

# 1L & Flex SBA Representative and 1L Honor Court Justice Candidate Statements

## 1L SBA Representatives

### **Dema Alqudwah-**

A very wise woman named Elle Woods once said “What? Like it’s hard?” when referring to law school, and that should be all our mentalities in this new life milestone. My name is Dema Alqudwah and I am running to be one of your SBA 1L representatives. A little bit about me is that I grew up in Raleigh and graduated from NC State (go pack!) in 2020 with a major in Political Science and a minor in Human Biology (odd combination, I know). In my spare time, I love to go on hikes with my dog and spend my day outside (weather permitting). It has been a lifelong interest of mine to serve others in a way that will help make their life better. I am prepared to think and do (casual NC State reference) whatever it takes to ensure that we all have the necessary resources at our disposal that will enable us to succeed not only in law school, but in our careers afterwards. I am not shy about what I believe in and what I stand for and will do my best to ensure that all our needs for law school are met. My strongest traits are being personable and finding humor in most situations, even though that sometimes gets me in trouble. That being said, I would love to work for my peers and to meet most of you, not only to create a foundation for friendship, but to see how I can be of assistance to you and to bring attention to your concerns. I hope you all will vote for me and I can’t wait to get to know everyone these next few years. Now, let’s kick some law school butt.

### **Mallory Blue-**

### **Joanna M. Diaz-**

### **Jaden Grimes-**

### **Seth Thomas Gullede-**

### **Brian Hedrick-**

#### **Mission:**

“The ear of the leader must ring with the voice of the people.”-Woodrow Wilson  
From these guiding words, we have established the basic premise of our movement: it is incumbent upon and of utmost importance for a representative of SBA to listen to,

actively seek out, and engage with concerns in an active manner. I say “movement” rather than “I am running...” for two reasons. First, I am not running! Running is something you do, when you are scared. Rather, I am making the unyielding promise that I will work to ensure you are represented accurately, advocated for always, and prepared absolutely. I say “we,” because this is not about me. I will serve to improve your experience and opportunities by starting with three clear and distinct policy goals, centered around believing in you and allowing you the freedoms to make your own choices and not hold you back in your future endeavors.

### 3 Primary Policy Objectives:

1. Propose a resolution to **allow 1Ls to fully participate in student organizations**. While I understand the good intentions behind the current rule, the logic is misplaced. Not everyone enters law school with the same objectives. Some will not have time or ability to participate. That is fine! Others may wish to get a head start on networking and learning opportunities within their field of interest. That is fine too! You should be allowed to choose your own path. See these two studies: 1) [students are more likely to complete their degrees \(Purdue\)](#) 2) [likely to maintain higher average GPAs \(California State University, Sacramento\)](#).
2. Propose legislation to **offer monthly legal film presentations**. These events will give you improved access to SBA members in an informal setting, provide a stress-free event, and reinforce legal concepts through cinema. ["Harvard Study: What Makes Storytelling So Effective For Learning?"](#)
3. **Promote diversity and inclusion**. Studies indicate that students find more academic success in diverse classrooms ["Educational Psychology For Effective Teaching"](#). We must **create a standing committee on diversity and inclusion** to formulate and assess initiatives to make our school more marketable to diverse candidates. This issue requires collaboration. Therefore, I **invite all students** to attend a Zoom meeting to discuss solutions and concerns. The meeting will be on Sunday, August 29 at 8:00 pm. To RSVP, text me your name at (336) 675-3108.

### Why me?

During orientation, it was announced that almost half of existing student groups are “inactive.” **We must revive and strengthen these groups!** This needs to be done by someone who understands student groups. While at UNCG, I found and led a first of its kind in NC student group called “Model Congress.” In our first month, we increased from five to 31 members and raised over \$2,500.

### Contact:

1. Please text any questions or concerns- (336) 675-3108
2. If elected, I will hold independent town halls on the first Saturday of every month at 5:00PM to answer questions and hear opinions regarding activity of SBA.

**Zoey Howe-**

**Melissa Rodriguez-**

**Justin “Shooter” Russell-**

Hi y’all! My name is Justin “Shooter” Russell, and I would be honored to serve as your SBA 1L Representative!

