

UF LAW

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A historic turn



Eugene Pettis (JD 85) rises
as the first black president
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he credits his upbringing and UF Law



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growth humming

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Visit UF LAW online at www.law.ufl.edu/uflaw
to view:

- A webcast of Justice John Paul Stevens in
the law school courtyard
- A list of alumni deaths since December

COVER PHOTO:

Eugene K. Pettis (JD 85) working in his Fort
Lauderdale law office is superimposed over a
newspaper photo from the summer of 1969
when black children, including him, enjoy
the desegregated Fort Lauderdale Beach.

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DEAN
ROBERT
JERRYLevin Mabie
& Levin
Professor
of Law

Meeting the legal industry where it's going

At an alumni-faculty retreat held April 5 at the Levin College of Law, Dean Robert Jerry discussed the challenges facing the legal profession, their implications for legal education, and how the college is facing them. In this Q-and-A, Jerry addresses some of the issues he discussed at the retreat.

The media consistently reports that it has become more difficult for law school graduates to get jobs. Is this accurate?

Yes. Although this generalization hides important variations that exist across practice sectors, regions and law schools, the general proposition is correct. The demand for licensed lawyers nationally now falls below the number of graduates the nation's law schools are producing. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics predicts that through 2020 there will be approximately 23,000 new lawyer jobs created annually. This spring, the nation's 201 accredited law schools graduated about 46,000 students. Even granting that not all of these graduates intend to pursue a practice career, there is no escaping the math.

Neither the legal profession nor legal education is immune from market forces and, not surprisingly, the numbers are already beginning to change. You'll recall that we reduced the size of our J.D. program by 25 percent in 2009; with the benefit of hindsight, it is clear that we did the right thing. In fact, we were one of legal education's leaders in doing this. In 2012, 90 percent of the law schools for which data were available in the fall — about 140 of them — admitted fewer students than in 2010. Most estimates are that there will be 6,000 to 8,000 fewer entering law students in 2013, but the number of law graduates in 2016 will still exceed the new jobs being generated, even if we assume a growing economy.

Looking beyond 2020, the exit of the boomer generation from the workforce will be one of the biggest changes in employment markets in our country's history. By some estimates, about 400,000 of the nation's 1.1 million lawyers are boomers; so a vast array of new opportunities will come

into existence as the boomer generation leaves the scene. But in the meantime, new law graduates will continue to face a challenging legal employment market.

Why are legal jobs so hard to come by?

Two things are obvious. The number of law graduates has steadily increased during the last two decades. Eighteen new law schools have been accredited since 2000, and some of these are very large. As the supply of lawyers has gone up, the demand for legal services has gone down, just like with most other goods and services in the national and global economies.

But it's important to understand that some of the causes were in motion well before, and have no connection to, the recession. Increased technological efficiencies have affected almost every aspect of law practice, ranging from research to document assembly to communication. New business processes adopted in almost all practice settings create efficiencies in the delivery of services. Globalization has brought profound changes, ranging from increased competition from foreign law firms to the enabling of outsourcing some functions that can be performed more cheaply overseas. We are also witnessing growth in "non-lawyer" services, which substitute for some of the traditional work of lawyers. None of these things eliminate the need for lawyers in our society, but added together they reduce the number of lawyers needed to do the same amount of work, and this has significantly contributed to the mismatch between supply and demand.

How are these changes affecting UF Law?

The graduating class of 2000 was almost 95 percent employed six months after graduation, but the 2012 graduating class was about 80 percent employed nine months after graduation. For the 2012 graduating class, 59 percent were employed in jobs for which bar passage is required, and I am certain that this percentage, had it been calculated in 2000, would have been considerably higher.

Overall, these trends are cause for both concern and action on our part, but it is worth noting that there are bright spots inside the data. For example, recently released ABA placement data ranks UF Law 26th among the nation's 200-plus law schools in the number of graduates entering federal judicial clerkships. This is an important comparison for which, I would contend, larger school size doesn't create any particular advantage. In placement in jobs with law

I won't be satisfied until 100 percent of our students are placed in their first-choice jobs.



During a faculty-alumni retreat, Associate Dean Alyson Flournoy, Dean Robert Jerry and Board of Trustee member Michael Minton (JD 81, LLMT 82), talk to Board of Trustee members, from left, Bill Boyles (JD 76, LLMT 78) U.S. District Judge Paul Huck (JD 65) and Ben Hill (JD 65) and Benn Hill (JD 65). (Photo by Elise Giordano 4JM)

firms, UF Law does very well. We ranked 17th in the number of graduates placed in law firms of size 26-50, 14th in the number of graduates placed in law firms of size 100-251, and a remarkable third in the nation in law firms of size 51-100. These law firm sizes are predominant in Florida, and we expect to do well relative to other law schools in this market. On the other hand, we do very poorly in the rankings for the number of our graduates who go into solo practice. But this doesn't concern me, because I don't think going into solo practice right out of law school is a good idea, and we don't recommend it to our students. We have a relatively large number of graduates enrolling in LL.M. programs — especially our nationally renowned tax LL.M. program — and those students get counted as unemployed in the national statistics most frequently cited in the media.

We do see areas in the placement data where we want to do better, and we are already working on new strategies to improve our results. I won't be satisfied until 100 percent of our students are placed in their first-choice jobs. But I am not troubled if another law school posts a higher placement percentage because of a larger number of graduates going into solo practice or a smaller number going into graduate programs.

Over the longer run, how should UF Law respond to these changing conditions?

We have already made significant curricular reforms in the first-year curriculum, and we continue with our planning for changes in the second year and especially the third year. I believe it's important to find ways to improve how our J.D. program is more

closely integrated with practice. For two decades, we've been out front on this with a required legal drafting course for upper-class students, and we've made great improvements in recent years with our externship program, which now places about 300 law students annually in a judicial externship or a practice setting experience. But I believe there is more we can do with other types of experiential learning, and there are some ideas for innovation in the externship program we should explore. On the placement side, we have some promising ideas on bridge programs that connect students directly to jobs while still in law school. Our Center for Career Development is launching a number of innovative programs, and I encourage any alumnus — or non-alumnus — to contact us so we can explain the different ways we can connect you with a highly motivated and capable UF Law student or graduate.

Ice hockey is not a sport I played or that I understand particularly well, but I've become fond of a quote attributed to Wayne Gretzky, probably the greatest hockey player of all time: Don't skate to where the puck has been, or to where it is; skate to where the puck is going.

I'm sure that's good advice for hockey, but I think it's also good advice for lots of things, and it's certainly good advice for legal education. If we don't follow that advice, we'll do an excellent job of preparing our students to practice in a world that doesn't exist anymore. I believe we're on the right path to making responsible, appropriate changes at UF Law to prepare our students for this rapidly changing world. Let me once again thank our wonderful alumni for all their help and support as our college continues on this challenging journey.

NEWS BRIEFS



All seven justices of the Florida Supreme Court sit in judgment during the spring semester of the Florida Moot Court Team in the Martin H. Levin Advocacy Center Courtroom. (Photo by Elise Giordano 4JM)

Florida Supreme Court judges Moot Court

The Florida Supreme Court sat en banc at UF Law to judge the Florida Moot Court Team during the 29th annual Raymer F. Maguire, Jr. Moot Court Competition.

It was the second time in three years that the entire Florida Supreme Court has come together in the Martin H. Levin Advocacy Center courtroom to judge the competition.

Jessica Clements (2L), Ryan Gilbert (3L) and DeeDee Scheller (2L) represented the petitioner. Ian Dankelman (2L), Danielle Grundt (3L) and Brandon White (3L) represented the respondent.

The teams presented legal arguments based on questions about a police detective's qualified immunity from a civil liability arising out of the arrest of an innocent man for a sex offense.

The award for best team went to the respondents and Dankelman (2L) took home the best oral advocate award.

UF Law up in U.S. News ranking

The University of Florida Levin College of Law is up in *U.S. News & World Report* rankings released March 12. Among the nation's 201 public and private ABA-accredited JD-awarding law schools, UF's law school is 23rd among public schools and 46th overall.

The publication places the school in two top specialty program rankings: first among public law schools and third overall in tax, and fifth among publics and 12th overall in environmental law. UF Law also continues to be highly rated in terms of reputation — 10th among publics and 26th overall in the

assessment of practicing lawyers and judges, and 15th among publics and 35th overall in the assessment of academics.

In other national rankings, UF Law was fourth among public law schools in 2011 (eighth among all law schools in the nation) in the number of its graduates serving as federal district and circuit court judges. More than 250 graduates serve as state appellate and trial judges in Florida, and many serve in those roles in other states as well.

A 2012 *Journal of Legal Education* article titled "Where Do Partners Come From?" surveyed the *National Law Journal* 100 law firms and found that UF Law ranked 11th among publics and 29th overall in the number of alumni graduating from 1986 to the present serving as partners. A ranking by *Super Lawyers* magazine placed UF Law first in Florida, fourth among public schools, and eighth overall in "output," i.e. the caliber of a school's graduates.

UF Law wins ABA Law Student Tax Challenge

UF Law claimed victory at the American Bar Association Law Student Tax Challenge as student teams placed first and third in the Orlando competition where 88 teams from 46 law schools nationwide participated.

The Law Student Tax Challenge is a national tax-planning competition sponsored by the Young Lawyers Forum of the Section of Taxation. In the competition's 12-year history, the Tax Challenge has become one of the largest tax competitions for law students in the U.S.

UF Law's Tax Moot Court had two of the six teams chosen to participate in the J.D. semifinals and two of the three teams chosen to advance to the finals.

Top prize went to Stephanie Malen (3L) and Paul D'Alessandro Jr. (3L), coached by Professor Steven J. Willis and by Madison Felder and Adam Smith, both LL.M. students. The third-place team was comprised of Sara Heuer (3L) and KaLynn Ryker (3L). It was coached by Visiting Professor Yolanda Jameson.

William & Mary, Harvard, Columbia, University of Oregon, Syracuse, Northwestern, Georgetown and the University of Virginia were among the law schools competing.

Professor wins ABA award in dispute resolution

Leonard Riskin, Chesterfield Smith Professor of Law, was honored with the ABA's Section of Dispute Resolution award for Outstanding Scholarly Work

on April 6 at the section's 15th annual spring conference in Chicago.

Since coming to UF Law in 2007, Riskin has served as professor, mentor and director of the Initiative of Mindfulness in Law and Dispute Resolution. The ABA recognized his extensive work in alternative dispute resolution with a focus on the perspectives that lawyers bring to the work. A story in the February issue of the *ABA Journal* highlighted the mindfulness field and its growing acceptance in the legal field.

Riskin began to write about and teach mediation in the early 1980s, and from that he became interested in mindsets lawyers use when addressing problems.

Riskin is the third recipient of the ABA Dispute Resolution Section's award for Outstanding Scholarly Work since its creation in 2011. Harvard Law School professor Frank E.A. Sander and Georgetown University professor Carrie Menkel-Meadow received the award in years past.



Riskin



The UF Law tax moot court teams finished first and third in an 88-team field at the Tax Law ABA Challenge in Orlando. From left are coach and UF Law Professor Steven J. Willis, coach and visiting Assistant Professor Yolanda Jameson, coach and LL.M. Tax Candidate Adam Smith, Paul D'Alessandro, Jr. (3L), Stephanie Malen (3L), Sara Heuer (3L) and KaLynn Ryker (3L). (Photo by Maggie Powers) (Photo by Maggie Powers 4JM)

Law school rankings: Good, bad and not so reliable

Most of us probably think of the *U.S. News & World Report* ranking released in March as the standard when it comes to comparing law schools (UF Law was No. 46 out of 202). But the law school rating business is booming and UF Law holds its own — even if some of the rankings are a little wobbly.

U.S. News recently released a new ranking evaluating law school efficiency based on how much bang for each buck a law school gets for its standing in the *U.S. News* ranking. UF Law came in at No. 21 in the nation.

UF Law was ranked No. 44 by the popular legal-themed blog Above the Law. The ranking was derived from outcome-based methodologies, analyzing factors such as employment rates, quality of employment and education cost.

Above the Law rated UF Law as the second best school in the South in another survey. This one was less scientific, drawing its results from surveys of the blog's readers. The University of Virginia was ranked No. 1. UF Law did well in quality of faculty, practical and clinical

training, financial advising, and last, but certainly not least, readers said UF Law has the best social life.

Finally, UF Law came in at No. 53 in a *National Jurist* ranking released in February. An avalanche of criticism from legal-education media ensued for the magazine's methodology that placed Texas Tech in the Top 10 but not Yale or the University of Chicago (Texas Tech couldn't crack the top 100 in the most recent *U.S. News* ranking). *National Jurist* admitted its methods were flawed and reissued the ranking. This time UF Law finished No. 25 — right behind Harvard Law at No. 24.



Former Supreme Court Justice John Paul Stevens speaks to UF Law Professors, from left, John Stinneford, Danaya Wright and Kenneth Nunn during the Marshall M. Criser Distinguished Lecture held Feb. 5 in the UF Law courtyard. (Photo by Elise Giordano 4JM)

The long view

Former Justice John Paul Stevens offers taste of history at UF Law

BY MATT WALKER

At 92, retired Supreme Court Justice John Paul Stevens is a walking, talking history lesson in American jurisprudence. Serving on the court from 1976 through 2010 and before that as a federal judge and antitrust lawyer from Chicago, Stevens has a lifetime of experience and legal wisdom to impart. This he readily did Feb. 5 in the courtyard of UF Law as the Marshall M. Criser Distinguished Lecturer.

UF Law Professors Kenneth Nunn, John Stinneford and Danaya Wright engaged Stevens on myriad topics including proportionality in sentencing, applying history to decisions, changing technology, experiences and court opinions from his years as a justice.

"You don't at the time you're working on a case always appreciate what its long-run impact will be," Stevens observed before hundreds seated in the Marcia Whitney Schott Courtyard.

Stevens was speaking of *Chevron U.S.A., Inc. v. Natural Resources Defense Council,*

Inc. — a case Stevens said he believed to be a routine case in 1984 when he wrote the majority opinion. In the years since, it has become one of the most widely cited cases in administrative law.

Stinneford noted after the talk that Stevens' experience can serve as a cautionary tale:

"This is a nice reminder that we should take even the mundane events of our lives seriously, as they may turn out to have a bigger impact on our lives than we realize at the time."

"Justice Stevens not only appears to have encyclopedic memory of his decisions during his term on the court, but he remembers his reasons for reaching the conclusions he did and also the countervailing arguments that might have led him to decide differently," Stinneford said. "As someone

who can't remember what I had for breakfast this morning, I found this very impressive."

Stevens, who also spoke at the inaugural Criser Lecture at UF Law in 2008, addressed his legacy as a Supreme Court justice when Nunn suggested that his opinions seemed to grow more liberal over the years.

"I think I'm a good deal more conservative than people often assume because I feel very strongly that judges should not be deciding certain issues."

—JUSTICE JOHN PAUL STEVENS

"To tell you the truth, I think I'm a good deal more conservative than people often assume because I feel very strongly that judges should not be deciding certain issues," he said. "I'm sure I must have changed to a certain extent, but I don't think I've changed a tenth as much as the court in general has changed."

He said Supreme Court appointees beginning with him were more conservative than their predecessors.

Nunn said one of the most valuable things he learned during Stevens' visit was just how important the actual facts of a case are for decision making on the Supreme Court.

CONFERENCES & LECTURES

Top legal minds addressed timely and timeless topics of law and policy during UF Law presentations



Zygmunt Plater, in the back, and Patrick Parenteau speak to a UF Law crowd on the landmark *TVA v. Hill* case during UF Law's spring Public Interest Environmental Conference. (Photo by Maggie Powers 4JM)

PREEMPTION LAW A STUDY IN AMBIGUITY

Richard E. Nelson Symposium "Preemption Puzzles: Firearms, Fracking, Foreigners, Fuels and Farming"

Its 19th century provenance is "sordid;" it is employed today in the service "political bullying;" and the best that a lawyer can hope for is to embrace "ambiguity," while navigating this legal realm.

Such was the abuse heaped on the seemingly mild-mannered legal doctrine of preemption during UF Law's Feb. 8 Nelson Symposium at the UF Hilton Conference Center.

The conference explored the doctrine of preemption — establishing whether local, state or federal law take precedence when their domains conflict.

Amy T. Petrick (JD 00), senior assistant county attorney for Palm Beach County, explained the difficulties that local officials in Palm Beach County have encountered as the Legislature has attempted to enforce preemption of local firearm regulations by threatening local officials with fines and removal from office. Petrick called the law "political bullying with no proper purpose."

Surveying recent cases, UF Law Professor Michael Allan Wolf, host of the Nelson Symposium and the Richard E. Nelson Chair in Lo-

cal Government Law, noted that preemption cases can fall on either side of the political divide or even divide the same side.

“Maybe we can actually have a level playing field because ideology ... doesn’t point us in the direction of preemption or non-preemption.” The solution, said Wolf, is to embrace ambiguity.

40 YEARS OF THE ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT

Public Interest Environmental Conference “The Endangered Species Act at 40: Polishing the Crown Jewel”

When the Endangered Species Act was passed in 1973, it proved to be a great step forward in showing the United States’ and

Congress’ commitment to preserving our nation’s natural heritage and protecting native plants and animals from becoming extinct.

In honor of the 40th anniversary of the ESA, the 19th annual Public Interest Environmental Law Conference at UF Law focused on the evolution of endangered species protection over four decades. “The Endangered Species Act at 40: Polishing the Crown Jewel,” was Feb. 21-23 at UF Law.

Keynote speakers included Carl Safina, founding president of the Blue Ocean Institute and award winning author of *Song for the Blue Ocean* and *Eye of the Albatross*, and Zygmunt Plater and Patrick Parenteau, attorneys in the landmark decision of *Tennessee Valley Au-*

thority v. Hill et al.—temporarily halting the completion of the Tellico Dam on the Little Tennessee River in order to protect the snail darter, an endangered species of fish.

John Kostyack, vice president of Wildlife Conservation for the National Wildlife Federation, observed that a weakness in the act has been that it has not evolved to account for species migration.

“The ESA is one small tool in a larger tool box,” he said. “Ninety percent of the force to change the act will be through economic incentive.”

LIFE AND DEATH OF RACIALLY RESTRICTIVE COVENANTS

Wolf Family Lecture on the American Law of Real Property “Property Law and the Rise, Life and Demise of Racially Restrictive Covenants”

CAROL M. ROSE, YALE LAW SCHOOL

Until the 1940s it was not uncommon for property deeds to include clauses that restricted the sale of property to whites only. In 1948, the Supreme Court ruled against these racially restrictive covenants, and the practice was outlawed in 1968 by the Fair Housing Act.

But before the Supreme Court could declare these restrictions on property unconstitutional, the market rebelled.

“In the early 20th century, African-Americans started to move to cities,” Yale Law School’s Carol M. Rose said. “The hope was to escape the violence and oppression of the Southeast, so Caucasians began to take legal routes to get them out of their neighborhoods.”

She went on to explain that though race-restriction laws were Constitution-proof, they were not property-proof. It became harder and harder to sneak a Caucasians-only clause into property contracts.

“The pool of potential white buyers dried up,” Rose explained. “The only feasible buyers were minority members. This resulted in kind of an odd alliance between the white sellers and the black buyers: both of them wanted to get rid of restrictive covenants.”

TRAYVON MARTIN CASE EXPOSES QUESTIONS OF RACE

Center for the Study of Race and Race Relations Annual Spring Lecture & Panel Discussions “At Close Range: The Curious Case of Trayvon Martin”
CHARLES BLOW, NEW YORK TIMES COLUMNIST

A man with a gun. A dead teen. A hoodie. These images have been burned into the minds of Americans as symbols of interracial crime, the use of deadly force and even crime reporting.

