



**Distinguished Life Fellow Award -- Professor Charles J. Ogletree, Jr., *Harvard Law School***

Born in Merced, CA in December 1952, Professor Ogletree began his life humbly. His trusted commitment to leadership and civil rights became evident early, when he ran and was elected as the first Black student body president in his predominantly white high school and later as co-President of the Associated Students of Stanford University. After graduating from Stanford he enrolled in Harvard Law School where his activism and fight for justice continued.

In 1985, Mr. Ogletree returned to Harvard Law School as a visitor. He was elevated to tenure track faculty in 1989. A few years later, in 1991, Charles received national attention for his representation of (now Professor) Anita Hill during the confirmation hearings for Justice Clarence Thomas. Professor Ogletree received tenure at HLS in 1993. In September 2005, he founded the Charles Hamilton Houston Institute for Race and Justice. Most importantly, in his role as a law professor, Charles has been able to inspire successive generations of students, including the current President and First Lady, to pursue a life of public service and continue the struggle for racial justice. Although Professor Ogletree has come far from his humble childhood in Merced, California, he is a man who never forgets where he started. He provides annual college scholarships for students attending his public high school in Merced, California and always looks forward to visiting his hometown.