I am running to be an SBA 1L Representative to be a voice for everyone. “Y’all Means All” and I want to ensure everyone here at Campbell has a voice. I will be dedicated to listening to concerns, putting forth changes, and working together with fellow classmates, staff, and administration.

If elected as your SBA 1L Representative, my focuses will be:

- The 1L Experience: Law school can be overwhelming with expenses, studying, and trying to balance our personal lives. Between our classes and budgeting, it’s easy to feel that fun and relaxation are impossible. However, SBA has resources available to make fun and relaxation an option! By voting for me, I will implement suggestions, like planning social events and providing relaxation resources on campus.
- Transparency: I will always be accessible via email, phone, text, Instagram, Facebook, Snapchat, whatever social you have. I will update you all on meetings with faculty and make sure all your voices are heard. I promise to be an advocate for our class.

Before starting at Campbell, I was an Account/Project Manager at Dell Technologies and had the honor of serving on the Vice President’s Leadership Council. I graduated from The University of Texas in 2018 (Hook ‘Em!) and served on several executive boards, like the Native and Indigenous Collective, Not on My Campus, the Recreational Sports Council, and my fraternity. In my free time, I enjoy hiking, meeting new people, and trying new restaurants (always open to suggestions). I can’t wait to get to know y’all!

I know what it takes to be a strong advocate and a strong student leader. It would be an honor to serve y’all as an SBA 1L Representative.

“Y’all Means All!”

- Shooter Russell  
[jtrussell1214@email.campbell.edu](mailto:jtrussell1214@email.campbell.edu)

### **Ramona Sonner-Myers-**

Hello fellow 1L's, my name is Ramona Sonner-Myers and I have been nominated as a candidate to represent the 1L class for the Student Bar association. I am a first generation law student and am ready to help push us all forward to our goals of graduating law school and passing the bar. My goal as an SBA representative is to work with the organization to expand the inclusiveness of the school and overall be there for my colleagues in my 1L class. I am a proud member of the LGBTQ community. I want to give a voice and representation to those who feel ostracized or alone. I want them to be able to feel safe to express themselves in a world that does not know what to do with us and may push us to the side because the issue is too complicated. I do not want to just represent that community, however. I want to represent the first generation lawyers, female lawyers, as well as those who have had to claw their way through a system designed against those with low socio-economic backgrounds. My leadership experience from my job as a trainer for several positions at two different major restaurant chains over the last seven years while in school has helped shape and prepare me for this moment. I have dealt with all different kinds of people in different kinds of ways, all with mostly peaceful resolutions. I was privileged and entrusted with guiding and instructing new people in the core values of the organizations that I have worked for. I also helped expand and network new company initiatives to grow the businesses that I worked for. I know that it is a pivotal time for us now, starting our journey to become the successful lawyers or judges or whatever we are meant to be. I want to be an instrument in that journey and a cheerleader that will push everyone from everywhere, no matter who they are or where they come from, to do their best and be the best person that they can. Study hard, be there for each other and reach out to me if you have any questions or concerns. I will do my best as a colleague, and potential SBA 1L representative, to help you and if I cannot, get you in contact with someone who can. Thank you and congratulations on starting the next chapter of your life with me here at Campbell Law.

### **Gladys Sanchez-**

Hello fellow classmates! My name is Gladys Sanchez. I am running to be one of your 1L student representatives. I would greatly enjoy planning and organizing fun student events this year as well as strive to be an inclusive voice for all 1L's. Please consider me as one of your student representatives. Thank you.

### **Will Sparks-**

### **Mackenzie Stanley-**

Do you want the *best* possible 1L student bar association rep? Everyone should want that, so everyone should vote for me, Mackenzie Stanley! As a UNC graduate of the Class of 2021, I understand the importance of transparency between an administration and its students (Kevin G and the BOG anyone?) I want to be one of your SBA representatives because of the importance of transparency and clarity, because of the

obstacles we will continue to face with the Covid-19 Pandemic, and because I am an advocate. Working with children in a third world country every summer throughout high school and college, I have a deep understanding of how important it is to be an advocate for those who may not be able to advocate for themselves or need help doing so. I love being an advocate, it's what I want to spend my life doing. As a result, I want to advocate for *you* and what you want out of your SBA and your Law School experience.