The Feb. 26, 2012, shooting of a 17-year-old black teen walking home in a hoodie in Sanford, Fla., made national news after the shooter was released by police without charges. George Zimmerman was later charged with second degree murder.

The lecture and interdisciplinary panel discussions brought myriad questions about this case to light through a variety of interdisciplinary panels.

New York Times op-ed columnist Charles Blow highlighted the media’s role, and experts from nine University of Florida departments offered insight at the all-day event filmed by C-SPAN.

The arguments that “the way he behaved, the things that he wore, suggested he was not worthy of life past Feb. 26 fall short,” Blow said. “There is nothing that you can wear that gives someone license to shoot someone in the chest.”

Blow described the “cocoon” media consumers place themselves in. “People prefer to be affirmed in their beliefs than challenged,” he said. “I believe that is what we’ve seen in the Trayvon Martin case. People know what they want to believe and only listen to sources who confirm it.”

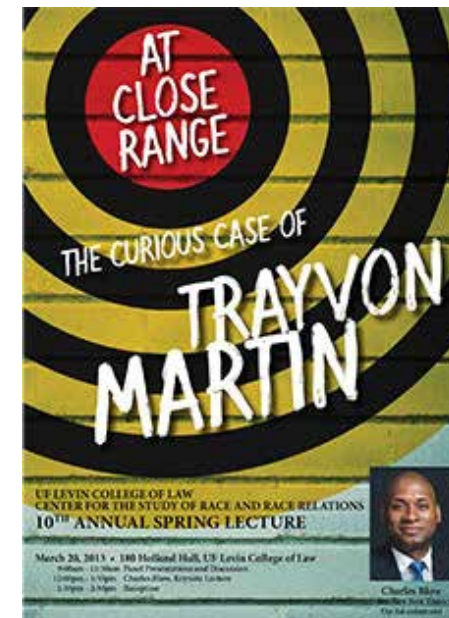
CONSERVATIVE ASSESSES WINS AND LOSSES IN HEALTH CARE CASE

The Florida Law Review Dunwody Distinguished Lecture in Law “Who Won the Obamacare Case (and Why Did So Many Law Professors Miss the Boat)?”

RANDY BARNETT, GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY LAW CENTER

Although the Supreme Court did not strike down the Affordable Care Act as he would have liked, Georgetown

Law Professor Randy Barnett said victory was achieved “by the constitutional theories we prevented from being adopted by the Supreme Court.”



“People prefer to be affirmed in their beliefs than challenged. [They] know what they want to believe and only listen to sources who confirm it.”

—CHARLES BLOW

Barnett, who represented the National Federation of Independent Business in its case against the Affordable Care Act, said the fact that five of the justices affirmed his views of the Commerce, and Necessary and Proper clauses amounted to “saving the Constitution for the country.”

The clauses, which give Congress the power to regulate commerce and “to make all laws which shall be necessary” to carry out its powers, were upheld when the Affordable Care Act’s individual mandate was struck down by the court, according to Barnett.

He said rather than a mandate requiring individuals to purchase health insurance, individuals will have the option to purchase insurance or pay a tax penalty. Analysts say that people who decline to purchase health insurance will see no difference whether it is called a “mandate” or a “tax.”

“Only time will tell who really won the Obamacare case, but for now the constitutional scheme of limited and enumerated powers lives to fight another day,” he said.

SOUTH AFRICAN FREEDOM FIGHTER DISCUSSES HUMAN RIGHTS

“Gay Marriage and the Promise of Equality” Sponsored by the UF Law Center on Children and Families

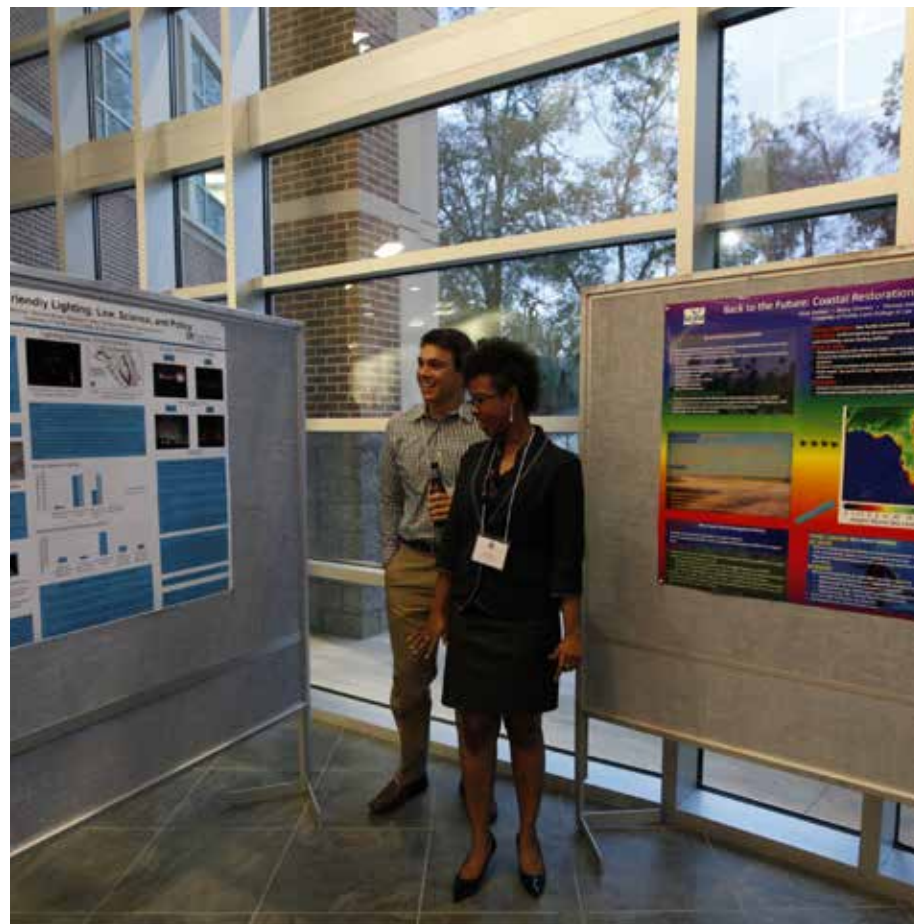
ALBIE SACHS, FORMER MEMBER OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL COURT OF SOUTH AFRICA

Albie Sachs sat on a table at the front of the Chesterfield Smith Ceremonial Classroom, wearing a gold-patterned shirt and a calm expression. His right sleeve hung empty beside his body — a casualty of the lifelong battle he’s fought for human rights.

The 78-year-old former justice of the Constitutional Court of South Africa spoke about gay marriage. It was also the opening day of the U.S. Supreme Court’s hearing of arguments about two cases involving same-sex marriage.

Even before he served on the Constitutional Court, Sachs was known as an advocate against racism, repression and apartheid. He was imprisoned, tortured and banned for his freedom fighting, but he wasn’t silenced. In 1988, a car bomb placed by South African security agents blew up when he opened his door, causing him to lose his right arm and vision in one eye.

Sachs shared stories from his experience on the Constitutional Court and his thoughts about the opinion he wrote in a case that legalized same-sex marriage in South Africa in 2005. Sachs reasoned in that opinion that “the very constitution that protects the rights of same-sex couples to express their love and intimacy and commitment in the same way heterosexual couples do protects the rights of faith communities to follow their faiths in the way that they want to do.”



Students enrolled in the UF Law Conservation Clinic show off academic posters in the Martin H. Levin Advocacy Center this spring during the Public Interest Environmental Conference. Nicholas Barshel, at left, is a 2L law student and Jame McCray is a doctoral student in wildlife ecology. (Photo by Elise Giordano 4JM)



UF Law dives into data-driven discipline

BY MATT WALKER

UF Law plunged into the electronic discovery arena this spring with a major conference and activation of an initiative linking the law and software development.

During Electronic Discovery for the Small and Medium Case, national experts discussed how to competently and cost-effectively handle e-discovery and

shed light on the latest developments in Florida and federal e-discovery rules. The conference featured demonstrations of the latest e-discovery software and tools for each phase of the e-discovery process, for matters ranging from the most humble lawsuit to a mega-case.

Conference-goers gave the event positive reviews, noting the depth of e-discovery knowledge relayed by

speakers. “It was an incredibly thorough way to provide attorneys at all levels of e-discovery experience with the tools to educate themselves and then implement processes to protect their clients when they encounter a case that will require some level of discovery of (electronically stored information),” Tiffany Fox, a Nashville contract attorney, wrote on Lawdable.com.

William Hamilton, UF Law’s new executive director of the International Center for Automated Information Research and the E-Discovery Project, said this conference has distinguished itself

by addressing practical applications of e-discovery in the types of cases lawyers deal with on a daily basis.

“We were very excited to host this innovative conference,” said Hamilton, a partner at Quarles & Brady, LLP. Hamilton is a UF Law adjunct professor and dean of the Electronic Discovery Project Management Department at Bryan University. “As we live more and more of our lives online, e-discovery is quickly becoming an inevitable part of any litigation practice. Even the most routine cases today involve more digital data than some of the largest and most complex cases of just a few years ago.”

The Florida conference had 82 in-person registrants, and 150 live online participants (including organizations, so Internet viewership was higher). The entire conference was streamed live, and online attendees could ask questions of panelists via email. The conference also

was recorded. Users who sign up for the recorded version can download all tools and resources. To register for the online, archived conference, visit www.law.ufl.edu/academics/ediscovery-conference. The conference will be available online for 11.5 CLE credits until April 2014.

The conference was part of the UF Law’s E-Discovery Project, and is underwritten by the International Center for Automated Information Research, a University of Florida foundation established to promote innovation in information technology.

The UF Law E-Discovery Project is a multidisciplinary endeavor to support the civil litigation process through electronic

discovery law courses, research, the development of information retrieval methods and tools, and skills training support to practicing attorneys and litigation professionals.

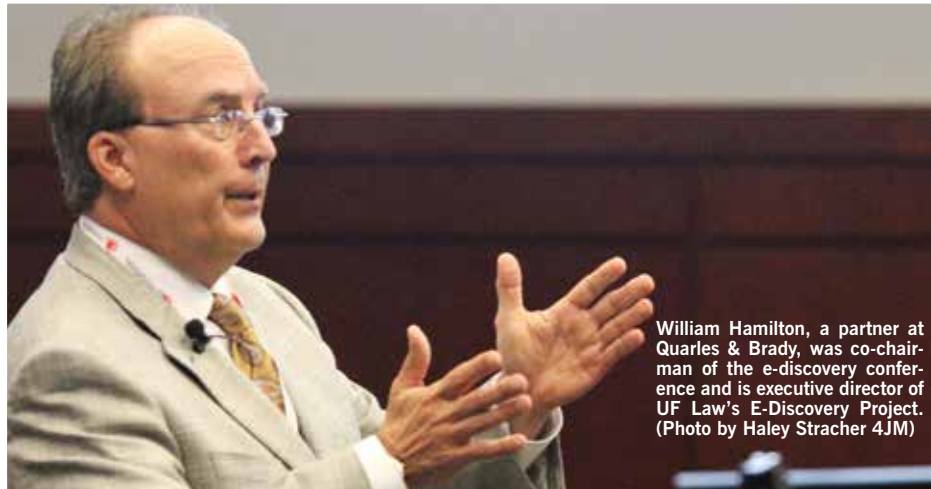
The project is sponsored by the privately funded ICAIR – a law school center founded in 1999. In addition to the e-discovery conference, the E-Discovery Project is collaborating with the UF Department of Computer and Information Science and Engineering in the college of engineering to

develop an innovative e-discovery search application that integrates advanced information retrieval technologies. More information on the UF Law E-Discovery Project is available at www.law.ufl.edu/academics/institutes/icair.

**E-Discovery
is quickly
becoming an
inevitable part
of any litigation
practice.**



The UF Law e-discovery conference co-sponsored by Electronic Discovery Reference Model was held April 4 April 4 at UF Law. (Photo by Haley Stracher 4JM)



William Hamilton, a partner at Quarles & Brady, was co-chairman of the e-discovery conference and is executive director of UF Law's E-Discovery Project. (Photo by Haley Stracher 4JM)

Avoid six big e-Discovery blunders

BY WILLIAM HAMILTON

What are the “Big Six Blunders” in e-discovery and the skills and accessible software needed to banish them into oblivion? This was the topic of the opening panel at the spring e-discovery Conference presented at UF Law. Consultant Tom O'Connor, director of the Gulf Coast Legal Technology Center, of New Orleans; Browning Marean, partner at DLA Piper based in San Diego and Oshkosh, Wis.; and consultant Bruce Olsen, president of Onlaw Trial Technologies kicked off the two-day conference where experts were full of advice about how to avoid mistakes typically made in small- and medium-sized cases.

1. Stop wrecking metadata and altering files when collecting active data. We're not trapped between the extremes of forensic bit stream collection and a custodian mucking around like a wrecking ball trying to find and collect relevant data. The easy answer: send a preconfigured drive to the custodian to connect to the storage location. It collects the data and creates hash values, a defensible log and perfect metadata. The custodian can be walked through the collection via virtual hook-up. A demonstration by Jon Rowe, president of Pinpoint Laboratories, showed how easily that process could be delivered.

2. Don't jump in head first. Process data so you can understand it, reduce it and search it effectively. Processing is like an x-ray of your data, showing various perspectives. Look at

your processed data. Understand the kinds and amounts of files you have and who your custodians are. Screen your data with a few filters to see what metadata reveals. Who dives in into a pool without checking the water depth and temperature? Start by getting rid of or corralling what you don't need. De-NIST, de-duplicate and de-junk your data. Martin Audet, e-discovery consultant at Nuix, demonstrated how a half-gigabyte of data was processed in three minutes. The system then produced document counts, file types, metadata, near duplicates and more in less than four minutes.

3. Don't do blinded searches. Keyword remains king. Keywords' bad rap comes from bad keyword searches, the panelists asserted. The new mantra of the revitalized keyword search is sample, sample, sample. The goal? The magic number is 384! That is the number of documents you need to review from a sample to get to a 95 percent level of confidence — plus or minus 5 percent, they said. E-discovery is about a reasonable confidence in our work, not perfection, they advised. (The University of Florida E-Discovery Project will soon have a free downloadable random sampling tool on its website.)

4. Don't forget that TAR must be targeted. Technology-assisted review is the use of predictive coding to identify key documents. The rich-

er your data sample, the less the cost to find the feed sample. Even a small or medium case with five, 10 or 20 custodians may be right for technology-assisted review — but make sure you apply it to the right case. TAR is a process, the panelists said. Users must understand upfront costs and apply it to the right case. A demonstration of kCura's Relativity made this point clear. **5. Avoid “Beavis and Butt-Head” reviews.** Review means reflection, the panelists explained. Map out your review in advance. Every review should start with a flowchart. Take a pencil to paper or use a handy flow chart app. Like most of e-discovery, a bad start yields bad results. Batch out your data in bundles that make sense: time period, issues, custodians — whatever makes sense for your data. Think about native review — likely it is cheaper for the small and medium case. Hash it. Even native redaction is possible as we learned from the panel's demonstration.

6. Banish Budget Busters. You can't implement proportionality without a budget, and you can't form a budget without a good e-discovery budget spreadsheet that projects e-discovery costs based on your facts, assumptions and variables. The panelists demonstrated how to reduce the cost for a small or medium case by staging types of files, speed of review, number of custodians and volume or data collected. Without a budgeting spreadsheet you sail on an open sea without a compass. The detailed budget spreadsheet is your passport to proportionality and winning arguments.

It's important to understand your assumptions to see how a combination of linear review, keyword searches and analytics impacts your total cost. You may be surprised that the most basic approach is sometimes the most cost-effective. If anyone doubted proportionality was a real issue, judges in attendance in Florida quickly dispelled such concerns. U.S. District Court Magistrate Judge Gary Jones from the Middle District of Florida forcefully delivered the message that proportionality was very much alive.

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Mistakes that can derail your lawsuit in small and medium-sized cases.

PARTNERS



Charmer-in-chief

Top fundraiser focuses on future of UF Law

BY RICHARD GOLDSTEIN

Lauren Wilcox, UF Law's new senior director of development and alumni affairs, slides behind the wheel of a rented minivan. “This is the part of the job I don't like,” she says as she unpacks from her purse a cellphone, water bottle, a Clif bar and a banana. “Getting situated.”

She drives from Gainesville to a fundraiser at an Orlando law firm that night and is soon in her element, chatting with donors at a soiree raising money for a UF Law scholarship. Wilcox moves among the crowd, quick with questions demonstrating interest in others. She volunteers details about her own life and maintains an easy rapport with conversation partners.

Wilcox is settling nicely into her position as administrator and top fundraiser for the UF Law Office of Development and Alumni Affairs after a stint as interim leader. Alumni have noticed.

“Lauren has the ability to make the people that she approaches very comfortable,” said Ladd Fassett (JD 79), chairman of the UF Law Center Association Board of Trustees. “Her enthusiasm and love for the university shines through and that rekindles in those people their affection for the university.”

Wilcox travels all over the country for her job meeting with UF Law alumni, which frequently amount to social calls. That's just fine with the self-described social butterfly. “It's a lifestyle; it's not a job. You work nights; you work weekends,” Wilcox said.

It typically takes one and a half to two years of meetings between the fundraiser and potential donor before a major gift — at least \$100,000 — is bestowed upon the law school,

GREETINGS FELLOW GATORS: LET'S GET TO WORK

Dear Alumni and Friends:

I'm delighted to write to you for the first time as your new senior director of development and alumni affairs. I am proud to have the opportunity to serve the college and its law alumni in this position, and I look forward to getting to know many more of you in the weeks and months ahead. I have tremendously enjoyed the nearly four years I have already worked with law school alumni, and my one regret is that I did not have the good fortune of spending more of my 14 years of UF service at the law school. But I will bring all that I've learned in all of those years to help make the Levin College of Law the top law school that you, the students, the faculty, and the administration want it to be.

Now that the Florida Tomorrow campaign has concluded, I'll be working closely with Dean Bob Jerry to evaluate all aspects of our development and stewardship programs and see where improvements are possible. Your advice and suggestions are always welcome. We're currently going through a staffing transition, and I look forward to soon being able to introduce to you new members of our development team.

Frequently when I visit with law school alumni I'm asked, “How can I help the college?” I'll summarize some of the common ways in the sidebar on the following page, but I know I speak for both the dean and students when I say your support is truly the college's margin of excellence. The students today who will one day join you as Gator lawyers will be stronger and better for it.

I look forward to meeting you, and please call me with any questions about development and alumni support.

Go Gators!

Lauren Wilcox,
Senior Director of
Development and Alumni Affairs



PHOTO BY ELSE GIORANO 4JM

Charmer-in-Chief continued ...

she said. Afterward, Wilcox enjoys showing donors what their gift paid for.

Some of the nation's top land use lawyers came together at the college as UF Law students soaked in the symposium in February. Wilcox sat in on the Richard E. Nelson Symposium with Jane Nelson, the widow of Richard Nelson (JD 55). Mrs. Nelson made the symposium possible.

"I like working with people and connecting their passion with the needs of the law school," Wilcox said. "That's really what it's all about — feeling like I'm contributing to the future of the law school."

Donors pledged nearly \$4 million to UF Law in the fiscal year that ended June 30, 2012. But Wilcox noted that major gifts are rarer among UF Law donors than, say, the colleges of engineering or business. So as she reorganizes the office and adds staff, Wilcox will focus on widening the base of support and recognizing that more of the college's fundraising comes in \$1,000 to \$5,000 donations.

