

Asha Rangappa is a Senior Lecturer at Yale University's Jackson Institute for Global Affairs and a former Associate Dean at Yale Law School. Asha is a legal and national security analyst for CNN and has published op-eds in *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post* and *The Atlantic*. Asha served as a Special Agent in the New York Division of the FBI, specializing in counterintelligence investigations. Her work involved assessing threats to national security, conducting classified investigations on suspected foreign agents, and performing undercover work. She has taught National Security Law and related courses at Yale University. Asha's undergraduate degree is from Princeton and her law degree from Yale. She was a Fulbright Scholar and served as a law clerk to Judge Juan Torruella on the First Circuit Court of Appeals.

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Judge Stephen A. Higginson serves as a Judge on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit. He was nominated by Barack Obama on May 9, 2011, to a seat vacated by Jacques L. Wiener, Jr. He was confirmed by the Senate on October 31, 2011, and received commission on November 2, 2011. Education: Harvard College, A.B., 1983; Yale Law School, J.D., 1987; University of Cambridge, M.Phil., 1992. Professional Career: Law clerk, Hon. Patricia Wald, U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit, 1987-1988; Law clerk, Hon. Byron White, Supreme Court of the United States, 1988-1989; Assistant U.S. attorney, District of Massachusetts, 1989-1993; Assistant U.S. attorney, Eastern District of Louisiana, 1993-2011; Associate professor, Loyola University New Orleans College of Law, 2004-2011..

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Madeleine Baran is an investigative reporter for APM Reports and the host and lead reporter of the podcast *In the Dark*. Baran's work focuses on holding powerful people and institutions accountable. Her reporting for *In the Dark* helped lead the United States Supreme Court to overturn the conviction of a Black man on death row in Mississippi. Her reporting has exposed racial discrimination by prosecutors, a decades-long cover-up of clergy sexual abuse in the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis, failures by police to investigate crime, and unchecked violence in state-run mental health institutions. Baran has received numerous awards for her reporting, including the Alfred I. duPont-Columbia Award, regarded as the Pulitzer Prize of broadcasting, the George Polk Award, and the George Foster Peabody Award. Baran received her master's degree in Journalism and French Studies from New York University.

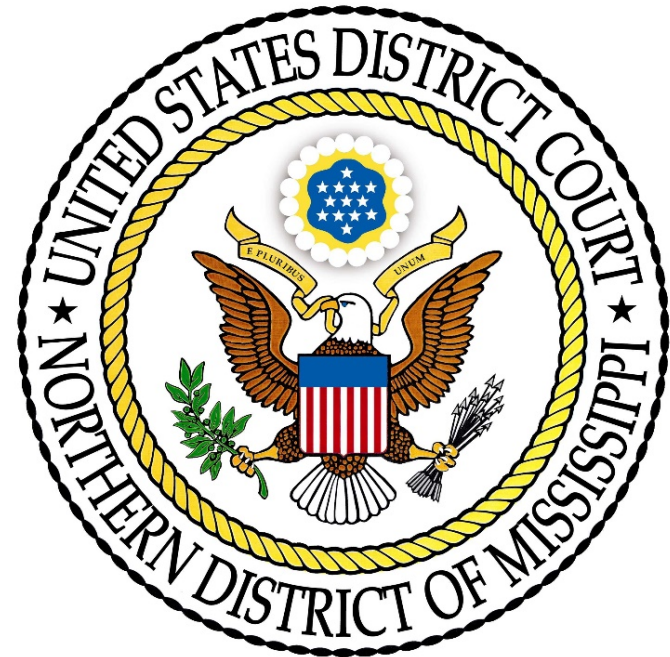
Samara Freemark is the Managing Producer of APM Reports' *In the Dark* podcast. Before that she covered education, veterans' issues and the environment, and worked as a reporter and producer with the national audio documentary unit Radio Diaries. Her work has won awards including the George Foster Peabody Award, Alfred I. duPont-Columbia Award, George Polk Award, RFK award and Third Coast Award. She holds a B.A. from Swarthmore College and an M.A. in Urban Planning from the University of Michigan.

Will Craft is a data reporter for APM Reports and the podcast *In The Dark*. He specializes in data analysis and visualization and enjoys the challenge of making numbers interesting on the radio. He previously worked for Southern California Public Radio and is a graduate of the University of Chicago.

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Rob McDuff is a lawyer in Jackson, MS. In addition to his private practice, Rob directs the impact litigation project of the Mississippi Center for Justice. His law practice has included trials and appeals in criminal defense and civil rights cases in several states, and he has argued four cases in the U.S. Supreme Court. A native of Mississippi, Rob is a graduate of Millsaps College and Harvard Law School.

Tucker Carrington is the founding director of the Mississippi Innocence Project (MIP) and Clinic at the University of Mississippi School of Law. MIP's mission is to identify, investigate and litigate actual claims of innocence by Mississippi prisoners, as well as advocate for systemic criminal justice reform. Prior to coming to Ole Miss, Professor Carrington was an E. Barrett Prettyman Fellow at Georgetown Law Center, a trial and supervising attorney at the Public Defender Service for the District of Columbia. Professor Carrington began representing Curtis Flowers in 2015 in the midst of Flowers' appeal from the conviction and death sentence at this sixth trial. Mr. McDuff began representing Curtis Flowers in 2019 after the U.S. Supreme Court reversed the conviction and death sentence from the sixth trial and the case was sent back for a potential seventh trial.



Bench and Bar CLE Seminar

THE RULE OF LAW

Gertrude C. Ford Center for the Performing Arts
351 University Avenue
Oxford, Mississippi

Friday, October 1, 2021, 1:00 p.m.

**THE JUDGES OF THE
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF MISSISSIPPI**

DEBRA M. BROWN, CHIEF JUDGE
GREENVILLE

MICHAEL P. MILLS, DISTRICT JUDGE
OXFORD

SHARION AYCOCK, DISTRICT JUDGE
ABERDEEN

NEAL BIGGERS, SENIOR JUDGE
OXFORD

GLEN H. DAVIDSON, SENIOR JUDGE
ABERDEEN

DAVID A. SANDERS, MAGISTRATE JUDGE
ABERDEEN

JANE M. VIRDEN, MAGISTRATE JUDGE
GREENVILLE

LEROY D. PERCY, MAGISTRATE JUDGE
OXFORD

JASON WOODARD, BANKRUPTCY JUDGE
ABERDEEN

SELENE MADDOX, BANKRUPTCY JUDGE
ABERDEEN

AGENDA

1:00

Welcoming Remarks & Comments
Chief Judge Debra Brown
Northern District of Mississippi

1:00 - 2:00

**Why Lawyers Are Vital to Democracy in the
(Dis)information Age**
Asha Rangappa
*Senior Lecturer, Yale University
Jackson Institute of Global Affairs*

2:00 - 3:00

Ethics
Judge Stephen A. Higginson
Circuit Judge – Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals

3:00 – 3:15

Break

3:15 - 4:45

**Shining a Light: *In the Dark* Podcast Team & the
Curtis Flowers Case**
Madeleine Baran
Investigative Reporter, American Public Media

Samara Freemark
Managing Producer, American Public Media

Will Craft
Data Reporter, American Public Media

4:45 - 5:15

**The Long & Winding Road of Curtis Flowers:
Lawyers' Perspectives**
Rob McDuff
Mississippi Center for Justice

Tucker Carrington
Founding Director, Mississippi Innocence Project

**** The CLE Certification of Attendance will be sent via email ****