This is a time where we become our *true* selves and explore what we hope to do with our personal and professional lives, so we all should want the best possible experience with the best possible representatives to ensure that happens, and I truly think I am one of the best representatives the 1L class can have!

With the serious stuff over, I also will be the most relatable, casual, down to earth rep you could have. I can be friends with anyone, see the glass as half full, and am a total optimist. So, let's have a great 1L year (with the best reps out there) and make sure to vote in the SBA election coming up!

(P.S. if you don't vote for me, Professor Lukasik's hypo about a hatchet *mightttt* come true... but no worries, it isn't *imminent!!*)

### **Brian Walsh-**

My name is Brian Walsh, and I am running for Student Bar Association (SBA) to represent the incoming 1L class of 2024! My goal for SBA is to ensure that everyone has a "seat at the table". I believe that everyone at Campbell Law School should have a voice, and that voice should be heard. I would be honored to represent the 1L class because I take that philosophy very seriously. As a non-traditional student, who took seven years between my undergraduate degree and the start of my law degree, I believe I have a unique view on work, or as the case here school life balances, as well as a voice for those who have taken a similar road to mine. I want to be a member of the SBA that students can feel comfortable with bringing personal or difficult issues to. This is important to me because there are students who feel that their voice may be too small, whether they represent a small minority of students, or believe their cause is not important enough. I aim to ensure that every voice, no matter how small is heard by the SBA, because that is our duty to the students we serve.

My goal is to continue the SBA's engagement with the student body, to ensure that every student, especially our incoming 1L students, have a voice and adequate representation here at Campbell University School of Law. I pledge to represent our class with honor and integrity and to express any concerns from students, no matter how small they may think they are, to SBA and to, in the best of my ability, fight for those concerns.

## **Flex SBA Representative**

### **Jessica Osborn-**

My name is Jessica Osborn, and I am pleased to have to opportunity to run for the office of 1L Representative Flex position. As a non-traditional student, it is important to me that we encourage each other along our curricular paths together and I would be honored to be given the opportunity to ensure our representation amongst the student body. In lieu of experience, I served as President of my high school KEY Club for two years while concurrently navigating my NJROTC unit in drill, marksmanship, and field teams. I am no stranger to student organizations nor the importance and significance of accepting to serve the duties of a position in one and I intend to hold up to my end should I be so fortunate.

## **1L Honor Court Justices**

### **Mallory Blue-**

### **Jay Brocker-**

Greetings all. My name is Jay Brocker, and I am running for the position of Honor Court Justice. Just a brief introduction of myself, I am a Raleigh native who grew up in the area. I attended Appalachian State for undergraduate and am very much looking forward to being back home and learning the law.

In my eyes, the ideal Honor Court Justice must be fair, impartial, and a good listener. They must take into account all aspects of the situation and consider all factors. They must see themselves not as one who sits in judgement of others, but rather a peer who is there to help. It is these characteristics that I would want to see in a Justice, and it is these traits that I will endeavor to embody if I am so fortunate as to be elected. You deserve nothing less.

As for my experience in this regard, I grew up learning about legal ethics from my mother, an ethics attorney in Wake County. I worked with my parents for years when they represented lawyers and law students before the State Bar. I have seen firsthand the consequences of unethical behavior, but I have also seen how one tiny mistake can expand into a mountain of problems when not addressed and corrected early enough. To me, the Honor Court is not there to punish harshly or teach a lesson, the Honor Court is here to help prevent bigger issues down the line, so that we might all leave here knowledgeable and ethical attorneys.

In conclusion, if you decide to elect me to this position, I can make you three guarantees. First, to be fair, reasonable, and just in all my duties. Second, to be a resource and friend for anyone who is struggling or needs an extra hand. Third, I will work for you and with you. This is our campus, our school, and our community and all institutions, from administration to student government should strive to carry out there

duties with the best interests of the student body in mind. I perform my duties in line with that belief.