"We need to reach out to more folks, not just going back to the same people," Wilcox said. "We have a very, very strong plan in place. We just need to get everybody in there and start executing it."

Before coming to UF Law in November 2009 Wilcox took a position with WRUF AM/FM in Gainesville as an account executive, a position she held for 10 years. The WRUF position involved business development, cultivation and prospecting, planning, management, and sales —preparing her for her fundraising job.

And before going to work for WRUF, she earned a degree in public relations from the University of Florida College of Journalism.

"She effectively led our fundraising efforts in the final months of the Florida Tomorrow campaign, and she has done an excellent job managing the Office of Development and Alumni Affairs during this transition period," UF Law Dean Robert Jerry said in an email. "Her new appointment is being very well received by our alumni who know her through her prior work on behalf of the college."

Alumni also appreciate the fact that Wilcox is a proud Gator. "Lauren's strength is her enthusiasm," Fassett said. "She's just an extremely bright person who you enjoy being with. She bleeds orange and blue and it shows."

How you can help

■ **Annual Fund** gifts are gifts of any size that are available for immediate expenditure, which enable us to take advantage of new opportunities that benefit students. Examples include student services, extracurricular activities, lecturers and speakers, career development support, student research assistantships, faculty professional development at conferences, "bridge-to-the-profession" programs, and co-curricular student organizations such as trial team and moot court.

■ **Book awards** honor academic achievement while supporting the Annual Fund program. Book awards recognize the outstanding student in each course. These sponsorships provide funds for all purposes supported by the Annual Fund. Book awards in Graduate Tax courses provide funds to support the Graduate Tax Program.

Book Awards are sponsored through individual or combined contributions of \$2,500 a year for five years, totaling \$12,500; or in perpetuity by establishing a \$50,000 endowment. Sponsors select the course they wish to sponsor. With courses that have multiple sections, each section is available for sponsorship. Sponsored awards are presented at least once annually. Book awards can be named for individuals, law firms, or corporations. Some are named in honor or memory of faculty members, colleagues or family members.

■ **Endowments** can be established at a minimum level of \$30,000, creating a permanent fund that generates income for annual expenditure. The University of Florida Foundation manages all endowments. Income of approximately 4 percent annually is available for expenditure, and additional income is returned to principal. Endowments can be for unrestricted purposes that benefit the college's programs or for a designated purpose, such as scholarships, student services, professorships, etc.

■ **Bequests** can be established at any age through a variety of planning devices. They can be used to create endowments for the college and even be designated for unrestricted giving.

General bequest – Probably the most popular type of charitable bequest, the donor simply leaves a specified dollar amount.

Specific bequest – The donors designate specific property they want the college to receive.

Residuary bequest – The donors grant all or a portion of their property after all debts, taxes, expenses, and other bequests have been paid. This ensures other beneficiaries will receive their bequest first.

Percentage bequest – Expressed as a percentage of the donor's estate or residuary estate. If fortune changes the size of your estate, the bequest will change in the same proportion.

Insurance policy bequest – The donors give us all or a percentage of their policy by listing the college as the policy beneficiary.

■ **Property, art work, gifts-in-kind** can be accepted as a contribution to the college.

Many alumni make annual gifts and create bequests to support the college after their passing. If you are considering a gift to the college please contact me (Lauren) at 352-273-0643 or wilcox@law.ufl.edu. I'm happy to discuss the many creative options for giving, including pledging a gift for a period of up to five years.

—Lauren Wilcox

Politicos, law firm get behind environmental scholarships

The crowd gathered on behalf of UF Law students and in honor of the "defender of the Everglades." Friends and colleagues said Thom Rumberger devoted much of his career to fighting on behalf of the Florida environment.

At the behest of a who's who of Florida politicians, the foyer of Rumberger, Kirk & Caldwell in downtown Orlando was packed with 70 people for an evening fundraiser.

Former Gov. Buddy MacKay (JD 61) and his wife Anne mingled in the crowd Feb. 12. MacKay, who was Rumberger's UF Law classmate, was one of several prominent figures lending their names to the goal of raising \$300,000 for environmental law scholarships. Others included former Gov. Charlie Crist, former Attorney General Bill McCollum (JD 68), former comptroller and gubernatorial candidate Alex Sink, and U.S. Sen. Bill Nelson. The law firm and UF Law spearheaded the drive to endow the E. Thom Rumberger Everglades Foundation Fellowship Program.

"This fellowship celebrates three of Thom's favorite passions: The Everglades, the University of Florida Law School and the law itself," Frank Sheppard, managing partner of Rumberger, Kirk & Caldwell, told the crowd.

Jon Mills (JD 72), a UF Law professor and director of the Center for Governmental Responsibility, worked with Rumberger on landmark environmental and constitutional cases.

"We're going to have a permanent legacy of students who represent the kind of principled commitment and integrity that Thom Rumberger represented," Mills said. "So exhibits one, two and three, please step forward."

UF Law students Chelsea Sims (3L), Vivek Babbar (3L) and LL.M. candidate Alexis Segal squeezed to the front of the room. These are the type of students who will benefit from the fellowship, Mills said.



Former Gov. Buddy MacKay (JD 61), center, and his wife Anne speak Feb. 12 to UF Levin College of Law Professor Jon Mills (JD 72), UF Law students Vivek Babbar (3L), LL.M. candidate Alexis Segal and Chelsea Sims (3L) during a fundraiser for a UF Law environmental fellowship. The fundraiser was held at Rumberger, Kirk & Caldwell in downtown Orlando. (Photo by Richard Goldstein)

Sims, from Bevard County, is working on a Conservation Clinic project securing permits to salvage tires damaging endangered corals off the coast of Fort Lauderdale. Babar, from Lake Mary, works with UF Law Conservation Clinic clients drafting legislation for a noticed general permit for oyster reef restoration. He participated in UF Law's three-week course about South Florida ecosystems in the Everglades. Segal is seeking an LL.M. in environmental and land use law. She launched the Biscayne Bay Waterkeeper in January 2011. It's a nonprofit devoted to protecting, conserving and enhancing the water quality of Biscayne Bay and its surrounding watershed.

"What this fellowship will do is create the opportunity for students to work in the public interest areas, Everglades restoration in particular ... in order to build a career," explained UF Law Dean Robert Jerry. "I promise you that we will use your investment in this fellowship most wisely and the future returns on this investment will be wonderful."

Top contributors to the fellowship include Rumberger, Kirk & Caldwell, the Everglades Foundation and Paul Tudor Jones, founder of Tudor Investment Corporation and chairman of the Everglades Foundation.

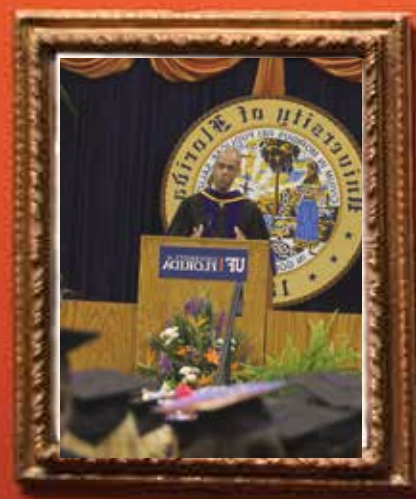
"Much of the Everglades policy of the past 25 years has been decided in the courts," Jones said in an email. "Many of her triumphs came on the broad shoulders of her finest legal advocate, Thom Rumberger, which is why this fellowship in honor of this great man and our dear friend is so appropriate."

Debbie Rumberger called the scholarship an apt send off for her late husband. "This is such a fitting legacy for him and on behalf of the family," she said. "I want to thank you from the bottom of our heart."

To donate to the E. Thom Rumberger Everglades Foundation Fellowship Program go to www.uff.ufl.edu/appeals/Rumberger.

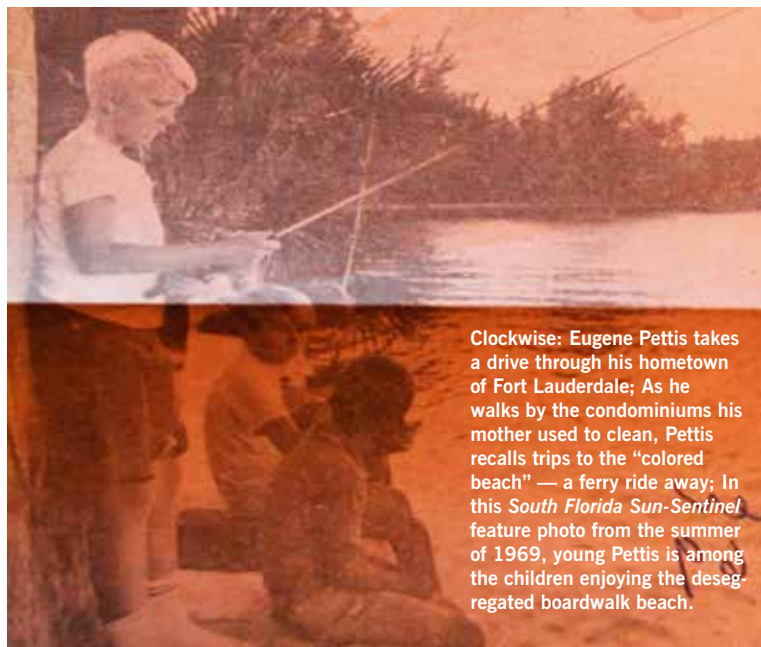
—Richard Goldstein

Eugene K. Pettis (JD 85) rises from modest roots to the profession's peak.
He credits his UF Law education and a resolute upbringing.



STORY BY RICHARD GOLDSTEIN
PHOTOS BY ELISE GIORDANO (4JM)

Presidential family values



Clockwise: Eugene Pettis takes a drive through his hometown of Fort Lauderdale; As he walks by the condominiums his mother used to clean, Pettis recalls trips to the “colored beach” — a ferry ride away; In this *South Florida Sun-Sentinel* feature photo from the summer of 1969, young Pettis is among the children enjoying the desegregated boardwalk beach.



Eugene K. Pettis (JD 85) cruises through downtown Fort Lauderdale in his Porsche Carrera, first listening to NPR then whistling along with a Maroon 5 song. It’s one of those South Florida winter days when the sun glistens off the surf and amps up the city’s primary colors.

Pettis just gave visitors an inside look at his legal practice in the heart of the business district. He is heading for the more modest stamping grounds of his youth. They’re in the same city, if different worlds.

As the 52-year-old president-elect of The Florida Bar observed: “People see you on top and think you’ve always been there.”

The man friends call “Gene” is about to

climb on top. In June, he assumes the presidency of the bar. Expected to surpass 98,000 members by September, it is the nation’s second largest state bar. His plans include broadening participation in the bar — he says an outreach effort has resulted in a record number of applicants to serve on bar committees. He wants to deliver leadership skills to practitioners through a new leadership academy. And as president it is his solemn duty to police lawyers’ behavior, disciplining those who behave unethically.

Discipline and an action agenda are standard fare for new bar presidents. In another way, Pettis is different from all who came before him. Like most big organizations in the South, public or private, The Florida Bar was a segregated institution for much of its history. The white, male lawyers were worried that requiring black lawyers to join the bar would

mean they would be forced to socialize with them. The idea that a black person would be elected president of the organization was so outlandish it didn’t warrant a mention during the debate leading to making the bar mandatory for practitioners in 1950. The social taboo was broken only a few years before 1971, when Pettis started going to newly integrated Fort Lauderdale schools. But until this June, a black person has never served as bar president.

As he hinted, Pettis was not born into a life of privilege. Until the age of 10, he slept on a foldout cot in his parents’ 8-foot-by-9-foot bedroom. He unfolded the cot next to their bed to sleep at night and folded it back up in the morning. The youngest of seven brothers and sisters, there just wasn’t enough room in their little house on the northwest side of Fort Lauderdale for a room of his own, he said. Among his siblings still living

at home, his four sisters slept in a single room and his brother slept on the couch.

As a young child, Gene accompanied their mother Sara Pettis to the condominiums just off the beach. During the season, Sara Pettis took care of the chores for the owner and her guests. Pettis drives his Porsche to the front of the condominiums where his mother used to clean for snowbirds from Illinois. During the early years of his youth, blacks were forbidden from swimming in the surf that echoes off the sun-splashed stucco. They had to take a ferry to Dania Beach — the “colored beach.”

The boardwalk beach opened to everyone in response to pressure from civil rights advocates. Pettis would appear in *South-Florida Sun-Sentinel* feature photos enjoying the water during the summer of 1969. Pettis explained it was still noteworthy to see black people at the desegregated beaches.



Pettis drives his Porsche to the front of the condominiums where his mother used to clean. During the early years of his youth, blacks were forbidden from swimming in the surf that echoes off the sun-splashed stucco.

Right: Pettis showed up for a second time in the *South Florida Sun-Sentinel* during a visit to the boardwalk beach in the summer of 1969.



Clockwise: In this 1985 photo, Pettis, his mother and other family members celebrate his graduation from UF Law, Pettis said; Pettis observes the campus at Lauderdale Manors Elementary for which his law firm is a corporate sponsor; outside the home his parents raised him and his six siblings.



At the beginning of school desegregation, Pettis remembers children spilling out of the bus slugging it out in racially charged fights. When he made it to middle school, the busing of children like him to what were previously whites-only schools was in full force but tempers had cooled.

Pettis' mother ended her job cleaning condos and turned to a career as a teacher's aide at the local school. His father Cyrus, a Korean War veteran, was head waiter at a local cafeteria and later did maintenance in the post office. Sara died last year at 90, still living in the same house where Gene and his siblings grew up.

Sara was PTA president and was instrumental in the construction of Dillard High gymnasium, still one of the largest in the state. She was even more active in looking after the character of her sons and daughters. After a stunt on a middle school bus got him suspended from it, she told Gene

he could walk the 7.8 miles from school to home. Pettis said he took to the streets and bridges with his mother surreptitiously trailing in her car. She picked him up after she figured he had learned his lesson.

Sara Pettis traveled without fail to his basketball games and other school events; she also made sure he did chores, homework and he stood up straight. "I often told her I wish I was born to the family down the street who didn't seem to have the same strict rules," he said.

The Pettis neighborhood wasn't the mean streets of Fort Lauderdale. The working-class houses are small but the yards and facades are tidy. On the other hand, when Pettis goes to the Broward County Jail as part of his public service work, he is greeted from the holding cells. "Gene! Gene Pettis!" shout the men who recognize him from the old neighborhood. Today, Gene and wife Sheila live in an ex-

clusive gated community. Those inmates remind him that his life might have gone a different way without the guidance of his mother or love of family. The fact that he was not the model student "gives me some sensitivity," Pettis said. "You can't give up on anybody."

At the start of his freshman year in high school he got into two fights, and a coach told him that he would be suspended from school if he got into any more trouble. He shaped up and was elected prom king and two-time captain of the varsity basketball team. He was accepted to the University of Florida, and before he was finished there he would be named a member of the UF Hall of Fame. And, of course, he got himself into and through law school.

Jim Haliczzer, Gene's law firm partner, notes that all of the children of Cyrus and Sara Pettis went on to professional careers. Like Gene, several earned advanced degrees.

"I think it comes from his mother," Haliczzer said of Gene's success. "He comes from a very close family that, despite financial hardship, had all the right spiritual stuff in place, the intangible things, the things money wouldn't buy."

Even the Reagan administration noticed. Nancy Reagan declared the Pettises a Great American Family in 1985 and invited them to the White House at the outset of Gene's legal career. His mother and father made it possible for him to go to college and Gene strived to make sure that they got a return on their investment.

The university "took somebody who society would have looked at at one point and said there is no chance he will be a success and you turn him into somebody who's going to be president of The Florida Bar," Gene said. "There's something that happened in between those two points and the



"I think it comes from his mother. He comes from a very close family that, despite financial hardship, had all the right spiritual stuff in place, the intangible things, the things money wouldn't buy."

—LAW PARTNER JIM HALICZZER

A portrait of Sara Pettis as a young woman.



Left to right: On May 10, the UF Law graduating class of 2013 listened as Pettis offered his advice (Photo by Maggie Powers 4JM); Pettis interacts with associates Renee Brandt and Kenneth Miller (JD 90) in the conference room of Haliczzer Pettis & Schwamm.



biggest institutional thing we can look at is my seven years at the University of Florida. “You get this world-class experience at UF and then you get into the doors of the law school and you enhance even more skills,” Gene said.

Gene has paid the university back and then some. Both his daughters go to the University of Florida where Shardè is an undergraduate and Shenele is a 1L at UF Law. Gene has donated his time as a member of the Law Center Association Board of Trustees. And he has donated or pledged nearly \$1.2 million to the university. Some of his time volunteering for UF Law has included helping the law school improve its minority outreach. Encouraging minorities to go to law school and involving minority lawyers in bar activities are part of his mission to strengthen the legal establishment.

Haliczer Pettis & Schwamm occupies the seventh floor of the Regions Bank building in a cluster of other office towers looming over the Fort Lauderdale business district. The firm has 16 lawyers and another 35 staff, including a second office in Orlando.

First thing on Friday morning, lawyers, legal secretaries and expert consultants gather in the conference room. They are

making sure that every hearing, deposition, lunch and conference call is covered and accounted for during the coming weeks. They are also discussing the status of cases, the likelihood for success and strategies for how to achieve it. They are diving into the guts of civil trial litigation: the aftermath of personal tragedies involving public institutions, corporations and individuals played out with lawyers in the courts.

Gene has also served as lead counsel on cases of national notoriety. He defended the Broward County School District when it was sued over the brain damage suffered by 15-year-old Josie Lou Ratley. She had teased a boy about the suicide of his brother by text message. The boy sought her out and stomped on her head just outside the property but still within sight of the Fort Lauderdale middle school.

Gene’s personal office is covered with art recalling the civil rights era, with pictures of his family, recognitions of his professional and philanthropic accomplishments as well as news stories about his life and career. On the wall facing his desk is a painting by Anthony Armstrong of a black boy wearing a suit standing in a doorway under the sign “To the Colored Waiting Room.”

“This painting depicts the life story of a black boy looking out in the world wondering why his life is limited to the pain of poverty, racism, drugs and crime,” Gene said.

As an undergraduate at UF, Gene started out in pre-dentistry — the same field as his brother Cyrus. He soon discovered that his interests lay elsewhere. He earned a bachelor’s degree in political science: he was chairman of Accent Speaker’s Bureau, a member of Florida Blue Key, president of the Black Student Union and treasurer of the student body. During law school he declined to run for student body president to stay on track in his courses and to concentrate on moot court, which, he said, honed his advocacy skills. It turns out that what his mother had always told him was true — his proclivity for debate led him to become a lawyer. In the courtroom, he often serves as the voice and face of his law firm.

During the summer of 1983, Gene tapped into the Gator Nation. He worked for fellow Fort Lauderdale lawyer and African-American pioneer, George Allen (JD 62). Gene figures he has benefited from the struggle of people like Allen — the first black person to graduate from UF Law or any University of Florida degree-granting college.

“Build your career on service to others and I will assure you from experience that it will enhance the quality of your own life.”

—GENE PETTIS

After graduation, Gene moved back to Fort Lauderdale to practice. He soon became the first black person to sit on the South Florida Water Management District, appointed in 1991 by Gov. Lawton Chiles (JD 55). In 1996, Haliczzer and Pettis decided to build their own firm, and were later joined by partner Richard Schwamm. Gene was elected to The Florida Bar Board of Governors in 2005 and won election without opposition as president-elect in 2011.

His public schedule is filled with appearances before bar associations, business groups, legal conferences for high-risk youth — some held at UF Law. During commencement season he was in demand as a keynote speaker, including at UF Law’s commencement.

