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**MEMPHIS LAW SCHOOL NAMED TOP 5 BEST REGIONAL LAW SCHOOL
FOR BLACK STUDENTS**

Thursday, Nov. 15, 2012- The Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law at the University of Memphis has been named as one of the Top 5 Regional Law Schools for Black Students by *On Being A Black Lawyer* magazine, a resource center and social media firm that supports African-Americans' success in law school.

The publication lists Memphis Law as one of the five best law schools in the Midwest region for black students. The list, which is not ranked, also includes the regional laws schools of Washburn, Cleveland State, the University of Kentucky and the University of Louisville's Brandels School of Law.

Schools were chosen for inclusion based on eight factors: cost, alumni placement rate, the number of distinguished black alumni, selectivity in admissions, black student population, the strength of the local legal job market, the local cost of living and the local black population. The rankings committee was composed of OBABL editorial staff, law school fellows and professional advisers.

"We believe law school graduates are best served when they attend law school in a region where they would like to work," the publication says. "Our best regional law schools are highly regarded, particularly in nearby states. Law graduates from these excellent institutions are well positioned to have successful legal careers without the burden of excessive loan debt."

University of Memphis Law School administrators have made diversity a priority in admissions and recruiting decisions, with diverse students having a prominent presence at the law school. Of the Class of 2012 that entered this fall, for example, 15 percent are minorities. The school also features the Tennessee Institute for Pre-Law (TIP), which is for Tennessee residents and border county residents from diverse backgrounds who are not admitted through the regular admissions process, but who show potential for the study of law.

"We're delighted at this recognition, which showcases our commitment to creating a law school environment of diversity," said Interim Dean William P. Kratzke.

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Memphis Law School Named Top 5 Best Regional Law School For Black Students

The Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law, which first held classes in 1962 and is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year, prepares graduates for private practice and public service. The school is located in the former U.S. Customs House in downtown Memphis, near the city's judicial and legal community and was ranked by preLaw magazine as a best value law school, based on three criteria: low tuition, the high percentage of graduates passing the Tennessee bar exam, and the success of graduates in finding employment. The school is accredited by the Council of the Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar of the American Bar Association, the official accrediting agency for legal education, and is a member of the Association of American Law Schools, the society for legal education in the United States.

Graduates of the Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law include judges, other public servants, and leading practitioners in the Mid-South and throughout the nation.

To view the a copy of this issue of On Being a Black Lawyer magazine, please visit <http://www.onbeingablacklawyer.com/obabl/schools1/index.html#/18/>

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