Thank you for taking the time to read my statement. I know we are all very busy, so I appreciate your consideration. I wish you the best in the coming semester and may God have mercy on our souls.

Respectfully,

-Jay Brocker

### **Dorothy Adela Mann Chater-**

Hello! My name is Dorothy Adela Mann Chater and I go by Adela Mann (Uh-Day-La). I graduated from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte in 2020 where I majored in Criminal Justice. During freshmen year, I applied to be a panelist on the Judicial Branch of the Student Government Association (SGA). The Judicial Branch was in charge of handling instances where students had broken the Code of Student Conduct. It quickly became something I looked forward to every week, not because students were getting in trouble, but because we were focused on genuinely helping the student. After the first year of being a panelist, I became Lieutenant Chief Justice. In this role, I planned our Fall retreat, held office hours for students to come and talk to me about any questions or concerns they had, and worked with the other branches of SGA to support each other and our Niner community.

As a member of the Judicial Branch, I was a panelist for Academic Integrity hearings which was when a professor brought claims against a student, the most common type of case would involve cheating. Some cases were clearer than others which made it easier to come to a decision, however, there were many cases where it was not as clear and we had to make difficult decisions as a board. One of the most important aspects during those hearings was making sure the student felt heard. I never wanted a student leaving that hearing, no matter the outcome, feeling like they were not listened to.

This leads me to why I want to be your 1L Honor Court Justice. I will always listen to every person and uphold the Campbell Law School Honor Code. We are entering a profession where honesty and integrity are fundamental. People make bad decisions and that does not make someone a bad person which is why everyone should have the opportunity to be heard and supported. We need to hold each other accountable because, as we were told in Campbell Advantage, the most important person is our future client. I have the experience and passion for this position and am confident that if elected, I will exceed in the duties of being your 1L Honor Court Justice.

### **Matt Couch-**

Hello! My name is Matt Couch and I am running for the position of 1L Honor Court Justice. After graduating from UNC-Chapel Hill in 2018 with majors in national security

studies and journalism, I worked as a photojournalist and producer in Washington D.C. until moving back to North Carolina for law school this summer.

- I) Goals
  - a. If elected to the Honor Court, I will adjudicate cases in a fair, respectful manner while learning from the upper classmate members of the Court. What does this mean?
    - i. Fair- No matter the allegations or charges, I will regard all parties impartially. I will hold the Court true to its bylaws at all times.
    - ii. Respectful- I will treat all parties that appear before the Honor Court with the dignity and courtesy that they deserve as members of this School. I will hold the Court to adjudicating its cases in a timely manner, seeing that parties have the time necessary to present their cases to the best of their abilities.
    - iii. Learning- As a 1L on the Honor Court, I will have much to learn. To do so, I will look to the leadership of older members of the Court and use their experiences and advice to become a more effective justice.
- II) Experience
  - a. During undergraduate, I served on the executive council of my fraternity of over 100 members for two years. One of my responsibilities was to hear and rule on cases of member discipline, which were handled according bylaws.
  - b. During my four years in the workforce, I worked in the journalism and communications industries. Working with partners such as the NFL and members of Congress taught me valuable lessons on time management, working under pressure, and prioritization. These skills are paramount to be successful in 1L and to serve on the Honor Court at the same time.
  - c. I am an Eagle Scout and led a Boy Scout Troop of over sixty members for a year. During my time in Scouting, I learned valuable lessons in leadership and responsibility, which will translate well onto the Honor Court.
- III) Philosophy
  - a. The bulk of my work in between undergraduate and law school was on criminal justice reform advocacy and the distinction between rehabilitation and reconciliation. It's the reason I decided to attend law school. I am a firm believer in the inherent dignity of everyone, no matter circumstance or situation. This belief will be central to my approach on the Honor Court. I will aim to come to the most fair, measured outcomes in all cases if elected to the Honor Court.

Thank you for your consideration and I hope to serve you and Campbell Law this year.