Florida Bar President Gwynne Young (JD 74) will hand the presidency over to Eugene Pettis (JD 85) during the bar’s June 28th convention general assembly at the Boca Raton Resort & Club. Pettis will be the fifth Gator Lawyer in a row to hold the bar presidency. UF Law graduates have comprised a majority of bar presidents since 1950, the year bar membership was made mandatory for legal practitioners in the state.



“Build your career on service to others and I will assure you from experience — I assure you — that it will enhance the quality of your own life,” he told the 2013 graduating class.

With his outgoing personality and energy for public service it’s easy to imagine Gene pursuing public office. Gene responds, not unpersuasively, that he can do more to serve the public as leader of the bar than he could as a Washington politician.

But what happens when his term as bar leader is done? As other UF Law graduates have, he could make his way in the American Bar Association. If he were to win the ABA presidency, he would add to the five UF Law alumni presidents since 1972, the

most of any law school. Stephen N. Zack (JD 71) was the last UF Law graduate to hold that position in 2010-2011.

Gene said he has no intention of running for the presidency of the American Bar Association, although wife Sheila is not so sure. The Detroit native, who met her future husband in an elevator in the Broward County courthouse while working for the sheriff’s office, said Gene has been talking to a friend recently about future public service, so she’s sure there will be another chapter to this story..

“I always ask him, ‘What are you going to do after this?’ and he says, ‘Well, I’ll find something. There’s something out there,’” she said.

Turnaround priest

Alum fixes organizations
on path from lawyer to
seminary president

BY JENNA BOX (3JM)

He attended UF Law on a whim and ditched his job as a commercial litigator for seminary. The Rev. Kurt Dunkle (JD 87), a lawyer-turned-priest, described his career path as nothing short of “unexpected.”

Dunkle takes over July 1 as dean and president of the General Theological Seminary, the Episcopal Church’s flagship seminary in New York City.

When he returns to his alma mater as its leader, the challenges will be monumental. In 2009, the institution faced about \$42 million in debt, an almost non-existent endowment and an eroding student population, he wrote in an email.

After selling valuable excess real estate in Manhattan and turning a guest house into a conference center, the seminary brought itself out of the hole but “not out of the proverbial woods,” Dunkle said.

“The rethinking of our particular place in the life of The Episcopal Church and the growth we need as a church and a seminary will be my assignment,” he said. “UF skills and experiences are still at work.”

Dunkle said UF Law’s greatest gift was critical and creative thinking skills. He’s used these not only as a commercial litigator, but to help him face myriad challenges.

“Those UF skills have served me well,” Dunkle said. The hard part “was getting used to uncertainty.”

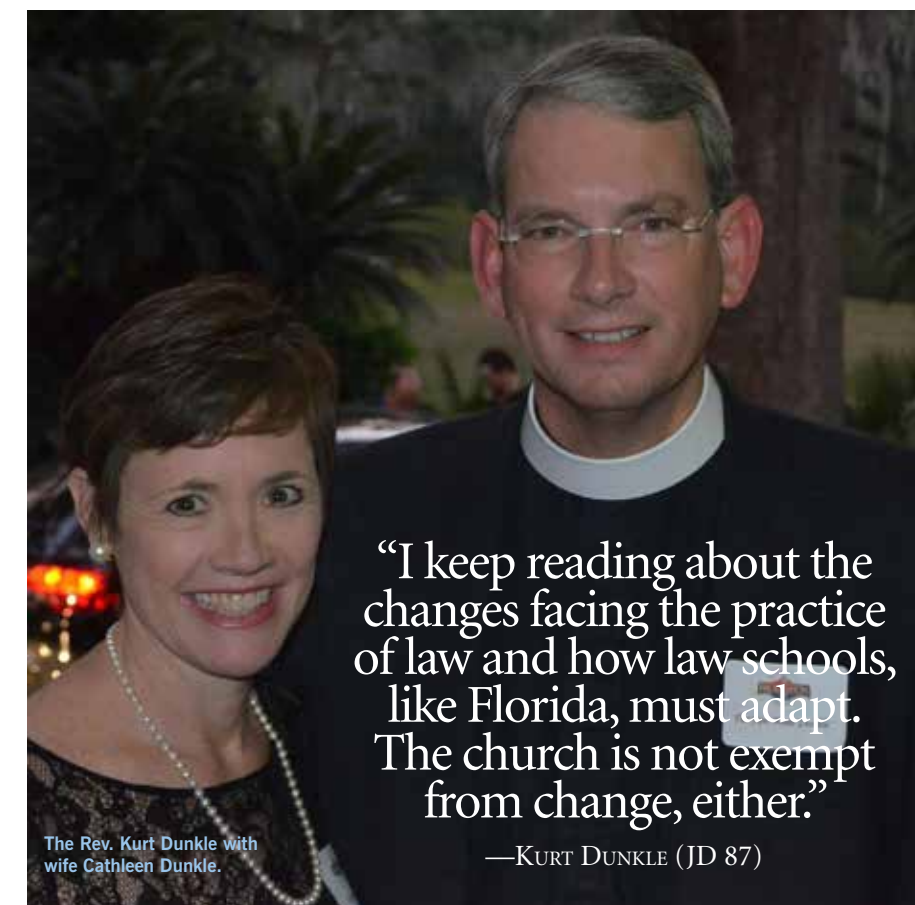
Those experiences, and Dunkle’s path after UF Law, set the stage for his new role.

After graduating from UF Law, he spent several years working in commercial litigation. Beginning at Holland & Knight in Lakeland, he moved on to spend 13 years at Rogers Towers in Jacksonville, where he became a partner and co-head of the litigation department.

“I always felt called by God to be a lawyer. Not by some booming voice in the sky, but by that still small voice of peace and calm that comes from being just where you are intended,” he said.

His outlook began to change. He felt called to become an Episcopal priest. The idea was unwelcome, he said, and he tried to fight it.

But steadied by assurance from fellow lawyer friends and his wife, he retired



The Rev. Kurt Dunkle with wife Cathleen Dunkle.

“I keep reading about the changes facing the practice of law and how law schools, like Florida, must adapt. The church is not exempt from change, either.”

—KURT DUNKLE (JD 87)

from practicing law in 2001, uprooted his family and moved to New York City to attend seminary at the General Theological Seminary.

After his ordination, he said he continued to use the skills he learned in law school to resolve issues in the midst of a changing world and church.

“I keep reading about the changes facing the practice of law and how law schools, like Florida, must adapt,” he said. “The church is not exempt from change, either.”

In 2004, a partnered gay man was elected Bishop of New Hampshire. That issue was enough to tear the almost 500-year-old fabric of The Episcopal Church, and Dunkle’s church, Grace Episcopal in Orange Park, was not an exception.

On the day after Easter in 2006, Grace Episcopal — sitting on seven acres with 21 buildings — lost almost all of its 1,200 members. They deserted en masse over the same issues that separated the greater church in 2004. When Dunkle was named priest immediately after, he said the church had \$62

in the bank, about \$500,000 in debt and 35 people left in its pews.

“I saw that not as a tragedy, but as a challenge,” Dunkle said. “I was called to build something — a new Episcopal Church congregation.”

Dunkle attributed much of his success in re-establishing the congregation to his UF Law training. Using critical and creative methods he built the church into about a 500-strong congregation with money in the bank and a debt less than \$200,000, he reported.

“Kurt is a terrific example of how preparation for the practice of law at UF Law, and in his case some years of experience in the practice, develops leadership skills that make a talented person like Kurt highly sought after and valued for important leadership positions — in this case, serving as the dean and president of a major seminary,” Dean Robert Jerry wrote in an email. “Shouldering the burdens of others and providing support and service to them is the essence of lawyering, so the overlap with service in a ministry is substantial.”



Families and menageries

Jeanne Tate (JD 81) and grandson Kevin Healey play with two of the Tate family snakes.

Devotion to adoption leads to top pro bono service award for Jeanne Trudeau Tate

BY LINDSEY TERCILLA (4JM)
AND ELISE GIORDANO (4JM)

Jeanne Trudeau Tate (JD 81) smiles and laughs as tarantulas crawl along her arm, snakes rest on her neck and birds perch on her fingers. They prance, slither and sometimes kiss all over her.

Renowned for placing children with permanent families, Tate was instrumental in forming Tampa's Camp Kids Hope, weekend get-togethers where foster children and potential host families can bond. Meanwhile, in their Tampa home, Tate and her husband foster their own charges: wild animals that have been injured or left for dead.

For Tate, adoption is a 24-hour job. Her assistance to others has won Tate the 2013 Tobias Simon Award, Florida Supreme Court's highest recognition for pro bono service. Adoption law seemed like a natural fit for Tate, who grew up in a family that stressed giving back. And she has exclusively devoted the last 14 years of her life to an adoption agency and an adoption law firm with 29 employees in Orlando, Naples and Tampa.

PHOTOS BY ELISE GIORDANO (4JM)



“Whether it was going to be a full-time practice or part-time practice, I knew it was going to be a rewarding practice.”

—JEANNE TATE (JD 81)



During the first 18 years of her career, Tate worked in the “big-firm” environment specializing in securities, construction law and admiralty litigation, doing adoption on the side. She was one of the first women to make partner at Shackelford, Farrior, Stallings & Evans in the firm’s 90-year history, and the first woman to make partner at Hill Ward Henderson.

“When I first started, I wasn’t even allowed to go to lunch with the partners at Shackelford since they ate at the University Club which banned women,” she said.

In 1999, Tate took a chance to start her own adoption practice with one secretary and one paralegal. She also started an adoption agency called Heart of Adoptions, Inc. She convinced community-based care providers to aid her in placing children and tapped into her resources and contacts to find them permanent homes.

“Whether it was going to be a full-time practice or part-time practice, I knew it was going to be a rewarding practice,” she said.

She and husband Mark T. Tate (JD 83, LLMT 84) share a love for all things scaly, slimy, furry or feathered. When they first met as UF undergraduates, Mark Tate had an affinity for snakes and already owned one as a pet. Now he has his breeder’s license, and his snake collection includes a 5-year-old Burmese python named Tanya.

Their menagerie of more than 50 animals includes eels, tortoises, chickens, spiders, scorpions, skinks, an iguana, an umbrella cockatoo, a raccoon, a pappillion and a cat. And yet the assorted arachnids, birds and reptiles are discreetly sequestered, hardly noticeable without a tour of the home’s wild side.

In addition to caring for animals and running an adoption law practice, Tate is an adjunct professor at UF Law, where she teaches adoption law and procedure.

The Gator legacy runs deep in Tate’s family. She is a double Gator, her husband is a triple Gator, her daughter is a double Gator and her son recently graduated from UF with a degree in mechanical engineering. Tate took tax classes for most of her electives during law school. It was through these that she gained a mentor and lifelong friend in UF Law Professor Dennis Calfee (LLMT 75).

“He not only was a mentor back then, but he continues to be a friend to me and a mentor to my daughter who recently graduated,” Tate said.

“I had her husband Mark as a student. He was my research assistant and that’s how I got to know Jeanne,” Calfee said.

Calfee attended Tate’s wedding and that of her daughter Erica (JD 10). He had a déjà vu moment at Erica’s wedding, when he realized he was sitting in the same seat he sat in during Jeanne’s.

“Now I have the opportunity to have her as a colleague. We’ve come full circle in life,” Calfee said. “Jeanne was a superb law student. She’s a superb wife, mother and lawyer. She’s an example for us all.”

Numbers guy, human touch

In tax practice, Comiter finds his highest and best use

BY MATT WALKER AND RICHARD GOLDSTEIN



Sitting on his couch before work in 1989 at his Pembroke Pines house, Richie Comiter (JD 80, LLMT 81) found himself at a crossroad. Comiter had recently resigned as a partner from a prestigious Miami law firm, trading a well-paid job in the tax department for the uncertainty of a startup tax boutique practice in West Palm Beach.



“I felt that in a large law firm a tax lawyer’s role is ancillary to the other partners’ practices,” Comiter said. “In your own tax firm, you have the opportunity to create your own gold, build your own practice and create your own goals and aspirations. The key to successfully building a tax practice is to put out the best work product you can, communicate with your clients and do the right thing.”

But first Comiter had to find the clients – a difficult task in the early days of his business.

“I was getting ready to go to work,” recalled Marilyn Comiter, Richie’s wife, “and he was still sitting on the couch, just sitting there, and I said, ‘What are you doing? Just get up, get in your car, and drive to work in West Palm Beach. Rome was not built in a day.’”

That was years before Comiter’s youngest son Josh – a UF sophomore in business – was born, but the image of his dad sitting on a couch doing nothing throws him for a loop. All he knows was the peripatetic dad he grew up with.

“I’ve never seen him sit on the couch in the last 10 years,” Josh Comiter observed. “I’m not joking.”

The Comiter family chatted in April during the “Orange & Blue-B-Que” on the UF Law campus. Members of the Law Center Association Board of Trustees and their families were enjoying lunch before walking to Florida Field for the annual spring Orange & Blue football game.

Comiter pointed out his interests outside of his law practice at Comiter, Singer, Baseman & Braun, LLP in Palm Beach Gardens. He plays in a competitive Jewish Community Center softball league on Sunday mornings against men half his age. He has also been an active member of the UF Board of Trustees since 2007 and is chairman of its Planned Giving Task Force — Sons Andrew Comiter (JD 08, LLMT 09) and Matthew (LLMT 12) both earned degrees from UF Law, and Andrew practices with his father.

But the reason Josh Comiter says he can’t remember his father sitting on the couch is that upon walking in the door of their Palm Beach Gardens home each weekday, his dad would eat dinner and then disappear into his home office to follow up on work from his law practice.

Comiter was always good with numbers. That is why he says he always wanted to be a tax lawyer. It is also how he passed the certified public accountant exam the year after getting his UF undergraduate degree in accounting. But Comiter has another character trait that may be more important to his success than numeracy or a



Richie Comiter (JD 80, LLMT 81), at right, cheers with UF Law’s Graduate Tax Program Director Mike Friel, at left, and Dean Robert Jerry during an April 27 dinner at the Hilton UF Conference Center. (Photo by Haley Stracher 4JM)

great work ethic. It’s a knack for defusing emotional situations, solving problems and finding solutions where none seem possible.

“I’m a deal-maker, not a deal-breaker,” Comiter said.

Comiter specializes in individual income tax and estate planning for high net-

worth individuals and structuring business and family succession planning transactions for pass-through entities. In this work he has found truth in a much-used literary device: Drama is not far away when people must decide how to preserve or dispose of great fortunes. Comiter remembers times when he helped clients through life crisis

situations and played peacemaker to resolve family and business disputes.

“He has an innate ability of knowing how to deal with people and how to put them at ease when they’re going through whatever type of crisis it might be,” Marilyn Comiter said.

All the calming reassurance and hard

work has won Comiter positions and accolades. He has served as the chair of the Tax Section of The Florida Bar and was the recipient of its prestigious Gerald T. Hart Outstanding Tax Attorney of the Year Award in 2010. He is a fellow of the American College of Trust and Estate Counsel and was recognized by *The Wall Street Journal*

“He has an innate ability of knowing how to deal with people and how to put them at ease when they’re going through whatever type of crisis.”

— MARILYN COMITER

and *South Florida Legal Guide* as a “Top 100 Florida Super Lawyer.” As a member of The Florida Bar’s Drafting Committee, he helped draft Florida’s Limited Liability Company Act, Revised Uniform Partnership Act and Florida Revised Uniform Limited Partnership Act.

But during the award ceremony for the Tax Attorney of the Year Award in 2010, Marilyn Comiter wanted to tell a story different from the one featuring her husband’s resume. Everyone knows about Richie Comiter, the successful tax lawyer and all he has done for the profession, so Marilyn told the audience about what her husband of 35 years does not do.

“The word domestic is not in his vocabulary. Richie uses no appliances at home. He’s never washed clothes, (used the) dishwasher, never made coffee or anything,” she said. “I promise you that he has never seen the inside of a Lowe’s or Home Depot.”

Their family won’t be seen strolling through a shopping mall and Comiter won’t be caught mowing the lawn, Marilyn said. But that’s how he can accomplish so much as an attorney – he is focused on his firm, clients and spending quality time with his family. And besides, he knows where his skills are most valuable. It’s what Comiter calls his HBU. His highest and best use is not working around the house.

“Richie has always said to me, ‘Just hire someone. I’m more productive in my office than I would be trying to do it myself.’”

CLASS NOTES

Send your class notes to classnotes@law.ufl.edu or to: *UF LAW* magazine, Levin College of Law, University of Florida, P.O. Box 117633, Gainesville, FL 32611. The class notes deadline for the fall issue of *UF LAW* magazine is Sept. 15. Please limit submissions to 75 words or less by focusing on new endeavors and recognition.

1965

Benjamin H. Hill, III, was recently named one of the “2013 Tampa Lawyers of the Year.” This award was given by *Best Lawyers in America*. Hill was also recently honored in *The International Who's Who of Commercial Litigators 2012*.

Thomas G. Schultz, a senior partner at Miami-based Tew Cardenas LLP, was selected by the Federal Bar Association to serve as a guest speaker at a recent panel discussion regarding the history and function of Florida's Federal Judicial Nominating Commission. The JNC is charged with identifying highly qualified individuals to recommend finalists for nomination as U.S. district judges in each of Florida's three federal judicial districts. Schultz served on the statewide JNC for 12 years, including eight years as chairman.

Sidney A. Stubbs, of Jones, Foster, Johnston & Stubbs, P.A., was selected by his peers for the *Best Lawyers* 2013 distinction of “Bet the Company Litigation” and “Lawyer of the Year.” Stubbs was listed in the 2013 edition of the *South Florida Legal Guide's* “Top Lawyers.” The edition also named Jones, Foster, Johnston & Stubbs, P.A. as a “Top Law Firm.”

1966

Richard M. “Robie” Robinson, a founding shareholder of GrayRobinson, P.A., recently marked 30 years of legal board certification with The Florida Bar in tax law. Robinson represents

clients engaged in the acquisition or sale of businesses, including transactions involving mergers, liquidations and asset transfers.

1968

Stephen J. Bozarth of Dean Mead has been selected for inclusion in *Best Lawyers' 2013* list in the areas of real estate litigation and real estate law.

Bud Kirk, founding partner of Rumberger, Kirk & Caldwell earned legal board certification in civil trial in 1983 and has remained certified for 30 years. Practicing out of the firm's Orlando office, Kirk focuses his practice on commercial litigation, product liability and professional liability.

1969

Charles H. Egerton, of Dean Mead, has been selected for inclusion in *Best Lawyers' 2013* list in the area of tax law. Egerton was also appointed to the American Tax Policy Institute Board of Trustees.

Robert W. Mead Jr., of Dean Mead, has been selected for inclusion in *Best Lawyers' 2013* list in the areas of corporate law and employee benefits (ERISA) law.

Thomas J. Sherrard, a founding member of Sherrard & Roe, PLC, took office as president of the Nashville Bar Association at the organization's annual meeting.

Peter W. Zinober, a shareholder in the Tampa office of the international law firm Greenberg Traurig has been named one of the “2013

Lawyers of the Year” by *Best Lawyers* in the area of labor and employment litigation.

1970

J. Richard “Dick” Caldwell Jr., founding partner of Rumberger, Kirk & Caldwell, earned legal board certification in civil trial in 1983 and has remained certified for 30 years. Caldwell established the firm's office in Tampa where he represents clients in product liability, commercial litigation and professional liability.

John C. “Skip” Randolph, of Jones, Foster, Johnston & Stubbs, P.A., has been included in the 2013 edition of the *South Florida Legal Guide's* “Top Lawyers” list. The edition also named Jones, Foster, Johnston & Stubbs, P.A. as a “Top Law Firm.”

