opposing team with mock trial prep. I am a part of the Nelson Fellowship as you know and took part as the prosecution in the mock trial. Though Mr. Howland could not help me with what questions I could ask because I was a cross examiner he still helped me to present my questions articulately and accurately. As for the others he helped profusely in preparing the witnesses to hold up to the cross examinations, the direct examiners to ask the right questions, and the opening and closing to write beautiful and compelling speeches to make the jury believe every word of our argument. Personally I am grateful to know Mr. Howland prior to the fellowship because he worked at my school and has been a great mentor and inspiration. I thank him for connecting me with this fellowship and believing in my potential.



# Judge David S. Nelson and Judge Reginald C. Lindsay Fellowship Programs

## NELSON FELLOWS 2015



*Kevin Adusei is a rising Junior at Worcester South High School and he interned in Judge Gorton's chambers. Kevin is interested in Neuroscience and Biotechnology.*



*Tyisha Berry is a rising senior at Worcester North High School and she interned in Judge Burroughs' chambers. Tyisha is interested in criminal law.*



*Ben Delahunt is a rising senior at Another Course to College and he interned in Judge Saylor's chambers. Ben plans on going to a 4 year college.*



*Saned Diaz is a rising senior at New Mission High School and she interned in Judge Sorokin's chambers. Saned plans on attending law school one day.*



*Troy Fredericks is a rising senior at Boston Latin Academy and he interned in Judge Zobel's chambers. Troy is interested in business.*



*Katerina Hitollari is a rising senior at Edward M. Kennedy Academy and she interned in Judge Talwani's chambers. Katerina is interested in criminal justice.*

## Judge David S. Nelson and Judge Reginald C. Lindsay Fellowship Programs



*Lariona Jacobs is a rising senior at Fenway High School and she interned in Chief Magistrate Judge Boal's chambers. Lariona is interested in criminal justice or advocacy for youths.*



*Vanessa Nedd is a rising senior at the John D. O'Bryant High School and she interned in Judge Young's and Judge Wolf's chambers. Vanessa plans on going to Yale University.*



*Erinett Oliveras is a rising senior at Margarita Muñiz Academy and she interned in Chief Judge Saris' chambers. Erinett plans on attending a 4 year university.*



*Samantha O'Brien is a rising senior at the John D. O'Bryant High School and she interned in Magistrate Judge Dein's and Magistrate Judge Cabell's chambers. Samantha plans on having her own talk show and making a difference in the world.*



*Jonathan Peralta is a rising senior at Another Course to College and he interned in Magistrate Judge Kelley's chambers. Jonathan is interested in mathematics.*



*Jerry Rodriguez is a rising senior at Boston Latin Academy and he interned in Judge Casper's chambers. Jerry is interested in political science and international relations.*

## Judge David S. Nelson and Judge Reginald C. Lindsay Fellowship Programs



*Lornex Rono will be a first year student at Boston University and she interned in Judge Stearns' chambers. Lornex is majoring in International Relations and hopes to be a worldwide victim advocate.*



*Brandy Rosario is a rising senior at Charlestown High School and he interned in Judge Stearns' chambers. Brandy plans on attending a 4 year university.*

### LINDSAY FELLOWS 2015



*Manny Cruz is a rising senior at Northeastern University and he interned in Chief Judge Saris' chambers and at the U.S. Attorney's Office. Manny plans on running for public office.*



*Kasandra Garcia is a rising senior at Worcester State University and she interned in Chief Magistrate Judge Boal's chambers and at the U.S. Probation Office. Kasandra plans on attending law school and pursuing a career in law.*

## Judge David S. Nelson and Judge Reginald C. Lindsay Fellowship Programs



*Dario Hernandez is a recent graduate of Boston College and interned in Judge Burroughs' chambers and at the U.S. Attorney's Office. Dario plans on taking time off before going to law school.*



*Quan Le Phan is a recent graduate of UMass Dartmouth and he interned in Judge Gorton's chambers and at the U.S. Probation Office. Quan is interested in a career in law.*



*Briana Lindsey is a rising senior at UMass Boston and she interned in Magistrate Judge Kelley's chambers and at the Federal Public Defenders Office. Briana is interested in prison advocacy.*



*Melissa Rodriguez is a rising senior at Union College and she interned in Judge Young's chambers and at the U.S. Attorney's Office. Melissa is interested in policy work and aspires to work as a policy advisor for the President of the United States.*



*Lesly Suriel Guerrero is a recent graduate of UMass Amherst and she interned in Judge Casper's chambers and at the Federal Public Defenders Office. Lesly plans on pursuing a career in immigration law.*



*Gena White is a rising senior at Smith College and she interned in Judge Talwani's chambers and at the U.S. Attorney's Office. Gena plans on being a public defender.*

# Judge David S. Nelson and Judge Reginald C. Lindsay Fellowship Programs

## The Coordinators

*Enki Gjerci is a rising senior at Harvard University and is studying government. She was a Nelson Fellow in 2011. Enki plans on going to law school and hopes to work at the United Nations.*



*Emily Soto is a rising junior at UMass Boston and is studying Criminal Justice and Women and Gender Studies. She was a Nelson Fellow in 2012. Emily is interested in juvenile justice and advocacy and hopes to create her own non-profit organization.*

## A Big Thank You To:

*Ginny Hurley who has worked closely with both fellowships and with the coordinators, without her this program would not be as successful as it has been! Thank you Ginny!*



*Thank you District Judge Denise Casper and Magistrate Judge Judith Dein for overseeing the fellowships! We appreciate your dedication and efforts!*

## Judge David S. Nelson and Judge Reginald C. Lindsay Fellowship Programs

### *Special Thanks To:*

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Katelyn Coppola	Wayne Budd	
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POSSE Foundation	Joseph Oteri	
Annie Bowie, WilmerHale	Doris Fitzpatrick	
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Miriam Conrad	Lisa White	
Public Defenders Office	Alexis Hamden	
Carmen Ortiz	Professor Karen Blum	
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Superintendent Chief Gross	Judge Michael Bolden	
U.S. Marshall Gibbons	Cheryl Lindsay	
Gerald Howland	Nancy Hurley	
Gail Packer	U.S. Probation Office	
Migdalia Nalls	Rob Farrell	
Marsha Zierk	Joyce Hurley	

**And most importantly,**

**The Judges of the United States District Court**