### **Grant Draughn-**

To the SBA Elections Committee and my fellow classmates,

My name is Grant Draughn and I am a 1L flex student running for a seat as one of your Honor Court Justices. At my Alma Mater the University of North Carolina at Wilmington I worked with our Dean of Students by sitting on a similar board for Greek Life offenses. Here I provided unbiased judgment against my peers in cases regarding student organization handbook code violations, as well as violations of rules that pertained to our community of fraternities.

Furthermore, I studied communication and psychology, two fields that gave me knowledge and skills in dealing with conflict management, active listening, and critical decision making. I studied conflict mediation, social psychology, and philosophy courses that taught me logical and analytical reasoning skills to pinpoint fallacies and hidden lies. These classes and many others will prove to be an asset for an individual hearing about conflicts such as those I will be hearing when sitting on this court.

My goal with my position on this court is to think and act as unbiased and comprehensive as my knowledge will allow me to, something I already do as a student and citizen. Fairness and commitment to our handbook will lead my decisions and I commit to using my ears and mouth proportionately.

I have experience and knowledge of this type of work, and I also possess the drive needed to make this a priority to hold all of us accountable. Thank you in advance for your support, I assure you that I will provide 100% of my heart and mind to these matters.

### **Coleman Francis-**

I am seeking the office of Honor Court Justice because I wish to see this school apply her rules with regards to students fairly and equitably. This position allows for an individual to have a greater say than his or her colleagues with regards to this process. It is my earnest wish to share in both the great responsibilities and the great honor placed upon the position of Honor Court Justice.

### **Lauren Maybin-**

If elected as one of the first year Honor Court Justices I will strive to make the process as simple and straightforward for every student who comes to the court. I pledge to set personal biases aside and to review each case with dedication and knowledge of the rules. If selected for this position I will dedicate as much time and energy that is necessary to complete the job in its entirety. I will serve each student of Campbell Law School with respect and dignity.

### **Emory Moore-**

Before coming to Campbell, I had the opportunity to work in a Raleigh law firm which provided my first glimpse into the legal profession. One of the most memorable aspects of my work was learning the thought process for making sound legal decisions.

In my role, I was exposed to many of the considerations that must be factored in legal disputes. I enjoyed being a team member in those discussions and decisions. I came to realize and understand why these difficult issues are often the most important, and I understand the care and thought that must go into every decision. I would like to use this experience, and expand upon it, as a member of the Honor Court. If selected, I will use these skills to review any case being presented to the Court and will assure you that my decisions will be made only after thinking through all angles and these decisions will not be taken lightly.

I have held various leaderships positions during my time in school. I learned and understand the importance of commitment and follow-through. If elected to the Honor Court, I will commit to reviewing that facts and circumstances of each case brought before the Court in an unbiased way. This is the best way to fairly resolve any question brought before the Honor Court. I believe that fairness and transparency are vitally important in settling disputes and everyone, regardless of the offense in question, deserves this level of respect as we go through the decision-making process.

Ultimately, you will be able to rely on me, as a member of the Honor Court, to represent my fellow students with fairness and transparency, leading to a positive experience at Campbell Law.

### **Ashlynn Nelson-**

Hello, my name is Ashlynn Nelson. I graduated from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte where I majored in Criminal Justice and Political Science. There, I was the vice president of our Pre-Law Society. Within this society, I was able to see the attributes expressed by the numerous lawyers that took time to come to communicate with our society. They made sure to stress the importance of honor and integrity while describing how they fulfilled their positions. Honor and integrity are two traits that a lawyer and future lawyers must keep close to their hearts to be able to adhere to the moral and ethical code required by all of us. For individuals at Campbell Law to show their honor and integrity, they must follow the Campbell Law School Honor Code.

My time at UNC Charlotte allowed me to understand the importance of doing your own work and not obtaining information from others around you. I think that everyone deserves a fair chance to explain the reasoning behind their mistakes and that they must confront the consequences thereof. By adhering to the Honor Code set forth by Campbell Law we can participate in "training" that will allow us to be truthful and respected attorneys. Becoming an attorney means that we must be professional individuals concerning the law. Therefore, if are to uphold the law, we must demonstrate that we too, can be law-abiding citizens. This applies to the law and the Honor Code.