H. Adams Weaver, of Jones, Foster, Johnston & Stubbs, P.A., has been included in the 2013 edition of the *South Florida Legal Guide's* “Top Lawyers” list. The edition also named Jones, Foster, Johnston & Stubbs, P.A. as a “Top Law Firm.”

1971

Larry B. Alexander, of Jones, Foster, Johnston & Stubbs, P.A., has been included in *South Florida Legal Guide's* 2013 edition of “Top Lawyers” list. The 2013 edition also named Jones, Foster, Johnston & Stubbs, P.A. as a “Top Law Firm.”

Darryl M. Bloodworth, of Dean Mead, has been selected for inclusion in *Best Lawyers' 2013* list in the areas of bet-the-company litigation and commercial litigation.

1973

S. Daniel Ponce has joined the Florida business law firm Berger Singerman as a partner and member of the firm's dispute resolution and business, finance and tax teams.

Raleigh “Lee” Greene has again been selected

by Woodward/White, Inc. as one of “The Best Lawyers in America” in the fields of family law and family mediation for 2013. Greene also received the “John C. Lenderman Award for Excellence in Family Law” from the Canakaris Inn of Court for 2012.

Lynn J. Hinson, of Dean Mead, has been selected for inclusion in *Best Lawyers' 2013* list in the areas of bankruptcy and creditor/debtor rights/insolvency and reorganization law; bet-the-company litigation; and commercial litigation.

1974

Leslie J. Lott, founding partner of Lott & Fischer, was named in “Top Lawyers” in the 2013 edition of the *South Florida Legal Guide*, and was recognized in *Florida Trend's* 2012 “Florida Legal Elite.” *U.S. News Best Lawyers* has named the firm of Lott & Fischer a “Best Law Firm” in Miami in the 2012-2013 edition of *Best Law Firms* in the categories of information technology law; litigation – intellectual property; litigation – patent, arbitration, copyright law; mediation; patent law; and trademark law. The firm is ranked in the first tier of arbitration, copyright, trademark and information technology in Miami.

1975

Wayne E. Flowers, shareholder at Lewis, Longman & Walker, P.A., was recently named 2013 “Lawyer of the Year” by *U.S. News Media Group* and *Best Lawyers*. He was recognized for his work in environmental law and environmental litigation.

1976

Mark Lewis has received the “Education Leadership Award” from the Florida Prosecuting Attorneys Association. He retired from the State Attorney's Office in Tampa after almost 30 years of service.

Jeffrey Pheterson, a managing partner at West Palm Beach-based Ward, Damon, Posner, Pheterson & Bleau, PL, has been appointed to the Bethesda Health, Inc. Board of Trustees. Bethesda Health is the parent corporation of Bethesda Memorial Hospital, Inc., a 401-bed, community-based, nonprofit hospital in Boynton Beach, and of Bethesda West Hospital, the soon to be completed facility that will serve Palm Beach County's western suburban communities. Pheterson is a trustee and former chairman of the Bethesda Memorial Hospital Board of Trustees; a founding member of the

Palm Beach Wine Auction committee benefiting the children's programs of the Raymond F. Kravis Center for the Performing Arts; a member of the board of directors for the Hispano-Latino Cultural Alliance, Inc.; and a recipient of the Elder Advocacy Pro Bono award from the Legal Aid Society of Palm Beach County. He specializes in the areas of labor and employment law, business and corporate law, complex commercial litigation, healthcare law, administrative law and probate litigation.

1977

Lauren Y. Detzel, of Dean Mead, has been selected for inclusion on *The Best Lawyers in America (2013)* list in the areas of trusts and estates litigation, tax law, and trusts and estates. Detzel has also been named the “2013 Orlando Litigation—Trusts and Estates Lawyer of the Year” by *Best Lawyers*.

Dennis J. Wall, of Winter Springs and Orlando,



Lott 74



Pheterson 76



Wall 77

co-presented a CLE-accredited Webinar, a “Review of Many Recent Insurance Cases, And of One Modest Proposal” to a national audience for West LegalEdCenter. Wall also presented a live seminar on “Forensic Examination of Insurance Policies: Part 1” for CLE including ethics credits at the Orange County Bar Association in Orlando.

1978

Dennis Campbell, the founding member of Campbell Law Firm PLLC in Coral Gables, has been named to the 2013 *Best Lawyers in America* list in five separate areas of litigation, including banking and finance, bankruptcy, construction, commercial and real estate.

What UF Law brings together

It wasn't until going to work at the same law firm in Orlando that they started dating. Tracy Duda Chapman (JD 90) and Marc Chapman (JD 89) had met years before on the moot court team at UF Law.

“They didn't have policy against it,” Tracy said of their relationship at the firm. “But we both were concerned over whether or not that was a smart thing to do.”

It turned out to be pretty smart. The Chapmans have two daughters, aged 12 and 15, and have been married for 19 years.

In February, Marc was elected president of Dean Mead, a business law firm based in Orlando with offices in Ft. Pierce, Viera and Gainesville. He practices commercial litigation, including banking, construction, real estate, commercial landlord/tenant and probate litigation, as well as creditors' rights and non-compete/trade secret enforcement.

Tracy is the senior vice president and general counsel of A. Duda & Sons, Inc., a diversified land company with operating divisions and subsidiary companies in agriculture, real estate development and related businesses. She is also the CEO of The Viera Company, a subsidiary of DUDA. Viera Company manages the commercial and residential development of DUDA's non-agricultural property in Florida and is the master developer of the master-planned town of Viera in Brevard County.

Tracy and Marc have been close since those days in Orlando, but there is one thing that still separates them. Marc is a Champions Club Gators season ticket holder. Meanwhile, Tracy often spends football weekends at the University of Alabama, her undergraduate alma mater.

“We don't see each other much on football weekends,” Marc said. “And when the Gators play Alabama, we sit on opposite sides of the stadium.”

—Francie Weinberg (3JM)



Marc Chapman (JD 89) and Tracy Duda Chapman (JD 90)



Hill 65



Schultz 65



Stubbs 65



Egerton 69



Sherrard 69



Ponce 73



Greene 73



Malefatto 79

Eric Hendon has been appointed to the Circuit Court of the 11th Judicial Circuit by Gov. Rick Scott.

Scott N. Richardson, of Miami, has been appointed as a new member of the Florida Board of Bar Examiners.

1979

Hilarion “Lari” Martinez was promoted to senior international officer and associate provost at Florida International University in Miami, building on 26 years serving abroad as a U.S. foreign service officer, including consul general in Florence, Athens, Sarajevo and Bilbao.

Steven C. Lee (JD 78, LLMT 79), of Dean Mead, has been selected for inclusion in *The Best Lawyers in America (2013)* list in the area of tax law.

Alfred J. Malefatto has been elected a Shareholder of Lewis, Longman & Walker, P.A. Prior to joining Lewis, Longman & Walker in 2012, Malefatto practiced law at Greenburg Traurig for more than 20 years. He also previously served as the assistant general counsel at the Florida Department of Environmental Regulation—now the Florida Department of Environmental Protection. Malefatto has been practicing environmental, land-use and administrative law in Florida since 1980. He has represented Fortune 500 companies, developers, home builders, small businesses and local governments.

Glenn T. Shelby has been appointed by Gov. Rick Scott to the 10th Judicial Circuit Court.

1980

Philippe Jeck was selected to represent the interests of Jupiter Island in the Florida Historical Society’s celebration of the 500th anniversary of the discovery of Florida by Juan Ponce De León.

1981

R. Mason Blake, of Dean Mead, has been selected for inclusion in *The Best Lawyers in America (2013)* list in the area of real estate law.



Ryan 81



Delahunty 82

Richard B. Comiter (JD 80, LLMT 81), the senior partner of Comiter, Singer, Baseman & Braun, LLP, spoke about “Entity Selection During the Life Cycle of a Business” for The American Association of Attorney-Certified Public Accountants on Nov. 8, and “Choice of Entity” for The Florida Institute of Certified Public Accountants on Dec. 6. He also spoke on “Estate and Business Planning: A Good Asset Gone Bad” in a presentation for the Palm Beach County Estate Planning Council. Comiter, Singer, Baseman & Braun, LLP, has received a Tier 1 ranking in the 2013 best law firms edition of *U.S. News*.

Lauren Garner, a partner at Jaburg & Wilk, P.C., has been elected as a fellow to The American College of Trust and Estate Counsel, a nonprofit association of lawyers. Its members are elected to the college by demonstrating the highest level of integrity, commitment, competence and experience as trust and estate counselors.

Kimberly L. Johnson, of Quarles & Brady LLP, was named in *The Best Lawyers in America (2013)* list.

Thomas Julin, a partner of the Miami-based firm of Hunton & Williams LLP, was nominated by his peers as a “Top Lawyer” in the 2013 *South Florida Legal Guide*. Julin has been counsel in more than 220 reported decisions but is best known as an advocate for the free speech rights of both large and small clients.

Tim Ryan, of Dania Beach, was elected in November to the Broward County Commission, representing District 7. Ryan is in private practice with brothers Chris Ryan (JD 87) and Archie Ryan III at the firm of Ryan & Ryan LLC, which was founded by his father, A.J. Ryan Jr. (JD 55). Tim Ryan served in the Florida House of Representatives from 1998-2006.

Jeanne Tate, managing partner of Jeanne T. Tate, P.A., was awarded the 2013 “Tobias Simon Pro Bono Service Award” presented annually by the chief justice. The award is presented to an attorney to recognize extraordinary contributions in assuring the availability of legal services to the poor. The award represents the Supreme Court’s highest recognition of a private lawyer for pro bono



Hawkins 83

service. Tate is a board certified adoption attorney and adjunct professor at UF Law, where she teaches adoption law and procedure.

1982

Terence (Terry) J. Delahunty Jr. was named Ireland’s first honorary consul for Orlando. Delahunty is a dual Irish and U.S. citizen who has been prominent in civic life in Orlando for many years.

Richard A. Jacobson, a shareholder with Fowlser White Boggs in Tampa, has been re-elected to the board of directors of TerraLex for a one-year term. TerraLex has 160-member law firms in 100 countries and 45 U.S. states, one of the largest international legal networks. Jacobson’s legal practice includes aiding foreign investment in the U.S., representation of U.S. companies doing business overseas and assisting foreign clients with pre residency tax planning.

Charles W. McBurney Jr., of Jacksonville, was elected chairman of the Justice Appropriations Subcommittee for the Florida House of Representatives. McBurney, who was first elected in a special election in September 2007, also serves on the Legislative Budget Commission. He is a member of the Florida House Appropriations Committee, Justice Committee and Education Committee.

Michael P. Minton (JD 81, LLMT 82) of Dean Mead has been selected for inclusion in *The Best Lawyers In America (2013)* in the area of tax law.

Gary Lee Printy Sr. and his son Gary L. Printy Jr. (JD 07) have formed Printy & Printy, P.A. with offices in Tallahassee and Tampa. Printy Jr. has opened the Tampa office and will focus his practice on employment law, personal injury, insurance disputes and bankruptcy. Printy Sr. will continue to practice in Tallahassee focusing his practice on employment law, personal injury, administrative law and criminal law.

1983

Alan Fine, of Coral Gables, has been appointed by Gov. Rick Scott to the 11th Judicial Circuit. Fine currently practices as Alan S. Fine, P.A.

Scott G. Hawkins, of Jones, Foster, Johnston & Stubbs, P.A., has been selected as the new chairman of Palm Beach Atlantic University’s Board of Trustees. Hawkins has also been selected by his peers for inclusion in *The Best Lawyers In America (2013)* as intellectual property “Lawyer of the Year.” He has been included in the 2013 edition of the *South Florida Legal Guide*’s “Top Lawyers” list. The edition also named Jones, Foster, Johnston & Stubbs, P.A. as a “Top Law Firm.” Hawkins was

president of The Florida Bar in 2011.

Terrence P. O’Connor, of Lighthouse Point, has been reappointed by Gov. Rick Scott to the 17th Circuit Judicial Nominating Commission. O’Connor has been a partner with Morgan, Carratt & O’Connor, P.A. since 1983.

William F. Hamilton, of Quarles & Brady LLP, was named in *The Best Lawyers In America (2013)*.

Richard E. Straughn has been appointed to the 10th Circuit Judicial Nominating Commission by Gov. Rick Scott. Straughn, of Winter Haven, has been an attorney with Straughn & Turner, P.A. since 1983.

1984

David J. Akins, of Dean Mead, has been selected for inclusion in *The Best Lawyers In America (2013)* in the area of trusts and estates.

1985

Reggie Garcia, Tallahassee lawyer and state government lobbyist, was published by the Florida Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers in *Defender* magazine last summer. Garcia’s article, “Early Release of Non-Violent Offenders Can Be Smart Justice,” analyzes Gov. Rick Scott’s decision to veto a bill, which proposed to help non-violent offenders re-enter society. His article has been published as an op-ed in seven state publications, including *Florida Trend* magazine.

Stephen Ralph Looney (LLMT), of Dean Mead, has been selected for inclusion in *The Best Lawyers In America (2013)* in the area of tax law.

Theresa Parrish, a shareholder in the Rodey Law Firm in Albuquerque, was named “Albuquerque Employment Law-Management Lawyer of the Year-2013” by *Best Lawyers* and has been listed in *Best Lawyers* since 2009. Parrish has also been listed in *Chambers & Partners*, as an employment specialist. She has been listed in *Southwest Super Lawyers* since 2007, and the 2011 and 2012 editions list her as one of



Garcia 85



Parrish 85



Bedell 86



Downs 87



McNamara 87

the “Top 25 Lawyers in New Mexico.” Parrish is certified by the New Mexico Board of Legal Specialization as a specialist in employment and labor law.

1986

Frank Bedell, of Orlando, has started his own practice, Bedell Dispute Resolution, specializing in mediation.

Jeff Brickman has been recently appointed to serve on the board of directors for the Federal Defender Program in the Northern District of Georgia. Brickman was also selected as a “2012 Georgia Super Lawyer” in the area of criminal defense, and listed as one of the “Legal Elite” by *Georgia Trend Magazine*.

Mardi Levey Cohen was elected to the Broward County Court bench and has sat in the criminal trial division for the 17th Judicial Circuit since January 2011. Levey Cohen has served as an assistant state attorney for Broward County and an assistant attorney general. She has argued appeals before the Florida Supreme Court, the 4th District Court of Appeals and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 11th Circuit. Levey Cohen has also practiced as a solo practitioner handling trials and appeals.

Margaret “Pegi” S. Price recently published a novel, *Not Dead Yet*, which had over 29,000 downloads in its free promotional launch. The legal thriller appeals to the fans of John Grisham and Stephen King. Price is a divorce lawyer and special prosecutor in domestic violence court.

1987

Mayanne Downs, a shareholder at GrayRobinson’s Orlando office, has been honored with two top recognitions within the legal profession: *The Best Lawyers In America (2013)*, Orlando family law “Lawyer of the Year” and as one of *Super Lawyers’* 2012 “Top 50 Women in Florida.”

Alan H. Landman, of Melbourne, has been appointed by Gov. Rick Scott to the 18th Circuit Judicial Nominating Commission.



From left, Harry Greenfield (JD 82), Dr. Don Stewart and Jack Kirschenbaum (JD 77), founders of Doctors Lawyers Weekend Warriors, stand together in September at Sebastian Inlet State Park. 2012 was the 20th and final year of the surf festival that raised money for local scholarships. Kirschenbaum is an attorney in GrayRobinson, P.A.’s Melbourne office.

Patrick J. McNamara, vice-managing shareholder at de la Parte & Gilbert P.A., has joined the University of Tampa’s Board of Fellows. The board serves to increase the University of Tampa’s presence in the Tampa Bay business community and fortify the relationships the university has within the local community. McNamara practices in the fields of commercial, civil, and personal injury litigation, health law, construction law and appeals.

Kathleen M. Paustian, of Gordon & Rees, LLP in Las Vegas, was named 2013 “Lawyer of the Year” in employment law for Las Vegas by *The Best Lawyers In America*. Since 2007, Paustian has been named in *Super Lawyers’* “Employment & Labor Law for the Mountain States” editions. In 2008, 2009 and 2010, she was named in *Super Lawyers’* “Employment & Labor Law, Corporate Counsel” editions.

1988

Rick Benrubi, partner at Liggo Benrubi, P.A., recently helped obtain a jury verdict in an insurance bad-faith action brought against



UF Law Professor Dennis Calfee (LLMT 75) was named the Gerald T. Hart Outstanding Tax Attorney of the Year by The Florida Bar Tax Section. Richard Comiter (JD 80, LLMT 81) also announced completion of the campaign to endow the Dennis A. Calfee Eminent Scholar Chair in Taxation. The section recognized Calfee in Gainesville April 27 at its 35th annual meeting. (Photo by Haley Stracher 4JM)

GEICO General Insurance Company to recover uninsured and underinsured motorist benefits. Benrubi specializes in insurance, bad faith and personal injury litigation.

Jane D. Callahan (JD 87, LLMT 88), of Dean Mead, has been selected for inclusion in *The Best Lawyers In America (2013)* list in the areas of real estate law and tax law.

R. Scott Costantino, of The Costantino Law Firm in Jacksonville, has been named “Lawyer of the Year” by the American Board of Trial Advocates Jacksonville chapter for 2012. Costantino has also been selected by his peers for inclusion in the 2013 edition of *Best Lawyers* in the practice areas of personal injury litigation and medical malpractice law.

Mark A. Massey, of Tampa, has been appointed by Gov. Rick Scott as a compensation claims judge. Massey has practiced with Walton, Lantaff, Schroeder & Carson since 2004.

1989

Marc D. Chapman, of Dean Mead, has been selected for inclusion in *The Best Lawyers’ 2013* list in the area of trusts and estates litigation.

Paul Donnelly, of the law firm of Donnelly & Gross, was included in the 2013 edition of *Best Lawyers*. Donnelly teaches trial practice as an adjunct professor at UF Law.

Mark Stein, a partner with Higer Lichter & Givner, has been named as one of the “Top 100 Miami Florida Lawyers” by *Super Lawyers*. Stein, an experienced trial and transactional attorney rated AV by Martindale-Hubbell, is

board certified by The Florida Bar in intellectual property law. Stein assists clients with all aspects of Internet law, including cyber and social media law.

1990

Laura Gross, of the law firm of Donnelly & Gross, was included in the 2013 edition of *Best Lawyers in America*.

Lance McKinney, elder law attorney with Osterhout & McKinney, P.A., has been appointed president of the Florida State Guardianship Association through July 2013. McKinney is a member of the National Association of Elder Law Attorneys and the Academy of Florida Elder Law Attorneys. He has also received formal training in investment fiduciary responsibility and earned the AIF designation from the Center for Fiduciary Studies through the University of Pittsburgh. McKinney served as a barrister in the Inns of Court and on the board of directors of Age-Link, an agency that provides information and referrals to the elderly.



Donnelly 89



Stein 89



McKinney 90



Scales 91



Werb 91

1991

Richard G. Salazar, of Fowler White Boggs, has been named Tampa’s “Trusts and Estates Lawyer of the Year” in *Best Lawyers*. Salazar’s practice includes litigation in antitrust, business tort, non-competition covenant, trademark/service mark infringement, copyright infringement, trade secret and unfair competition claims in federal and state courts. Salazar is AV peer review rated by Martindale-Hubbell.

Edwin A. Scales III, of counsel attorney in the Key West office of GrayRobinson, P.A., and a sole practitioner, has been appointed by Gov. Rick Scott to the 16th Circuit Judicial Nominating Commission.

