

IN WASHINGTON, D.C. AND THROUGHOUT THE HALLS OF GOVERNMENT

By Kathleen Brunet Eagan

You'll find them in major law firms throughout the nation's capital, working with government agencies, and assisting with the development of public policy on both the federal and state levels to improve the lives of everyday citizens. They are the graduates and faculty of Seton Hall Law School.

In recent years as the strength of the Seton Hall Law degree has increased, so too has the reach of the law school. Seton Hall Law graduates are found in top Washington, D.C. firms such as Hunton & Williams LLP, King & Spalding LLP, and Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP; serving as legal advisors and managers at the U.S. Departments of Agriculture, Energy, Labor, Homeland Security, and Justice; and assisting such public interest groups as the National Community Reinvestment Collation.

Here we profile two Seton Hall Law alumni who are making an impact on the federal level.



MARK A. DANN
Nationally Acclaimed Civil Rights Lawyer

Civil rights and educational equity have deep roots in the life of Mark Dann, '02. Cited as one of the top civil rights attorneys in Washington, D.C., he learned early in life about helping to improve the lives of others.

As a child, he listened to stories about how his mother helped launch a boycott in the 1960s

when a restaurant in Tennessee refused to serve her black friend. Then as a teenager, he saw the sacrifices his parents made to ensure he received a quality education.

During an economic downturn in the mid-1980s, his parents lost their jobs and then their home in Syracuse, NY. They could have moved to the South where the cost of living was cheaper and the jobs more plentiful, but rejected that idea. Their chief priority was to ensure their son, then 13, could continue to receive the quality public education he was obtaining in Syracuse. So they lived more frugally, allowing their son to graduate from high school with a top-notch education.

Defining moments both: the boycott and those sacrifices. They made him aware not all people are treated equal, as they planted the desire to pursue a career focused on educational equity and civil rights.

After graduating from Seton Hall Law, he immersed himself in civil rights work. He was awarded the George N. Lindsay Civil Rights Fellowship with the national office of the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights in Washington, D.C., where he concentrated on challenging school discrimination and segregation. He worked on the *NAACP v. City of Thomasville*

School District, and *Hoots v. Pennsylvania* school segregation cases, assisted with writing briefs in support of the University of Michigan in its affirmative action cases before the U.S. Supreme Court, and helped to establish grassroots community lawyers and advocacy programs.

Once asked why he chose education as his focus, he replied: “No other group is in greater need of protection than children, many of whom are not even aware of the discrimination they face.”

Now a trial attorney with the U.S. Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division, Educational Opportunities Section, he is responsible for helping to uphold Title IV of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Equal Educational Opportunities Act of 1974, and other related statutes.

Earlier this year, at the age of 34 and then an associate at Gebhardt & Associates, LLP, he was named to the 2007 Washington, D.C.’s “Top Lawyers” list by *Washingtonian* magazine, which cited him as among 16 nationally acclaimed civil rights lawyers.

Providing him with the foundation he needed to pursue a career in civil rights, he says, was his Seton Hall Law education. “I picked Seton Hall because I liked its emphasis on practical instruction through moot court competitions, journals, judicial clerkships, and clinics,” he says. What also made a difference, he adds, is the accessibility of the faculty.

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“I think a lot of the practice of law is a matter of building relationships as anything else, and at Seton Hall the professors are very supportive and encouraging,” says Mr. Dann.

While in school, he served as President of the Public Interest Network, helped to coordinate the first annual Public Interest Auction, and was a founding member of the Seton Hall American Constitution Society Chapter. He participated in the Appellate Advocacy Moot Court Board and National Campaign to Restore Civil Rights, and worked as a research assistant on such issues as predatory lending and employment discrimination.

Intent on pursuing a career focused on civil rights, he made it a point to build a strong resume as a law student. “If you want to pursue a career in public interest,” he says, “you need to be able to demonstrate a strong desire for helping others.”



Photo: Ron Jutz

ANDREW FARRELLY **Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Customs and Border Protection**

A Program Manager with the U.S. Customs and Border Protection’s Secure Freight Initiative, Andrew Farrelly, ’06, is just as likely to be awakened at home at 2 a.m. by a ringing cell phone, flying to a foreign port in Beijing, Honduras, Pakistan,

or another country, or speaking in slow, short sentences through an interpreter. It’s a busy, demanding job. But it’s work that brings him a great deal of personal satisfaction, knowing he is helping to protect lives.

“In my role, I am involved in protecting our nation,” he says. “It allows me to help solve problems in the aggregate that have a broad-reaching effect. When you love what you do, it makes it easy to do your job.”