While in Campbell Advantage we had to raise our right hands and recite the Honor Code, at that time, I had cold chills. Being an Honor Court Justice would authorize me to exemplify what honor means to me. I would use the position to raise awareness of our consequences and try to convey the seriousness of remaining honorable while at Campbell Law and after. If elected as your 1L Honor Court Justice, I can assure you I will take this role seriously and excel in the duties of this role. I will

make sure that the vulnerable are heard and given a fair chance in explaining themselves.

### **Candy Stanley-**

My name is Candy Stanley, and I am running for the position of 1L Honor Court Justice. I have chosen to run for the Honor Court, as I feel the duties of an Honor Court Justice align with my personal goals as a student and a professional. My goal as a student is to be a voice for others and help them when problems arise. The same is true of my professional goals. My plan, as of now, is to work in civil rights and minority communities.

For some background on me, I was born legally blind; I have been bullied and labeled my entire life and my experiences are what have led me to law school. The disabled community is highly underrepresented in the legal profession; my goal is to give a voice to those who do not have one because like many disabled people I was once afraid to speak up for myself. I do not wish for anyone to feel like they cannot come forward with issues they have.

I started my higher education at a community college where I served as an SGA representative for three years and a student ambassador for one year. I had several other positions such as a club president, vice president, and treasurer. At my community college, students who were ambassadors or in SGA were selected to sit on committee hearings for students and I sat on many of these committees. After community college, I transferred to UNCG where I obtained my bachelor's in philosophy. My philosophical interests are ethics and metaphysics. I have always been a "why?" person. Now, I am here at Campbell pursuing my dream career.

My duties as a justice are to comprehend and understand the Honor Code in full and sit as a juror or panel member during hearings. My goal is to uphold the Honor Code and, more importantly, be a valued member of the student body that students can trust. Students should never feel like their voices are not heard and that their complaints are invalid. The Honor Court is an organization that allows students to explain their side and seek justice. I have previously served as a student panelist on my community college's version of Honor Court. I have heard many stories and have always done what was right for the school and the students (and faculty or staff) involved. While I cannot share more about my experience, I hope that you choose me as a 1L Honor Court Justice.

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### **Jay Thomas-**

Hello, my name is Jay Thomas, and I am running to be one of your 1L Honor Court Justices. Like all of you, I took the oath of academic and moral integrity seriously. Both of those values are reasons I want serve you all in this position. Academic and moral integrity are qualities that we all vowed to uphold when we commenced our journey in the legal profession. They are not something to be taken lightly, and they are something that we should all vigilantly safeguard. We do so in our day-to-day life by our

personal discipline, our friendships, and our general cooperation with each other, and we safeguard them formally through the Honor Court. I specify this to demonstrate that this position is a formalized version of what we are all obligated to do every moment. Therefore, as participants in this same goal, to uphold the academic and moral integrity of our profession, I stand before you that you might elect me to carry our collective task in this formal setting.

Additionally, I wish to relay some information about myself and prior, relevant positions I have held. I graduated with honors from Hillsdale College in Michigan. But do not let my northern education fool you. I was born and raised in Apex, North Carolina just twenty minutes or so outside of Raleigh. I love the Raleigh area and I love North Carolina, and for that I wish to practice law in the area. In undergrad, I served as a leading member on many clubs, including Vice President and later Treasurer of the Formal Logic Club and as a Representative for the Student Federation. While those positions are more academic or administrative than judicial, they demonstrate my ability to handle extracurricular activities amidst the storm of classes.

Finally, I wish to outline my campaign philosophy and the standard appropriate for a position like Honor Court Justice. My campaign will be simple. I will post some fliers at the appropriate locations, but I want my quality to be judged based upon how you all observe me in everyday life. I say let my words, and more importantly, my actions be the basis upon which you make your decision. I know some of you, and I hope, if it is possible, to know all of you. Of the ones who know me, you can ask them of my character, and you will hear good things. But I urge you to observe me yourself, as well. Let my actions demonstrate my seriousness about our academic legal life and our higher calling to live morally. And through that observance, I hope you will see that I am fit to formally carry on our work in the Honor Court.