Steven J. Solomon, a shareholder in the Miami office of GrayRobinson P.A., was recently appointed to the board of directors at Miami Lighthouse for the Blind. Solomon focuses his practice on bankruptcy, creditors’ rights, workouts and insolvency. Solomon is a member of the Association of Insolvency & Restructuring Advisors, The Bankruptcy Bar Association for the Southern District of Florida and Florida Blue Key. Solomon has been named as a Florida “Super Lawyer” for six consecutive years, named on *Florida Trend’s* “Legal Elite” list twice, included on the *Best Lawyers* list since 2010 and received the prestigious AV preeminent rating from Martindale-Hubbell.

Wendy H. Werb has been appointed as a general magistrate for the 19th Judicial Circuit Court of Florida. Werb will be serving in Martin and Okeechobee counties.

1993

Benjamin L. Bedard, of Martin County and partner at Roberts, Reynolds, Bedard & Tuzzio, P.A., has been appointed by Gov. Rick Scott to the 19th Circuit Judicial Nominating Commission.

Gilbert L. Feltel has been appointed to the 4th Circuit Judicial Nominating Commission by Gov. Rick Scott. Feltel has practiced with Tanner Bishop, PA since 2007. Previously, Feltel served as assistant vice president at CSX



Hyche 95



Anderson 96



Lazarus 97



Atkinson 98



Cavendish 98

Corporation from 2001-2007. Feltel has also served as an assistant state attorney for the 4th Judicial Circuit from 1993-1995.

1994

Bo Bayer has been elected Union County Court judge. Bayer’s term began January 2013.

Crystal Adkins, of Holland & Knight’s Jacksonville office, was recently elevated from her position as senior counsel to partnership at the firm. Adkins is the firm’s associate general counsel. Adkins focuses on law firm administration, risk management and professional responsibility.

Kevin D. Johnson, of Thompson, Sizemore, Gonzalez & Hearing, has been elected president of the board of directors of the Tampa Bay Chapter of the Federal Bar Association for 2013. Johnson has served on the board since 2006.

1995

Tod Hyche (LLMT), of Smith Moore Leatherwood in Greenville, S.C., has been selected by his peers for inclusion in *The Best Lawyers In America (2013)*.

1996

Wendy Anderson joined the legal department of Safeguard Properties in Ohio with responsibilities for contract negotiations, monitoring and compliance, evaluating regulatory impact and supporting internal operations. Prior to joining Safeguard, Anderson served as corporate attorney with GCA Services Group Inc. on as in-house counsel for National Retail Properties Inc. in Orlando. She currently serves on the board of directors for Friends of Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) for Kids in Geauga County, Ohio; and as a volunteer court-appointed special advocate in Geauga County’s Juvenile Court.

Ken Curtin, of the Tampa and St. Petersburg offices of Adams and Reese, has been elected to partner effective Jan. 1.

1997

Christa Calamas was appointed to the 1st District Court of Appeal Judicial Nominating Commission by Gov. Rick Scott. Calamas currently serves as health policy chief for the Florida House of Representatives. In 2006, she served as secretary of the Agency for Health Care Administration. Calamas also served as assistant general counsel for AHCA from 2000-2002 and as the general counsel for AHCA from 2005-2006. From 2002-2005, Calamas served as assistant general counsel for the Executive Office of the Governor.

Nicole L. Goetz, managing member of Nicole L. Goetz, P.L., has been appointed to The Florida Bar Family Law Rules Committee, a committee referenced under Florida Judicial Administrative Rule 2.140, which is composed of attorneys and judges with extensive experience and training in the area of practice of the committee calling for the regular, frequent use of the rules. Nicole L. Goetz, P.L. is a boutique firm representing clients in marital and family law cases including appeals.

Jason Lazarus, a litigation partner in Holland & Knight’s West Palm Beach office, was recently elected president of the Palm Beach County chapter of the Federal Bar Association. Lazarus will serve a one-year term in this role. In the past, Lazarus served as vice president, secretary, treasurer and as a national delegate of the Palm Beach County chapter of the Federal Bar Association. Additionally, he served on the board of directors of the Palm Beach County Bar Association for 2011-2012. His practice focuses on the areas of business litigation and creditors’ rights.

1998

Nicole Atkinson, a shareholder at Gunster, has been appointed as chairwoman of the Judicial Relations Committee for the Palm Beach County Bar Association. Atkinson previously served as co-chairperson of the committee in 2011. The committee serves as a liaison between the

bar and the judiciary, planning, implementing and coordinating programs for better relations between the two. Atkinson is vice president of the board for the Hospice of Palm Beach County Foundation and serves as co-chairperson for the Raise the Bar event for the Women’s Foundation of Palm Beach County and is a member of the firm’s diversity committee.

Michael Cavendish, of Gunster, has joined the Jacksonville Chamber board of directors. He will serve as an officer with the position of general counsel.

Marcy L. Shaw has been re-elected to The Florida Bar Board of Governors representing the 20th Judicial Circuit, to serve a two-year term commencing June 28. Shaw is a solo practitioner in Fort Myers where she enjoys a fast-paced civil litigation practice representing both plaintiffs and defendants in real estate and contract disputes, as well as contested probate, trust and guardianship matters. She is a past president of the Lee County Bar Association.

1999

Jonathan A. Feldman has been elected partner in the Atlanta office of Sutherland Asbill & Brennan LLP. Feldman is a member of the firm’s tax practice group and assists his clients in all areas of state and local taxation including income, franchise, sales and use, and property taxes. Feldman has also been selected for inclusion in the Georgia *Super Lawyers’* “Rising Stars” list for 2010-2012.

Colleen M. Fitzgerald, of GrayRobinson P.A., was noted on the Florida *Super Lawyers’* “Rising Stars” list for 2012.

Paul A. Giordano, a shareholder with Fowler White Boggs in Fort Myers, was recently elected secretary of the Southwest Florida Bankruptcy Professional Association. Giordano handles a variety of business and commercial litigation, with a special focus on bankruptcy, partnership disputes, foreclosures, landlord tenant disputes, contract and corporate disputes and prosecution and defense of both general and professional liability lawsuits.

Bryan Gowdy, of Creed & Gowdy, P.A., was elected president of the board of directors of Jacksonville Area Legal Aid for 2013. Gowdy has served on the board since February 2007.

Gregory C. Harrell, a former shareholder in the Ocala office of Mateer & Harbert, P.A., has been hired as the new in-house staff attorney for Marion County (Florida) Circuit Clerk David R. Ellspermann.

James “Ted” Schatt, of Ocala, was recently appointed by Gov. Rick Scott to the 5th Circuit Judicial Nominating Commission. Schatt is the managing partner of Schatt & Hesser, P.A. Previously, he was the sole member of Schatt Law Firm, PLLC from 2009-2011, and the managing partner of Mateer & Harbert, P.A., in Ocala from 2003-2009.

William R. Shilling, of Macon, N.C., has been nationally certified as a child welfare law specialist by the National Association of Counsel for Children. This certification is approved by the American Bar Association and endorsed by The North Carolina State Bar. Shilling is a district court arbitration and county social services attorney representing abused and neglected children. Shilling is also a regular contributor to the online legal resource, *Technolawyer*.

2000

Mark H. Dahlmeier, of Jones, Foster, Johnston & Stubbs, P.A., has been included in *South Florida Legal Guide*’s 2013 edition of “Top Up and Comers” list. This edition also named Jones, Foster, Johnston & Stubbs, P.A. as a “Top Law Firm.”

Matthew C. Lucas has been appointed a circuit judge for the 13th Judicial Circuit of Florida. Lucas was previously a county judge for Hillsborough County (appointed in 2010 and elected in 2012), presiding over both civil and criminal divisions.

2001

Christine A. Marlewski, a shareholder in the Tampa office of GrayRobinson, P.A., has been named as one of the *Tampa Bay Business Journal*’s “2012 Up & Comers.” Marlewski is a board certified civil trial lawyer who focuses her practice in the areas of product liability, toxic tort and intellectual property litigation, as well as commercial and banking litigation. She is active in the International Association of Defense Counsel and the Defense Research Institute, and also donates her time

as a member of the United Way Women’s Leadership Steering Committee and performing pro bono work. Marlewski has become an official member of the American Board of Trial Advocates.

Lisa A. Melamed, of Laser Spine Institute, was promoted to general counsel. Melamed previously served as staff attorney and has provided a range of legal and compliance support services for Laser Spine Institute since she joined the company in 2010. Prior to joining the company, Melamed was the vice president and associate counsel for Horizon Bay Retirement Living. She was responsible for managing all litigation and administrative actions, which covered more than 70 communities in 17 states.

Maggie D. Mooney-Portale, a shareholder of Lewis, Longman & Walker, P.A., has been recognized as an AV Preeminent attorney by the *LexisNexis* peer review rating service Martindale-Hubbell.

Effie Silva has been chosen as the *Daily Business Review*’s “Most Effective Lawyer 2012” in the pro bono category for her work on the *G.G. v. FDLE* case. Silva was also recently chosen and honored as one of “40 Under 40 Outstanding Lawyers of Miami-Dade County” by the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.

Marc Stephen Shuster, a partner at Berger Singerman, has been named to the board of directors at Camillus House, an organization that provides food, clothing, shelter, addiction counseling, behavioral health and job training, and health care to the poor and homeless of South Florida. Shuster, a member of the firm’s business, finance and tax team, focuses his practice in commercial real estate transactions, real estate workouts, and corporate merger and acquisition deals. He is on the board of governors for the Museum of Art Fort Lauderdale, a young ambassador for Miami Children’s Hospital, a member of the Brazil-American Chamber of Commerce Florida and a graduate of the Leadership Broward class XXIII.

2002

James E. Charles, of Lewis, Longman & Walker, P.A., has been elected as a shareholder of the firm. Charles represents private and public sector clients before local, state, and federal agencies and courts regarding wetland permitting, environmental and natural resources, storm water permitting, endangered/protected species, historic properties and cultural resources, sovereign submerged lands authorizations, navigation and professional licensing.

Chris D. Codling has joined Givens Divorce Law Group after serving as an assistant state attorney for both Hernando and Hillsborough counties, and as a trial lawyer defending lawsuits including wrongful death, nursing home abuse and commercial litigation. Codling serves as one of the firm’s lead trial attorneys representing victims and policyholders in all areas of litigation including personal injury, wrongful death, insurance claims and disputes, nursing home abuse and commercial litigation.

Stacy J. Ford has joined Eagan Appellate Law, PLLC, where she will provide appellate representation in a wide range of civil and commercial matters, litigation support through co-counsel relationships and contract legal services. Ford has focused her practice on appellate law and complex commercial litigation for more than 10 years.

Mike Pike, partner at Burman, Critton, Luttier & Coleman, has been elected to the board of directors for the SOS Children’s Villages Florida. SOS Children’s Villages Florida is a foster care neighborhood in Coconut Creek that houses up to 75 children. Pike is a member of the Palm Beach County Bar Association, the Florida Justice Association and is currently serving as president of the Palm Beach County Justice Association. He is also a trustee of the Wellington Chamber of Commerce. Pike is also active with numerous community organizations, including the Women’s Foundation of Palm Beach County.

2003

Belinda Baardsen is working as an ESL



Pike 02 Fleurantin 03 Guarnieri 04 Knox 04 Whisenant 04 Gilman 05 Lebowitz 05

instructor in Saudi Arabia. Baardsen previously taught in the Republic of Turkey, Slovenia and the Czech Republic. She has traveled Europe in pursuit of teaching English as a second language to children who want to improve their lives through an investment in the English language. Baardsen’s time spent working in Saudi Arabia has allowed her to educate children and witness the growth of opportunities for Saudi women.

Ben Diamond received the University of Florida Alumni Association’s Outstanding Young Alumni Award in April. The UFAA, Inc. has established the Outstanding Young Alumni Award to recognize alumni who are 35 or younger and have distinguished themselves in their profession and community.

Dwayne L. Dickerson has joined the Fort Lauderdale office of Fowler White Boggs as a shareholder. Dickerson represents developers, property owners and local governments seeking development entitlements and environmental permit approvals for real estate projects.

Larry R. Fleurantin, of Larry R. Fleurantin & Associates, recently published an article titled, “The Debate Continues on Whether to Remand Family Law Cases with Inadequate Findings” in *The Florida Bar Journal*. Fleurantin’s firm concentrates its practice in civil and appellate litigation with a focus on personal injury, car accidents, family law, real estate, foreclosure and immigration.

Fermin Lopez of Colling, Gilbert, Wright & Carter in Orlando, was voted president-elect of the Central Florida Trial Lawyers Association for 2013. He was also re-elected to serve on the board of directors for the Hispanic Bar Association of Central Florida. Lopez was also named a 2013 *Super Lawyers*’ “Rising Star” in Florida, which is his fourth consecutive year receiving this honor.

Abrahm Smith (LLMT) has been promoted to partner in the tax practice of Baker & McKenzie, which is based in Miami. Smith counsels individuals with undisclosed income from offshore accounts, including participation in the IRS voluntary disclosure initiatives. Smith

assists foreign clients with real estate structures, including Foreign Investment in Real Property Tax Act, and advises clients on preimmigration and expatriation issues.

2004

Nicholas Dancaescu, of the Orlando office of GrayRobinson, P.A., was recently promoted from senior associate to shareholder as a direct reflection of his hard work and dedication to the firm on a daily basis.

Nelson Diaz, a shareholder in Becker & Poliakoff’s government law and lobbying group, has been elected chairman of the Miami-Dade County Republican Party.

Dan Guarnieri, of Adams and Reese, has joined the firm’s Sarasota office as an associate. Guarnieri represents commercial lenders, boat manufacturers, business owners and business clients in a variety of fields. He is a member of The Florida Bar Young Lawyers Division and the Sarasota County Bar Association. He has sat on the board of directors for the Young Lawyers Division since 2009. Guarnieri also served as chairman of a YLD civics committee that created a civics magazine and distributed it to more than 30,000 children in 2009. For the past four years, he has volunteered with the Big Brothers Big Sisters “Decisions to Win” program. Guarnieri is president of the Rotary Club of Sarasota Southside (2012-2013) and serves on the Rotary Club of Sarasota Southside Foundation. He has been a speaker for the Florida Yacht Brokers’ Association (2010 and 2011 Florida West Coast Conferences), the Sarasota Association of Realtors and the Sarasota County Bar Association. He is published in the *ACC Docket* magazine.

S. Douglas Knox, of the Tampa office of Quarles & Brady LLP, has been elected to partnership. Knox is a commercial litigator whose practice involves a wide range of disputes spanning the insurance, franchise, banking and real estate industries. Knox’s practice emphasizes trial and appellate practice, and his experience includes representing policy holders in insurance coverage disputes; representing franchisors

and employers enforcing non-competition and other restrictive covenants; representing secured creditors in complex commercial foreclosures; defending franchisors from claims of wrongful termination, business tort and breach of contract; defending lenders from unfair lending practices claims; and defending insurance brokerage firms from claims of negligence and breach of fiduciary duty.

Paul McDermott, of Holland & Knight’s Tampa office, was recently elevated from associate status to partnership at the firm. McDermott is a member of the firm’s litigation section and practices in the area of complex commercial litigation.

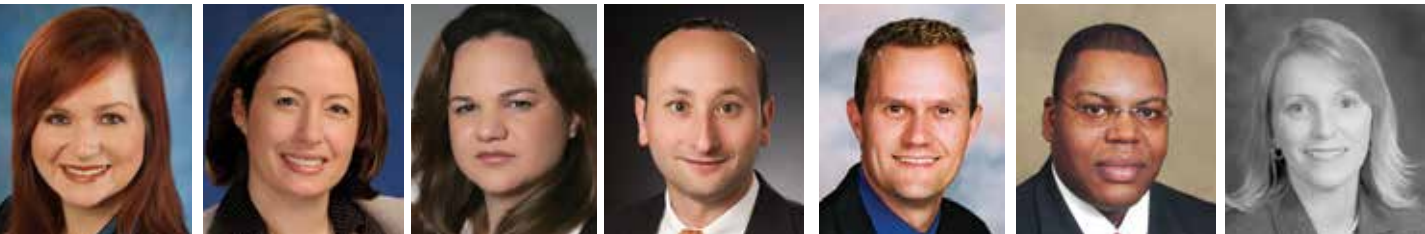
Christina Schwing, of Holland & Knight’s Jacksonville office, was recently elevated from senior counsel position to partnership at the firm. Schwing is a member of the firm’s litigation section and focuses in the areas of complex commercial litigation, product liability, class action defense and construction-related disputes.

Beranton J. Whisenant Jr. has been elected as a partner at Foley & Mansfield, a national law firm based in Minneapolis. Whisenant practices in the firm’s Miami office, serving clients in the areas of general civil litigation, personal injury defense, products liability, toxic tort and mass tort litigation, medical malpractice defense, environmental and pollution law, and securities litigation and regulation.

Matthew Zimmerman, of Holland & Knight’s West Palm Beach office, was recently elevated from working as an associate to a partnership role at the firm. Zimmerman is a member of the firm’s litigation section, whose concentration is in commercial litigation, specifically contract disputes, business torts and protection of intellectual property.

2005

Suzannah Gilman published *I Will Meet You at the River*, a new limited-edition poetry book in Finishing Line Press’ Chapbook Series. Gilman was recently nominated for a Pushcart



Marlewski 01 Mooney-Portale 01 Silva 01 Shuster 01 Charles 02 Codling 02 Ford 02

Prize for poetry. Gilman has been publishing poems for more than 20 years, and her poems have appeared in *The Florida Review*, *The Rollins Book of Verse 1885-2010*, *Pearl*, CALYX books, *The Meridian Anthology of Contemporary Poetry*, *Family Matters: Poems of our Families* and other publications.

John M. Hemenway, of Bivins & Hemenway in Valrico, wrote the chapter “Effective Estate Planning for the Modern Family in Uncertain Times,” in the book *Inside the Minds: Strategies for Trusts and Estates in Florida*, 2013 ed., recently published by Aspatore Law Books, a Thomson Reuters business.

Tobi Beth Lebowitz, of Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadeff & Sitterson, P.A., was promoted from associate to shareholder. Lebowitz joined the firm in 2008, and her practice focuses on a variety of employment law matters across a range of industries. Lebowitz is a frequent speaker on employment issues and is a regular contributor to *BeLabor the Point*, a blog dedicated to the latest developments in labor and employment law.

Heather Macre, an attorney with McCarthy, Holthus and Levine, was elected to the Central Arizona Water Conservation District board of directors to represent Maricopa County.

Adina L. Pollan has joined the Jacksonville office of GrayRobinson, P.A., as of counsel to the firm’s bankruptcy and creditors’ rights practice. Pollan focuses her practice in bankruptcy and commercial litigation. Throughout her career she has represented banks and lenders, and analyzed legal issues associated with bankruptcy and real estate matters. Pollan was recognized as a *Super Lawyers* “Rising Star” for bankruptcy and creditor/debtor rights and general litigation.

Michael J. Thomas, of Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadeff & Sitterson, P.A., was promoted from associate to shareholder. Thomas joined the firm in 2006, and his practice focuses primarily on construction litigation. Thomas provides counsel to clients on a wide variety of construction-related matters from contract negotiation and risk management to litigation and dispute resolution. He also regularly handles general business litigation issues, including breach of contract and insurance coverage.

2006

Christina Anton Garcia of Tampa Bay was selected as one of *Blu Tampa Bay’s* “10 Leading Ladies

of 2013.” She was also selected as a 2012 Florida *Super Lawyers* “Rising Star.”

Adam R. Artigliere has joined the firm’s Greenville office as of counsel to the firm’s business and commercial practice group. His practice will continue to focus on corporate and business planning, banking and financial transactions, commercial real estate, and economic development and incentives.

Carly Lambert was appointed to the 12th Circuit Judicial Nominating Commission by Gov. Rick Scott. Lambert has practiced with Price, Hamilton & Price since 2011. Previously, she practiced with Heritage Law Group from 2008 to 2011; with Morrell, Watson, Southwell from 2007-2008; and with Fowler White Boggs Banker from 2006-2007.