A partnership between the Department of Homeland Security’s Custom and Border Protection, and the Departments of Energy and State, the Secure Freight Initiative was established in 2006 to enhance the federal government’s ability to identify nuclear and radiological materials in shipping containers overseas and inbound containers. Mr. Farrelly’s chief responsibility is to help settle international agreements coordinating U.S. and foreign government efforts to scan shipping containers in ports outside the U.S.

As Mr. Farrelly, 30, explains, the work requires an ability to see the big picture from a variety of perspectives, a sensitivity for dealing with people in complex situations, and a capacity for finding common ground. Some of those skills he acquired from his parents. His father is a labor negotiator for Saint Michael’s Medical Center in Newark and his mother is an Army nurse. His legal education at Seton Hall Law School, he says, also prepared him well for work focused on building international partnerships.

“At Seton Hall Law, I obtained a top-notch education in international law and the professors are truly excellent,” he says. “I learned that in international law, there are no hard and fast precedents; it’s a lot more fluid and dynamic. You need to be creative and able to develop solutions. Above all else, my legal education helped me to be confident in my own thought process and prepared me for fielding questions I didn’t even know were coming.”

Knowing he wanted to work within the federal government, Professor Tracy Kaye helped pave the way. “Professor Kaye has been a great mentor and friend. She used to work on the Hill and called everyone she knew to let them know I was looking for a policy position,” he recalls. By scheduling as many informational interviews as he could, he ending up meeting someone from U.S. Customs and Border Protection.

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Raised in New Jersey and Pennsylvania, he earned his undergraduate degree in history and communications from American University in Washington, D.C. His original plan was to obtain his Ph.D. and teach history. Unable to afford graduate school, he instead looked for work in D.C. He accepted an entry-level position with former Congressman Don Sherwood of Pennsylvania. It was there that he developed a taste for public policy and soon after decided to earn his law degree. Seton Hall Law provided him with a scholarship to help make that possible and also its first Heyman Fellowship. Created through a generous

donation from Samuel J. Heyman, Chair of International Specialty Products and former Assistant Attorney General under Robert Kennedy, the Heyman Fellowship Program helps to support Seton Hall Law students and graduates interested in a career in federal government.

“The program Mr. Heyman set up is of a great service to people like me who choose to pursue a career in government,” says Mr. Farrelly. “I’m not sure I would be able to do what I am doing had I not been provided with some assistance.”

Enhancing Transparency in Drug and Device Promotion



Photo: Sean Sime

Tracy Miller

Launched in April 2007, The Center for Health & Pharmaceutical Law was established to extend Seton Hall Law School’s national reputation in health law and policy to the arena of pharmaceutical law and policy. The center’s primary mission is to foster scholarship and recommendations for policy on cutting-edge issues posed by pharmaceutical and health law. The center has also been designed as a neutral forum to convene

leaders in government, industry, academia, and medicine to consider issues and potential solutions.

As Dean Patrick Hobbs stated when announcing the center’s creation, “The Center for Health & Pharmaceutical Law will serve as an independent forum for the exploration of the varied and complex issues confronting the pharmaceutical and medical device industries. It will foster informed dialogue between policymakers and the industry.”

This important role was well-demonstrated at a forum the center hosted in January on drug and device promotion and continuing medical education. Drawing on participation from leaders in government and industry, and medical and consumer leaders, the forum, “Drawing the Line Between Physician Education and Product Promotion: Charting a Course for Public Policy,” provided the venue for a thought-provoking exploration of policy solutions to enhance transparency and minimize conflicts of interest in drug and device promotion, as well as continuing medical education. Publications are

now underway that will present concrete recommendations for state and national policy on these issues.

This year, the center hired a full-time executive director, Tracy Miller, to further enhance its mission. Ms. Miller is the former general counsel of the Catholic Health Care System (CHCS), a system of hospitals and nursing homes in New York City and the Hudson Valley. Prior to joining CHCS, Ms. Miller was vice president for quality and regulatory affairs at the Greater New York Hospital Association, and founding executive director of the New York State Task Force on Life and the Law, a commission that proposes law and policy on ethical issues in medicine in New York State. In announcing her appointment, Dean Hobbs commented that he is confident “Ms. Miller’s combined expertise in health law and policy will enable the center to inform and influence public policy on the critical issues on the center’s agenda.”

The center held its second forum, “Using Data to Advance Compliance: Emerging Practices in Industry and Government,” on June 4. The day-long forum focused on best practices by industry to proactively use data for compliance, and the way in which government is using data mining and analysis to enhance government oversight.

