



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**BLAIR STEPHENSON KUPLIC AWARDED
DOCTOR OF JURISPRUDENCE DEGREE**

June 6, 2014 – The Trustees of the Alston-Pleasants Post-Graduate Scholars Fund are pleased to announce that the University of North Carolina School of Law has awarded the Degree of Doctor of Jurisprudence to Blair Stephenson Kuplic

Ms. Kuplic is the daughter of Judge W. Turner Stephenson, III, and Mrs. Sibyl H. Thornell and was a Halifax County recipient of an Alston-Pleasants Scholarship for undergraduate UNC studies as well as a post-graduate Scholars Fund award for Law School.

Ms. Kuplic has received Professional Recommendation into the Navy Judge Advocate General's Corps and, following commission, will attend the Officer Development School followed by the Basic Lawyer Course at Newport, RI before relocating to her first two-year assignment.

The Alston-Pleasants Post-Graduate Scholars Fund was established in 2008 to provide further recognition and encouragement for graduate and professional studies to students who had been recipients of the Alston-Pleasants Scholarships that Missouri Alston Pleasants established in 1958 for selected undergraduate UNC students from Franklin, Halifax and Warren Counties.

Miss Missouri, as she was known, had said that she wanted the Alston-Pleasants Scholars Fund to commemorate the memory of her grandfather, Willis "Congress" Alston, a late 18th and early 19th century state, regional and national political leader.

The 50th anniversary of that Fund was celebrated in a Person Place Preservation Society program in Louisburg , NC., on May 25, 2008.

Additional Alston-Pleasants information is provided at www.alstonpleasants.org, and ***Alston-Pleasants Scholars*** on Facebook.

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