Eviana Martin was elected to serve on the executive board of the Cape Coral Bar Association as president.

Amanda Perry has joined the Orlando office of Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz, PC, as an associate in the business litigation group. Perry is involved with the Central Florida Association for Women Lawyers where she is the treasurer for 2012-2013 and is the former membership director. She is also a member of The Florida Bar and the Orange County Bar Association.

Eric Weber (LLMT), of Baker & McKenzie, has recently been promoted to partner in the firm’s tax practice based in New York. Weber advises on the U.S. tax aspects of acquisitions, restructurings, spin-offs, and inbound and outbound investments. He also represents clients in connection with tax controversy matters.

2007

Ronald D. Edwards Jr., of Lowndes Drosdick, Doster, Kantor & Reed, P.A., has been promoted to senior associate. Edwards focuses his legal practice on litigation at the trial and appellate levels. He focuses primarily on complex business, banking, contract and real property litigation.

Gary L. Printy Jr. and his father, Gary L. Printy Sr. (JD 82), have formed Printy & Printy, P.A.,

with offices in Tallahassee and Tampa. Printy Jr. has opened the Tampa office and will focus his practice on employment law, personal injury, insurance disputes and bankruptcy. Printy Sr. will continue to practice in Tallahassee focusing his practice on employment law, personal injury, administrative law and criminal law.

Jill Davis Simon of Lowndes Drosdick, Doster, Kantor & Reed, P.A., has been promoted to senior associate. Davis Simon divides her time among the commercial litigation practice, the labor and employment practice, and the estate and probate litigation practice. As a commercial litigator, her practice focuses on the areas of business litigation, real estate litigation and appellate law. She also devotes a portion of her practice to litigation regarding wills, trusts and estates. Davis Simon’s experience in employment law includes matters involving Title VII, the Fair Labor Standards Act, the Family and Medical Leave Act, whistleblower laws and various other employment laws. She also handles cases involving disputes over employment contracts and non-compete agreements.

Nicole D. Young currently works as a professor, teaching legal ethics at the University of North Florida. Young serves as secretary for The Florida Bar’s Rules Of Judicial Administration Committee and is vice chair of The Florida Bar’s Small Claims Rules Committee.

2008

Jariel Bortnick has joined the New York firm of Blank Rome as an associate in the real estate development group. Bortnick focuses his practice in a broad range of real estate matters, advising financial institutions, private equity firms and commercial, residential and mixed-use developers in connection with acquisitions, sales, leasing and financing of real estate. He is a member of the International Council of Shopping Centers and the Urban Land Institute.

Ilan Kaufer is a principal regulatory affairs analyst for Florida Power and Light and serves as the primary liaison between FPL’s regulatory affairs and customer service business units. He is responsible for Florida Public Service



Tobaygo 08



Hill 09



Bhageloe 10



Butler 10



Leeman 10



Millman 10

Commission activities, testimony development, discovery coordination, logistical support at hearings, and the analysis of state utility commission and legislative proceedings concerning customer service issues. Kaufer has also been elected to the Jupiter Town Council.

Nicole Kibert received the University of Florida Alumni Association’s Outstanding Young Alumni Award in April. The UFAA, Inc. has established the Outstanding Young Alumni Award to recognize alumni who are 35 or younger and have distinguished themselves in their profession and community.

Hema A. Persad has joined Carlton Fields’ Tampa office as associate in the firm’s bankruptcy and creditor’s rights practice group. Persad’s commercial litigation practice focuses on real estate litigation, foreclosures, contract claims, creditor’s rights and bankruptcy, and general business litigation. Prior to Carlton Fields, Persad was an associate at Fowler White Boggs.

Kelly A. Tobaygo has joined Givens Law Group after working at the Public Defender’s Office of Hillsborough County. Tobaygo will be practicing in all areas of family law including divorce, paternity, child custody and child support, alimony, modifications, enforcements, domestic violence injunctions and recovery of attorney’s fees and costs.

2009

D. Graham Hill (JD 80, LLMT 09) has joined Comiter, Singer, Baseman & Braun, LLP, in Palm Beach Gardens. His practice areas include business transactions and structuring; federal taxation of partnerships, S corporations, and limited liability companies; state and local taxation; tax exempt organizations; and income and estate planning.

Elizabeth Manno Banzhoff has joined the Denver office of Perkins Coie, LLP, as an associate practicing in the areas of commercial litigation; investigations and white collar defense, and corporate social responsibility; and supply chain compliance. She previously served as a law clerk to Judge Richard Smoak (JD 72),

U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Florida, and Chief Justice Michael L. Bender of the Colorado Supreme Court.

Stephen Messer has joined the firm of Galloway, Johnson, Tompkins, Burr & Smith as an associate.

Reggie Zachariah was appointed by Gov. Rick Scott to the 17th Circuit Judicial Nominating Commission. Zachariah has practiced with Greenberg Traurig since 2011. Previously, he served as a law clerk from 2009-2011 with the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Florida, and as a financial analyst for the GEO Group Inc. from 2003-2005.

2010

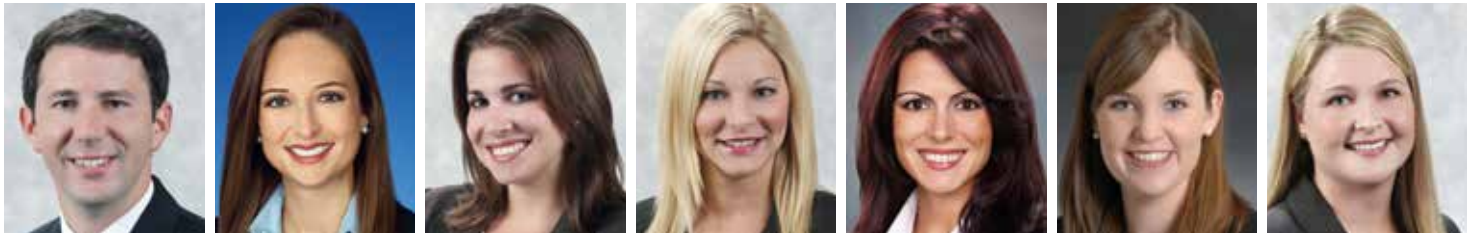
Christie Bhageloe, veterans’ advocate for Community Legal Services of Mid-Florida, spoke about serving low-income and incarcerated veterans at the National Organization of Veterans’ Advocates Fall Conference in Philadelphia.

Dustin Butler was elected to serve on the executive board of the Cape Coral Bar Association as vice president.

Michael V. Leeman has joined Carlton Fields’ Tampa office as associate in the firm’s bankruptcy and creditor’s rights practice group. Leeman focuses his practice on a variety of



After interning at the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau in Washington, D.C., and passing the bar, Allison Fischman (JD 12) was hired by the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement as a presidential management fellow. She has detailed the Gulf of Mexico Regional Offices in New Orleans and has flown offshore to visit deep-water drilling oil and gas production facilities.



Balz 12 Buckhalter 12 Levenberg 12 Powell 12 Sinani 12 Smith 12 Tyson 12

commercial litigation matters that include banking litigation, business disputes, class action litigation, contract disputes and real estate litigation. Prior to Carlton Fields, he was an associate at Fowler White Boggs.

Anne McAdams has joined the Tampa office of Trenam Kemker as an associate in the commercial litigation practice group. McAdams previously clerked for the Honorable Anne C. Conway (JD 75), who is chief judge of the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Florida.

Aaron D. Millman has joined the law firm of Paul E. Ghougasian, P.A. in Boca Raton. Millman focuses his practice on estate planning, asset protection, estate and trust administration, general business law, tax controversy and tax planning.

Rachel Ortiz has begun working as a law clerk to Judge Richard J. Suarez at the 3rd District Court of Appeal in Miami.

Lincoln Schneider has been selected as the Navy National Officer "Recruiter of the Year."

Jason A. Zimmerman has joined GrayRobinson, P.A.'s Orlando office as an associate in the firm's litigation practice.

2011

Timothy D. Hedrick recently joined Rogers Towers as an associate in the litigation department.

Todd A. Jennings, of Belleair, was appointed by Gov. Rick Scott to the 6th Circuit Judicial Nominating Commission. Jennings practices with Galloway, Johnson, Tompkins, Burr & Smith, PLC.

Tiffany Sobien-Kimball has joined Greenspoon Marder's foreclosure services group in Orlando.

2012

Joshua Bachman has joined GrayRobinson, P.A. as an associate in the firm's Orlando office.

Davis Balz joined the Jacksonville office of Gunster as an associate in the business litigation practice.

Georgia A. Buckhalter has joined the law firm of Richman Greer in the Miami office as an associate. Buckhalter focuses her practice on commercial and complex civil litigation. Prior to joining Richman Greer, Buckhalter was an intern with General Dynamics Corporation and a summer associate with Wicker, Smith O'Hara, McCoy, & Ford in Orlando.

Ashley Johnson has joined the firm of Galloway, Johnson, Tompkins, Burr & Smith as an associate.

Joe Kovacs has joined GrayRobinson, P.A., as an associate in the firm's Orlando office.

Amy Levenberg joined the West Palm Beach office of Gunster as an associate in the business litigation practice.

Janet C. Owens has joined the firm of Rogers Towers as an associate in the litigation department.

Lindsay Powell joined the Jacksonville office of Gunster as an associate in the business litigation practice.

Liridona Sinani has joined the attorneys at Martin Law Firm. She was also elected to serve as treasurer on the executive board of the Cape Coral Bar Association. Sinani's practice focuses primarily on family law, probate litigation and general civil litigation. Sinani volunteers her time to community organizations including: Restoration of Civil Rights, Habitat for Humanity, Children Beyond our Borders, Three Rivers Legal Services, local homeless shelters and local middle and high schools. She received the Pro Bono Certificate of Excellence from UF Law.

Keely F. Smith has joined the Naples office of Quarles & Brady LLP as an associate in the commercial litigation practice group.

Debbie Tyson has joined the Fort Lauderdale office of Gunster as an associate in the environmental and land use practice.



J. Thomas McGrady (JD 74), chief judge of the 6th Judicial Circuit of Florida, left, swears in Michael T. Callahan (JD 73) as National President of the American Board of Trial Advocates. Callahan, of the St. Petersburg law firm Callahan Martinez, L.L.C., was named "Florida Super Lawyer" in 2009 and 2010 and was FLABOTA president in 2002.

In Memoriam

Sam M. Gibbons, warrior and accomplished lawmaker

Sam M. Gibbons (JD 47), a former U.S. representative who served 17 terms in Congress, died Oct. 10, 2012, peacefully at his home in Tampa. He received an honorary doctorate degree from the University of Florida in 2011. He was 92.

His time at UF Law was interrupted when he served in the U.S. Army's 101st Airborne Division during World War II. He parachuted into Normandy behind enemy lines to help lead the initial forces of the D-Day invasion, and his wartime experience served as inspiration for Tom Brokaw's best-selling book *The Greatest Generation*.

Gibbons completed his degree at UF Law after the war and went on to work with his father, brother and uncles at the family's Gibbons & Gibbons law firm in Tampa, which was founded by his grandfather Melville Gibbons and his great-grandfather Henry Clinton Gibbons.

Gibbons served in the Florida Legislature for 10 years, where he founded the University of South Florida in Tampa, now the nation's eighth-largest university. He became known as the father of USF.

He later represented Tampa for 34 years in the U.S. House of Representatives leaving a legacy of opening doors to free trade as a vehicle for peace, championing legislation promoting early childhood education, the IRA, and landmark health care programs from Medicare to President Bill Clinton's national health-insurance program.



Gibbons

He obtained the construction funding for the current UF Holland Law Center. In 1997, the new Federal Courthouse in downtown Tampa was named in his honor. His life goal forged as a combat veteran of World War II was to move nations around the world from the "rule of force" to settling differences through the "rule of law."

Considered the leading architect of contemporary U.S. trade policy, Gibbons relentlessly advocated the adoption of trade agreements and the dispute settlement process that was the basis for the World Trade Organization (WTO).

Gibbons was born in Tampa on Jan. 20, 1920, the oldest son of Melville Gunby Gibbons and Jessie Kirk Cralle Gibbons. He was married to Martha Hanley Gibbons from 1946 until her death in 2003. In 2004, Gibbons married his childhood friend — the former Betty King Culbreath.

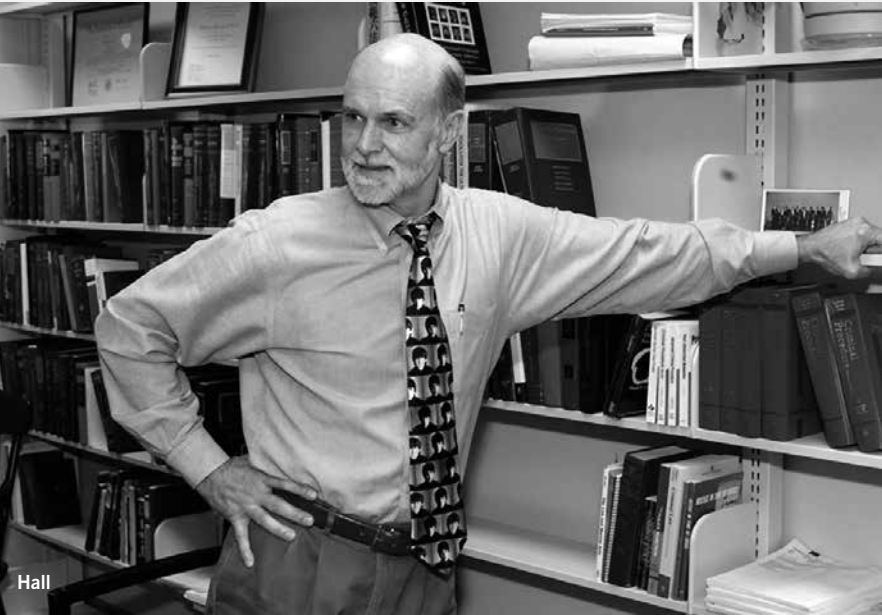
Gibbons is survived by his wife, Betty, and sons: Cliff, Mark and Timothy; and children of Betty Culbreath Gibbons, H. Lee Culbreath and Kay Culbreath Heller.

Donald J. Hall, veteran Vanderbilt professor

Donald J. Hall (JD 68) died Nov. 29, 2012, after suffering from Alzheimer's disease. He was 69.

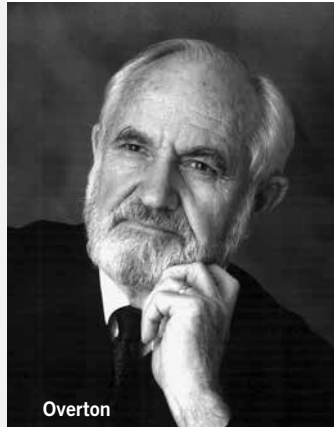
Hall was a loving husband and father who found humor in almost any situation and tried to bring laughter to all. One of Hall's greatest accomplishments was balancing his love of fun and family with his career as a professor of law at Vanderbilt University, which he began after his time as a student at UF Law. In his 37 years at Vanderbilt, Hall served as associate dean of the law school, National Moot Court team adviser and coach and was a member of various law school and university committees.

Hall was a published author whose books, articles and essays focused on criminal law and procedure as well as victims' rights. Hall was appointed to several task forces and committees in Tennessee, including the State Supreme Court Commission on Gender Fairness, the Tennessee Sentencing Commission and the Tennessee



Hall

Ben F. Overton, Supreme Court justice, UF Law professor



Overton

Ben F. Overton (JD 52), former Florida Supreme Court justice and a UF Law adjunct professor, died Dec. 29, 2012, in Gainesville of complications from heart surgery. He was 86 and was Florida's 62nd justice since statehood.

From his appointment on March 27, 1974, until his retirement Jan. 4, 1999, Overton authored more than 1,400 decisions and was a central figure in a vast series of reforms that made his court one of the most respected and accessible in the nation. He served as chief justice from 1976-1978 and chaired the Article V Review Commission in 1984. Following his retirement, Overton was an adjunct professor of law at UF Law.

Overton helped make Florida one of the first states to allow television coverage of court cases. He was instrumental in making the state Supreme Court one of the first in the world to have a website. Overton worked to see that every Florida Supreme Court case was televised, webcast and archived online.

A native of Green Bay, Wis., Overton earned both his bachelor's and law degrees from UF. He also earned an LL.M. in jurisprudence from the University of Virginia in 1984. He was honored as a Distinguished Alumnus of UF in 2008.

"In addition to Justice Overton's leadership in the judiciary, he was a tremendous supporter of the law school and its students," UF Law Dean Robert Jerry said. "Beginning in 2001, he taught Florida constitutional law and a Florida Supreme Court seminar as an adjunct faculty member, and his interest in helping prepare our students for the legal profession had no limits. He also served as a member of the Law Center Association Board of Trustees."

Predeceased by his wife Marilyn, Overton is survived by his children: Judge William H. Overton, Robert M. Overton and Catherine L. Overton.

see Ethics Commission. Although Hall's accomplishments in the field of law were many, his passion at the law school was teaching. In 1990, Hall was the inaugural recipient of the Outstanding Law Professor Award, presented by the Tennessee Bar Association. He was also one of two inaugural recipients of the Vanderbilt Chair of Teaching Excellence in 1994. Hall was selected nine times by the law school student body to receive the outstanding teacher award. He also gave his time and energy to Family and Children's Services of Nashville, where he served as president of the board, the Metro-Nashville Public Education Foundation and the Hume-Fogg Academic High School Association.

He is survived by his wife, Nancy, and daughters, Kelly Klaaren and Pamela Sonderman.

William 'Bill' Howard McBride Jr., politician, Holland & Knight leader

William "Bill" Howard McBride Jr. (JD 75) died Dec. 22, 2012, after having a massive heart attack. He was 67.

He received his bachelor of arts degree from the University of Florida in 1967, where he was a member of Florida Blue Key and president of the Alpha Tau Omega fraternity.

After one year at UF Law he enlisted in the United States Marine Corps, where he served in Vietnam as a company commander. He was later awarded the Bronze Star with Combat V for valor. McBride resumed his law school studies at UF Law, where he was selected for Law Review. He then joined the

law firm of Holland & Knight, under the leadership of Chesterfield Smith.

McBride eventually served as managing partner of Holland & Knight from 1992 to 2001, when he resigned to run for governor of Florida in 2002. In 2003, he joined the law firm of Barnett, Bolt, Kirkwood, Long & McBride where he remained in practice. U.S. Sen. Bill Nelson released a statement that read: "Bill McBride was larger than life. He was one of the great business, legal and political leaders of Florida, and he is a friend that many of us will miss."



McBride

He is survived by his wife Alex Sink, former Florida chief financial officer; son, William Albert "Bert" McBride (2L); and daughter, Lexi McBride Crawford. To give to a UF Law scholarship fund in his honor, go to <http://bit.ly/11v5jJ1>.

Johnson Sidney 'Buddy' Savary, 50-year practitioner, UF patron

Johnson Sidney "Buddy" Savary (JD 56) passed away Sept. 9, 2012, from pancreatic cancer and pulmonary fibrosis. He was 83.

Savary graduated from the University of Florida with a Bachelor of Science in accounting, served in the U.S. Army and then attended UF Law.

Savary was a proud Gator and actively involved at UF throughout his life. He served on the board of the University of Florida Foundation. He was a trustee emeritus of UF Law and established and funded a scholarship endowment for UF Law students. Savary also created a UF baseball scholarship. He was a Bull Gator, a former director of the Gator Boosters, an honorary member of Florida Blue Key and a member of Phi Delta Theta fraternity.

