



## **LaKeisha Randall, North Carolina Central University- c/o 2011, Law**



**Name :** LaKeisha Randall

**Your HBCU :** North Carolina Central University

**Graduation Year :** 2011

**Major :** Law

### **1. Where are you from? Who introduced you to HBCUs?\***

I'm a native of Atlanta, Georgia. And, growing up less than 20 minutes from the Atlanta University Center, I've had the good fortune of always being aware of HBCUs.



### **2. Why did you choose an HBCU over a pwi?\***

I chose NCCU Law because it has a long history of producing ardent trial attorneys. In a profession where minorities are less than 15% of the population, training with so many other Black students has afforded me a very unique and valuable network of peers.

### **3. What is the story of your "experience" at Your HBCU given its heralded status as a stellar and prestigious institution?\***

As an alumna of an HBCU law school, we were often reminded why the world and our communities needed our insight to assure justice prevails. I lead NCCU's Innocence Project as a student and it was some of the most rewarding work that I've done to date. The Innocence Project exonerates the wrongly convicted through DNA testing and reforms the criminal justice system to prevent future injustice. Unfortunately, those who are wrongly convicted are overwhelmingly of color.

### **4. "First time" experiences at your HBCU?\***

My HBCU experience was the first time that I was reminded that my service to the legal profession was bigger than me. NCCU is a very service oriented environment and the law school isn't an exception.

### **5. Who are the professors that have impacted your life in and out of the classroom? How did they do that?\***

Professor Krishnee Coley was a lifesaver! She served as a mentor, confidant, sounding board, and cheerleader throughout my law school experience. Also, Professors Mary Wright and Brenda Reddix-Small were the epitome of silent strength, excellence, and brilliant legal minds. Collectively, these Black women lawyers and professors encouraged me to push my limits, break barriers, and practice with a standard of excellence.



**6. State how your own personal experience or knowledge correlates to the Ethiopian proverbs: "When one is prepared, difficulties do not come."**

Each one, teach one—we have a social responsibility to lift as we climb.

**7. Are you a member of a sorority?**

Yes, I'm a proud member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated.