



Rev. Thomas Jenkins along with Ministerial Alliance members and Jackson State University supporters address the media. PHOTO BY SHANDERIA K. POSEY

## JSU support remains strong

**By Shanderia K. Posey**  
*Editor*

Alumni and supporters of Jackson State University stood in solidarity July 1, with a local faith-based group to pledge their continued support of JSU.

The Ministerial Alliance, led by the Rev. Thomas Jenkins, pastor of New Dimensions Fel-

lowship of Ministries in Jackson, held a press conference "to pledge our support to Jackson State University and express extreme disappointment on how JSU has been portrayed over an incident involving the JSU Development Foundation that happened more than two years ago yet resulted in no loss," Jenkins

said. "Make no mistake, we are extremely confident in JSU's president and her leadership team as good stewards of our funds. This is evident by the university's quick action to correct problems and secure 100 percent of reimbursements."

Jenkins was referring to stories published in *The Clarion-*

*Ledger* newspaper June 18-22 detailing a report questioning unauthorized spending of JSU Development Foundation funds. Of the \$25.7 million the foundation had in 2014, it was determined some expenses were undocumented and some em-

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## Owens to accept Susie Buchanan Award July 14

*The Mississippi Link Newswire*

Hinds County Chancellor Denise Owens will be honored for her work as a trailblazer for other women lawyers.



Judge Owens is the 2016 recipient of the Susie Blue Buchanan Award. The annual award presented by the Mississippi Bar's Women in the Profession Committee honors an outstanding woman lawyer who has achieved professional excellence and has actively paved the way to success for other women lawyers. The award is named for Susie Blue Buchanan, who a century ago became the first woman lawyer admitted to practice before the Mississippi Supreme Court. The award will be presented during the Price-Prather Luncheon during the Mississippi Bar Convention in Destin, Fla. July 14.

When Owens was elected to the Hinds County Chancery bench in 1989, she and Judge Patricia Wise became the first African-American female chancellors in the state.

Owens said, "It is truly an honor to be awarded the Susie Blue Buchanan Award. When I started practicing law, I was mindful of the great responsibility inherent in practicing law, but also the great responsibility of being a role model as an African-American female attorney. As a role model I hope to encourage young women to pursue their dream of being an attorney."

"Nobody deserves it more than she does," attorney Rodger Wilder of Gulfport said of Owens' selection for the award. Wilder, a former Mississippi Bar president, and Owens are co-chairs of the Access to Justice Commission. During 10 years of service as commission co-chair, Owens helped guide its formulation of recommendations which have been implemented by the Supreme Court, and its continuing work to

**Owens**  
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## 'Smart, sexy docs' answer HIV questions



Brandon Brazzle talks with Dr. Leandro Mena during a clinic visit.

### #AskTheHIVDoc series available in English, Spanish

*UMMC News*

Dr. Leandro Mena considers himself a shy person. He doesn't do Facebook and he barely tweets.

But his international reputation as an expert in the field of sexually transmitted infections has placed him in a sweeping social media spotlight.

He's one of three "smart and sexy docs" answering questions on an array of topics in #AskTheHIVDoc, a YouTube-based series of

short-form, question-and-answer videos in English and Spanish produced through the initiative Greater Than AIDS.

Mena, a native of the Dominican Republic and associate professor of infectious diseases at the University of Mississippi Medical Center, and HIV/AIDS experts Dr. David Malebranche and Dr. Demetre Daskalakis give frank and information-packed answers to questions about sexually transmitted diseases

— questions that many men who have sex with men (MSM) might never feel comfortable asking their own providers.

"We do it in a straightforward, simple way," said Mena, who joined the duo of Malebranche and Daskalakis in December 2015 and can be seen in the second season of #AskTheHIVDoc that debuted June 1 on YouTube. There are 23 English videos and an additional 11 narrated by Mena in Spanish. The

nonprofit Kaiser Family Foundation created the branded campaign Greater Than Aids; #AskTheHIVDoc is a part of that brand.

"We just fell in love with him," said Tina Hoff, the Kaiser Family Foundation's senior vice president and director of health communications and media partnerships. "He's not only incredibly knowledgeable

*HIV*  
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## Meredith to speak at 15 metro area libraries in month

*The Mississippi Link Newswire*

The Jackson Hinds Library System will host James Meredith, civil rights activist, at each of its 15 libraries during the month of July. Meredith will discuss his historic Walk Against Fear, which led to the March Against Fear and how he feels the events of his life have affected the past, present and future in Mississippi.



This year marks the 50th anniversary of the March Against Fear, from Memphis to Jackson. It was planned as an encouragement for black voter registration. Meredith knew that he was exposing himself to serious danger but felt that the reason for the march was important enough to take that risk.

A lone gunman shot Meredith June 6, the second day of his mission but he was able later to rejoin the march which finished in Jackson June 26, 1966. Many civil rights leaders, organizations and supporters, black and white, joined the march strengthening the cause to raise awareness of the need to improve the civil rights of blacks, not just in Mississippi but nationwide.

Anyone who would like to meet a civil rights icon and

**Meredith**  
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## Feds investigating fatal police shooting of Sterling

**By Mike Kunzelman**  
*Associated Press*

BATON ROUGE, La. — The U.S. Justice Department opened a civil rights investigation Wednesday into the video-recorded police killing of a black man who authorities say had a gun as he wrestled with two white officers on the pavement outside a convenience store.

Alton Sterling, 37, was confronted by police and shot on Tuesday after an anonymous caller said he had threatened someone with a gun outside the store, where he was selling homemade CDs, authorities said.

In a cellphone video taken by a community activist and posted online, the two officers pinned Ster-



In this screen shot from MSNBC, Cameron Sterling, 15, breaks down as his mother, Quinyetta McMillan, addresses the media.

ling to the ground, someone yelled, "He's got a gun! Gun!" and gunfire erupted moments later.

At a news conference Wednesday, Baton Rouge Police Chief Carl

Dabadie Jr. said that Sterling was armed but that there are still questions about what happened.

"Like you, there is a lot that we do not understand. And at this

point, like you, I am demanding answers," Dabadie said, calling the shooting a "horrible tragedy."

The officers, identified by the chief as Blane Salamoni, a four-year member of the department, and Howie Lake II, who has been on the force for three years, were placed on administrative leave, standard department procedure.

Authorities would not say whether one or both fired their weapons or how many times.

Gov. John Bel Edwards and the U.S. Justice Department announced the investigation by the department's civil rights division.

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