

Dear Students, Staff, Faculty and Alumni:

Many of you have contacted me regarding recent news events. Let me allay any concerns you may have about our Law School's commitment to the principles lawyers hold dear.

Atlanta's John Marshall Law School, including both its Atlanta and Savannah campuses, is committed to training students to become responsible lawyers who understand, appreciate, and respect the rights of all. Moreover, its Non-Discrimination Policy proscribes discrimination on the basis of sex, handicap, disability, race, color, religion, age, national or ethnic origin, marital status, or sexual preference in its educational programs, admissions policies, employment policies, or other school administered programs. Faculty and many staff members are attorneys duty bound to abide by and promote these values. Other law school personnel do so based on their own personal convictions. Our students take an Oath of Professionalism that obligates them, inter alia, to serve without prejudice.

The Law School also subscribes to the principles of academic freedom which recognizes that the well-being of an academic institution and of society in general can be maintained only if individuals and groups responsibly exercise their freedom to search for and speak the truth. As members of a collegial community, the faculty, administrators, staff, and students of our school are obligated to extend to one another trust and respect which create the appropriate environment for the exercise of academic freedom.

The Law School recognizes and supports our faculty, staff, and students' First Amendment right of free speech. Speech and ideas with which we disagree must be tolerated. There, however, are recognized limitations. Speech and actions that harass or threaten the well-being of others will not be countenanced. Importantly, when exercising their free speech rights, statements made by faculty, staff, and students are those of the individual speaker, and are neither statements nor positions of our Law School.

Any challenge made based on a violation of these policies will be investigated thoroughly, and if proven true, appropriate action will be taken.

I wish each of you well as we move forward together.

Dean Morris

Cc: Board of Directors

You are welcome to send your responses directly to Dean Morris at mmorris@johnmarshall.edu.

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EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT TO THE DEAN

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Our students come for law school but find a community