

To the UM Law Community:

As I write to you today, I know this week has been particularly difficult as the pandemic has taken 100,000 American lives and we witnessed George Floyd's tragic death. His death, plus the death of many others, make clear how much work remains to be done to address and eliminate prejudice, bigotry, and injustice in our communities, our state, and our nation.

I realize that it is difficult to keep the faith when incidents like these occur, but we cannot lose hope. Instead, I urge us as lawyers and future lawyers to redouble our work to advance the rule of law and as a natural consequence move toward justice and away from bigotry. The University of Mississippi School of Law challenges injustice where we find it. In our classes and clinics we will continue to engage in honest, and often difficult, conversations and to seize the opportunity to do our part to create a community, a state, and a world that values every individual, regardless of gender, race/ethnicity, religion, national origin, sexual orientation and identity, socio-economic background, and ideology.

We are a profession and a school concerned and committed to social justice, and I am committed as your dean to work alongside all of you to ensure that the law school continues to play an affirmative role as a leader in addressing these societal issues.

Susan H. Duncan Dean and Professor of Law University of Mississippi