



Dean Marilyn V. Yarbrough
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Marilyn Virginia Yarbrough is the first black woman dean of a southern law school. During her four years as Dean of the College of Law at the University of Tennessee she has worked actively to improve the status of women and minorities in the law school and the community, and has been an eloquent advocate for diversity on law school faculties.

After a first career as a systems engineer for IBM and Westinghouse, Dean Yarbrough received her J.D. in 1973 from the University of California School of Law, where she was editor-in-chief of the *Black Law Journal*. She began her teaching career as a teaching fellow at Boston College Law School. She joined the faculty of the University of Kansas School of Law as an Associate Professor in 1976 and was elevated to full Professor in 1981. From 1983 to 1987 she held a joint appointment as Associate Vice Chancellor for Research, Graduate Studies and Public Service at the University of Kansas. In 1987 Professor Yarbrough was appointed Dean of the University of Tennessee College of Law. After four years in that position she is now on leave from the faculty to serve as the William J. Maier, Jr. Professor of Law at West Virginia University. She will teach race and gender law and appellate advocacy.

Dean Yarbrough has been very active in legal education and community leadership activities. She was a member and chair of several committees of the Law School Admission Council, becoming a member of the LSAC Board of Trustees in 1980 and serving as president from 1986 to 1988. She also served for three years as chair of the Skills Training Committee of the ABA Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar. Among her many current commitments, Dean Yarbrough serves on the Tennessee State Advisory Committee for the United States Commission on Civil Rights, the Pulitzer Prize Board and the Boards of Directors of the Poynter Institute and the National Conference of Christians and Jews.