The center is the first of its kind to be devoted to pharmaceutical issues at any law school. It builds on Seton Hall Law’s nationally recognized scholarship in health law, conferences on key public policy questions, and compliance certification training program for compliance professionals and lawyers in the pharmaceutical and medical device industries. Since its inception in 2004, the Health Care Compliance Certification Program has trained more than 500 professionals.

In Service to New Jersey

From the governor's office, to the attorney general, to various state commissions and task forces, state officials find Seton Hall Law School faculty members an important resource in the protection of the public welfare. In recent years, Gov. Jon Corzine has asked Dean Patrick Hobbs to serve on the State Commission of Investigation to advise on organized crime and political corruption, Professor Paula Franzese to chair the State Ethics Commission, and Professor John Jacobi to serve as his Senior Associate Counsel.

This year, Attorney General Anne Milgram turned to Professor Shavar Jeffries to assist her office.

In January, Ms. Milgram appointed Professor Jeffries as her Counsel, a top advisory position in the Office of the Attorney General. As Counsel, Professor Jeffries, who is on leave from the law school, is advising her and her office on legal issues and serving as liaison to the various divisions within the Department of Law and Public Safety.

A strong advocate of educational equity and civil rights, Professor Jeffries noted that he welcomed the opportunity as another avenue to work on issues to help improve the lives of state residents.



Photo: William Moree

Shavar Jeffries

Keri Logosso Protecting the Welfare of New Jersey's Children

By Kathleen Brunet Eagan

Raised by a mother who worked with special education children and shared that passion with her children over the dinner table, Keri Logosso, '99, possesses a deeply rooted determination to help children in need.

As Director of the Office of Child Health Services with the New Jersey Department of Children and Families, Ms. Logosso, 33, is fulfilling that purpose for thousands of children across the state. As director, she is part of a team working to improve the state's child welfare system—with a focus on improving healthcare coordination and outcomes. In 2006, Gov. Jon Corzine created the department as the first cabinet-level agency devoted to child welfare.

For Ms. Logosso, her position as director has taken her from a career largely focused on advocating for children and adequate health care for people of all ages, to implementing measures to help some of the state's most vulnerable individuals—children who have been removed from their homes due to abuse and/or neglect.

"There's a great deal of personal and professional satisfaction that comes from marrying policy with practice," says Ms. Logosso. For her, it's also another opportunity to use her law degree and professional training to bring healing to the lives of others. "I really do think that law in most ways is a healing profession," she says.

Her original plan was to become a doctor. During her years as an undergraduate, however, her studies shifted her focus to psychology. The decisive moment that set her on the path to public policy came during her last year of college at a battered women's shelter where she volunteered.

"One night an attorney came in to conduct a workshop for women dealing with domestic violence and my eyes were opened," she says. "It was the first time I realized the magnitude of legal challenges facing these women and their families."

At Seton Hall Law School, she says, she found professors who helped pave the way for her to pursue a career in public policy. With the assistance of Professors John Jacobi and Paula Franzese, she helped to found the Public Interest Network to provide additional support to

law students interested in pursuing a career in public interest. Two "pillars in New Jersey's advocacy community" who served as adjunct professors at the time also became her mentors: Kevin Ryan, who was named the first commissioner of the Department of Children and Families, with whom she has worked in several capacities; and Cecilia Zalkind, Executive Director of the Association for Children of New Jersey, who helped Ms. Logosso craft an Equal Justice Fellowship that allowed her to work with the association for two years and continues to be her "professional mother."

The first time she worked for Mr. Ryan was in her third year of law school as a volunteer at Covenant House in Newark, a nonprofit agency serving runaway and homeless youth. Following her fellowship at the Association for Children, she joined Lowenstein Sandler as a litigation associate, and then clerked for U.S. Magistrate Judge Patty Shwartz. When Mr. Ryan was appointed by Gov. James McGreevey to head the state's first Office of the Child Advocate, she became part of the founding staff. Later, Gov. Corzine appointed her to serve as his healthcare policy advisor. In 2007, she was appointed to her current position.

With her strong and growing experience in government service, healthcare access, and public policy, Ms. Logosso says, she often thinks about eventually "bringing it back to the community"—Newark in particular.

"I did not know Newark at all before Seton Hall Law," she says. "But once I did, I was bitten by the Newark bug. The city has so much to offer, but it also has such a great need for services. I hope to continue being a part of helping to meet those needs throughout my career."

