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# EMORY | LAW

## Black Law Students Association



In just nine months, an effort spearheaded by the BLSA Advisory Board has created an endowment that will allow more Black students to choose Emory Law.

Many factors influence how diversity declines at the highest levels of leadership in law firms and corporate legal departments, but it is important to trace how lack of access to an excellent legal education contributes to it. An exploration of the student pipeline—from pre-law admissions, law school acceptance, graduation, and bar passage—reveals not enough students are able to start that path to create true diversity within the profession.

Black Law Students Association (BLSA) alumni and the student chapter have partnered to raise more than \$500,000 in the past 20 years to create an endowed scholarship that supports Emory 2L students with demonstrated financial need. However, BLSA was eager to offer more opportunities to increase diversity at Emory Law by creating an opportunity specifically for first-year students.


“It all started when I was having a conversation with Dean [Ethan] Rosenzweig 02L about the complexities of recruiting more Black students to Emory Law,” said **Ruth McMullin 00L**, an executive member of the BLSA Alumni Advisory Board.

“Just \$1,500 for relocation fees or living expenses can cause Emory Law to lose a student to our competitors.”

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## Why I Give

**Emory University School of Law**  
**Black Law Students Association**  
**Donor Spotlight**



**Paul R. Koster**  
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF PRACTICE | EMORY UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW

Associate Professor of Practice **Paul R. Koster** returned to the Emory Law faculty in 2016. In addition to teaching courses on analysis, advocacy, and the profession, he also serves as faculty advisor to the Emory Law School Supreme Court Advocacy Program. He practiced for nearly 20 years, including 10 years as managing partner of a boutique Atlanta law firm that he co-founded. He is a fellow of the American Bar Foundation.

“As a faculty member at Emory Law, I have the honor to see firsthand the outstanding work of Emory BLSA,” Koster says. “The BLSA community makes Emory Law better in every way. At the same time, the number of Black students attending Emory Law is disproportionately low. Supporting the BLSA 1L

Scholarship is vitally important towards correcting systemic inequities and enhancing the Emory Law community, the legal profession, and society as a whole. Please join me in supporting the BLSA 1L scholarship.”

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## On Campus



### **Emory acquires historic Cleaver papers**

Kathleen Cleaver was larger-than-life before she arrived at Emory Law in 1992. Now, the university will safeguard her papers, letters, photos, and ephemera from different stages in her life—from an international childhood, leadership within the Black Panther Party, and her academic career.

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### **Pellom McDaniels' legacy at Rose Library**

McDaniels' death is a tremendous loss, but the important work of the former Atlanta Falcons lineman turned archivist ensures he'll always be remembered at Emory.

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## BLSA Alumni News



**Billboard names Rose 18L a top music lawyer**

Read a Q & A on how mock trial, business law, and externship hustle helped build John Rose's success. Reach out on Linked in to congratulate him on his [recent move to Fox Rothschild!](#)

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## Ways to Engage



## Oct. 23 | Remembering our heroes: John Lewis and C.T. Vivian

(with Dr. Bernice King 90T 90L and Dr. Robert M. Franklin Jr.)

Join us for a special conversation on civil rights activism yesterday, today, and tomorrow, held via Zoom. The Rev. Drs. King and Franklin will reflect on the extraordinary lives of U.S. Representative John Lewis and the Rev. C.T. Vivian. Look for registration details next week on our [Twitter](#) and [LinkedIn](#) accounts.



Emory University Advancement and Alumni Engagement

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