Savary began his legal career in Sarasota as a defense and general litigation lawyer. He became a senior partner at the Kirk Pinkerton Law Firm in Sarasota. The firm eventually merged into the national law firm of Dykema Gossett, where he served as a senior partner and a member of the firm's executive committee. In 1993,

Savary joined the Sarasota law firm Abel Band and practiced during his later years in the areas of estate planning, estate and trust litigation, estate mediation and real estate law.

During Savary's more than five-decade-long legal career, he litigated and argued cases in state and federal courts and even before the U.S. Supreme Court. He was widely respected among practicing attorneys and judges and earned a reputation of superb advocate for his clients and an example of dignity, honor and civility to all. He served on U.S. Sen. Connie Mack's Federal Judiciary Advisory Commission — responsible for reviewing and recommending potential presidential judicial nominees for the federal bench. He served as president of the Sarasota County Bar Association, as well. In 2006, Savary was honored by The Florida Bar for more than 50 years of legal practice.

Savary was known as a compassionate and generous benefactor of numerous charitable, civic and social organizations in the Sarasota community.

Savary is survived by his wife, Mary Savary; sons, Joseph Sidney Savary II and Johnson Sidney Savary Jr.; and daughters, Mary Elizabeth Savary Taylor and Laura Savary Rees.

William Reece Smith Jr., ABA president, pro bono champion

William Reece Smith Jr. (JD 49), a powerful force in the legal world and one of five UF Law graduates to serve as president of the American Bar Association, died Jan. 11, 2013. He was 87.

Smith — whose legal career spanned six decades — also served as president of The Florida Bar and was the first American to be elected president of the International Bar Association. He was an attorney at law for the city of Tampa and president of

the Greater Tampa Chamber of Commerce.

"That Reece Smith is a graduate of UF Law is something in which all of us take great pride," UF Law Dean Robert Jerry said. "His impeccable leadership skills, community service record and enduring quest for social justice set an example for all of us to follow."

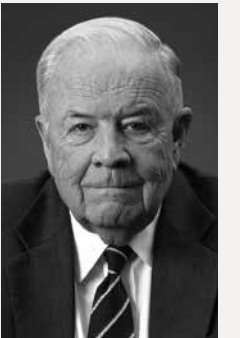
Smith decided to attend law school at UF Law under the G.I. Bill in 1946 after a stint in the Navy. While in law school he served as president of the Student Bar Association and was a member of Florida Blue Key. After he earned his law degree, Smith was selected as a Rhodes Scholar and would become a member of the UF Law faculty upon his return from studying at Oxford.

In 1953, Smith went to work for the Carlton Fields law firm in Tampa. He joined the American Bar Association the following year.

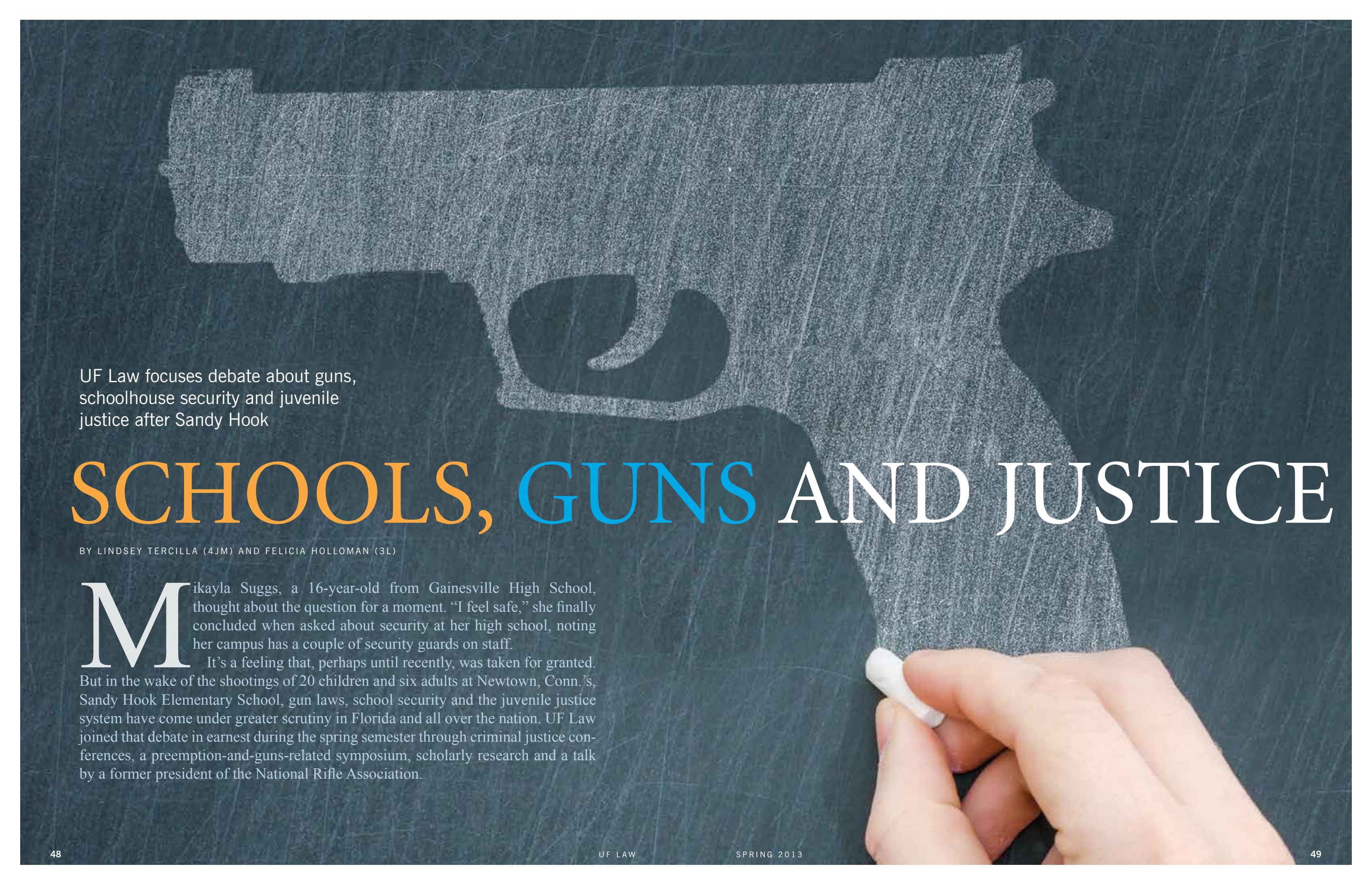
While ABA president, Smith established the ABA Pro Bono Center, which helped increase voluntary projects from 50 to 1,000 throughout a 10-year period. He also played a key role in establishing Florida Legal Services, Inc. — a nonprofit that provides civil legal assistance to those who would not otherwise be able to afford legal representation.

He is survived by his son, William Reece Smith III, and his dear friend and former wife, Marlene Medina Smith.

For a list of alumni deaths reported to the Levin College of Law since Dec. 1 go to Web-Xtras at www.law.ufl.edu/uflaw/.



Smith



UF Law focuses debate about guns,
schoolhouse security and juvenile
justice after Sandy Hook

SCHOOLS, GUNS AND JUSTICE

BY LINDSEY TERCILLA (4JM) AND FELICIA HOLLOMAN (3L)

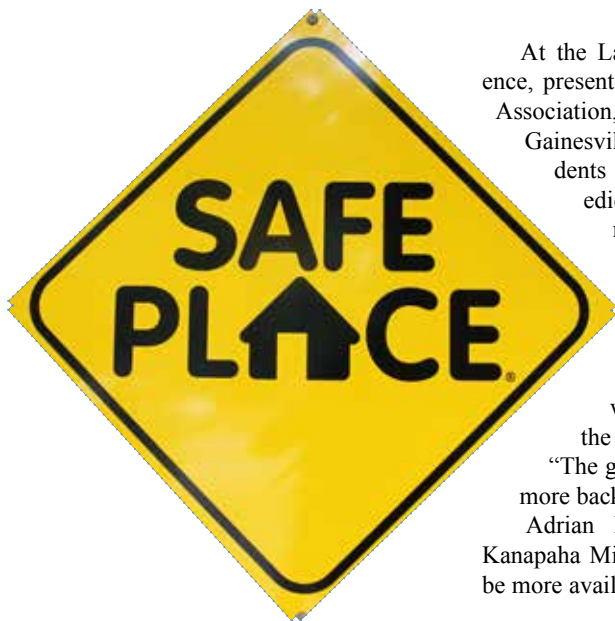
Mikayla Suggs, a 16-year-old from Gainesville High School, thought about the question for a moment. “I feel safe,” she finally concluded when asked about security at her high school, noting her campus has a couple of security guards on staff.

It’s a feeling that, perhaps until recently, was taken for granted. But in the wake of the shootings of 20 children and six adults at Newtown, Conn.’s, Sandy Hook Elementary School, gun laws, school security and the juvenile justice system have come under greater scrutiny in Florida and all over the nation. UF Law joined that debate in earnest during the spring semester through criminal justice conferences, a preemption-and-guns-related symposium, scholarly research and a talk by a former president of the National Rifle Association.



State Rep. Charles McBurney (JD 82) speaks during a debate on the floor of the Florida House of Representatives.

“Violent criminals go to where they know there are going to be **unarmed victims, like a classroom..**” —SANDRA FROMAN, A FORMER NRA PRESIDENT



At the Law and Justice Youth Conference, presented by the Josiah T. Walls Bar Association, Mikayla was among the Gainesville middle and high school students talking about preventing tragedies like Sandy Hook. Solutions ranged from tightening gun control laws to giving teachers handguns.

Lydia Lee, an 11-year-old from Lincoln Middle School, said she does not always feel safe at school, despite the presence of security guards. “The gun laws are good, but we need more background checks,” Lydia said.

Adrian Dixon, 13 years old, from Kanapaha Middle School, said guns should be more available in schools. “I do not think

schools are safe. I think teachers should have guns,” Adrian said.

Sandra Froman, a former NRA president, told a UF Law audience in February that new gun laws would not make schools safer.

She favored “throwing away the key” for those who commit gun crimes. She advocated bringing guns into places where they are now banned.

“Violent criminals go to where they know there are going to be unarmed victims, like a classroom,” Froman said. “And then the rest of us are left without the ability to protect our families.”



Froman

Some in the Florida Legislature agree. One proposal floated during the spring legislative session would have allowed school principals and district superintendents to designate staff members to carry concealed weapons on school grounds.

Mindy Gould, Florida Parent Teacher Association Legislation Chairwoman based in Miami-Dade County, panned this idea. “The PTA is against this. We do not want guns in schools, period,” she said.

Gould believes it isn’t the number of guns or police in schools that will make the difference. “The truth is that we’ve got to address the issues as to why this is going on in the minds of our children,” she said. “We are creating a false sense of security if we don’t provide mental counseling to students.”

Meanwhile, UF Law alumni are engaged in the debate as state lawmakers. With a wife teaching elementary school music and his grandchildren in school, state Rep. Charles McBurney (JD 82) figures he has a vested interest.

“School safety is extremely important, but I don’t think it’s all about gun control,” said the Jacksonville Republican, who serves on the Judiciary Committee. “It’s more complicated than that. We as a legislature, a state, and a society need to focus more on the treatment of mental illnesses than we have in the past.”

And he doesn’t see legislation as the solution. “There is not a single bill that you could pass that would solve all of it.”

One UF Law professor has studied how school administrators respond to violence and other infractions among school populations. The result can be a “prison-like environment,”

especially likely in schools with high numbers of minority and low-income students.

UF Law Professor Jason Nance employed a restricted-use database from the Department of Education on school-related crime to assess practices by school principals. Nance considered how student race and poverty influenced the decision making of school administrators.

“I looked at search practices within schools,” Nance said. “This included random sweeps, metal detectors, locked gates, guards and surveillance cameras.”



Nance



He factored in the variables of school crime, school disorder, neighborhood crime, geographic region, the urban nature of a school, student population and low-performing students.

“Even when controlling for school disorder and violence, the student race population and student poverty tend to be significant predictors of whether or not a school chooses to rely on these prison-like tactics,” he said.

Government funding for school security is among the common policy proposals for improving safety. However, Nance believes it may have an adverse effect. “My fear is that if the governments provide more funding for security these disparities will get worse.”

Another tactic is putting guards in schools. Parents often feel that their children are safer with a guard on campus, but that may not necessarily be true. “As schools employ more police officers, they tend to exacerbate the school-to-prison pipeline,” Nance said.

Nance’s fears are supported by experts who maintain that pipeline.

Although communities seek protection from sometimes real threats to their children’s safety, there are untold conse-

quences with increasing school security measures through police presence. With more officers at schools, students are more likely to be arrested — often for minor offenses. James Bell, founder and executive director of the W. Haywood Burns Institute for Juvenile Justice Fairness & Equality, said the justice system can’t cope.

“Courts aren’t reacting to this at all,” Bell said during a presentation at UF Law titled “Reforming the Juvenile Justice System: A Workshop for Change.”

He emphasized the research that suggests the juvenile justice system does not prevent juvenile crime; it makes it worse. Because the majority of juvenile crimes are minor, nonviolent, property-based offenses, Bell believes disciplining juveniles with incarceration is counterproductive. “We’re not taking into consid-

eration normal adolescent development,” Bell said.

Nance added that taking the right to discipline out of the hands of educators has a disproportionate effect on minorities, especially black males. Future employment and educational opportunities can be harmed, placing low-income students at a greater disadvantage to their peers. Nance suggested school administrators implement programs to foster trust between administrators and students as well as counseling and mental health programs.

Perhaps the most difficult realization in the debate about the intersection of guns and schools is that even intensified security measures and customized programs will not guarantee the safety of schoolchildren. Nance suggested that policymakers who seek to respond to Sandy Hook should keep such violence in perspective. “When it happens it’s tragic, but these tragedies are really rare,” Nance said.

“As schools employ more police officers, they tend to exacerbate the school-to-prison pipeline.”

—JASON NANCE, UF LAW PROFESSOR

UF Law alumna challenges gun control targeting local officials

Federal legislation died in April that would have expanded background checks for gun buyers nationally. And in Florida, where it is legal to carry concealed weapons, gun control measures after the schoolhouse massacre in Newtown never had much of a chance. The only gun-related measure likely to become law is National Rifle Association-backed legislation closing a loophole on the purchase of firearms by people admitted to mental institutions or deemed dangerous to themselves or others by a doctor.

But even before the recent series

of mass shootings in a Colorado movie theater and Connecticut elementary school, the Florida Legislature got tough on gun control: tough, that is, on local lawmakers who pass gun control laws that the Legislature deems outside their authority.

Amy Petrick (JD 00), senior assistant county attorney for Palm Beach County, is trying to reverse that policy as lead counsel in *Marcus v. Scott*, a case pending in Leon County. Petrick is challenging a law in which city and county commissioners can be fined \$5,000 and removed from office by the governor. It’s all about



Amy Petrick (JD 00) speaks during the Richard E. Nelson Symposium in Law.

preemption, the theme of this year’s Richard E. Nelson Symposium where Petrick spoke.

The 2011 state law was a response in part to Palm Beach County’s attempt to ban high-capacity gun magazines. Petrick said the commission put that idea on the shelf after Gov. Rick Scott signed the legislation into law. Palm Beach County is now suing the Florida governor, the Florida Legislature and Attorney General Pam Bondi, saying that the effect of the law was to “chill” commissioners’ lawmaking.

Michael O’Shea, professor of law at Oklahoma City University School of Law who also spoke at the conference, said it makes sense that the state would be the unit of government with authority over guns

because people often travel through more than one city or county in the course of a day, but they generally remain in the same state. He said state legislatures have responded



Michael O’Shea, a professor at Oklahoma City University School of Law, speaks during the Richard E. Nelson Symposium in Law.

with laws like Florida’s because local governments sometimes pass ordinances that flaunt gun law preemption by state legislatures.

But Petrick called the state law “political bullying with no proper purpose.” She argues that local government officials are caught in a catch-22 when land use issues touch firearm regulation in Florida. Petrick said the threatened penalties have led her to advise commissioners to steer clear of even some zoning questions because of uncertainty about what precisely remains under local authority.

—Richard Goldstein



Wright's world: Rails to trails, property to Potter

BY FELICIA HOLLOMAN (3L)

Danaya Wright, Clarence J. TeSelle Professor of Law, is thinking of biking with her partner and two young children on a trail converted from an old railroad bed. The Thanksgiving ride would take them through some of the most scenic areas of Georgia and Alabama.

In the meantime, she has numerous projects to juggle. Like analyzing 1,100 miles of abandoned railroad corridors through Ohio and tracing the history of the property conversions and their corresponding legal rights. In other words, she is researching the legal foundation of rails-to-trails, an example of which her family would peddle during their bicycle journey. With a team of law students, Wright reviewed about 50 boxes filled with deeds assembled by railroad companies long since disbanded. She now keeps the remnants of this monumental task in her home.

"In my office, it is all of my books. In my partner's office, I took over, and it is nothing but railroad deeds and maps," Wright said.

These are tangible artifacts of why UF Law Dean Robert Jerry calls Wright "the most prominent academic on the rails-to-trails issue in the United States."

The conversion of old railroad tracks to walking or bike trails caught Wright's attention as an avid bike rider and property scholar.

"I looked at this issue, and I thought, 'That totally goes against everything I know as a property professor,'" she said. "All of the property rules I teach are being upended by courts not following standard property rules about what rights the railroads received in the 19th century."

Landowners of former rail corridors argued that, but for federal legislation allowing rail corridors to be converted to trails, the land underlying these corridors would revert to them. So the landowners argue that use of these railroad corridors as trails is a government "taking." However, arguments favoring conversion of the rail corridors to trail use note that the rights to the land granted to the railroad came by way of eminent domain or government grant and are infused with a public trust.

Wright deploys her knowledge of 19th century railroad history, industrial development and property law to "unearth the property rights that were originally given to the railroad in the 19th century when these corridors were first constructed," she said. "Once we know what rights they got, we can determine what can be done today."

Meanwhile, a trusts and estates casebook authored by Wright is set to be published in June. She fell into the task of writing the book thanks to her UF Law courses.

"I agreed to teach trusts and estates when I first came to UF Law," she said. "I taught it again and again, and I just became so dissatisfied with the books that I had to write my own."

When she is not busy researching and writing about topics that strike her fancy, such as *Harry Potter* and the law, and the case in which the poet Percy Bysshe Shelley lost custody of his children, Wright teaches any one of seven courses, spanning property to English legal history.

"She is an enthusiastic professor who truly seems to care about her students," said Christy Lopez (3L), a former student in Wright's future interests course.

This enthusiasm for the subjects Wright teaches is also apparent through her nontraditional education path. Wright obtained five degrees before joining the UF Law faculty, including bachelor's and master's degrees in English literature, and a doctorate in political science.

It was at Cornell University School of Law that she decided to become a law professor. Yet upon graduation, Wright pursued a doctorate in political science. This degree, according to Wright, allowed her to continue studying law beyond a practice-orientated legal education.

In 1998, Wright accepted a position at UF Law. And despite not having practiced law, her trusts and estates casebook is heavily practice-oriented.

As a professor, Wright continues to explore her many academic interests. Last year, she presented a lecture on the family and the state in the *Harry Potter* series while dressed in a witch's garb; it is a topic that spoke to her family law and legal history background.

"*Harry Potter* made sense because it is English; it is literature; it has this taste of being historical, but there is a lot of law in it," she said.

Wright has lived in many states while studying or teaching, but she seems to have finally set up shop in Gainesville with 20 acres of land. She raises sheep on 10 of those acres.

Reflecting on her new role as "sheep farmer," she noted, "We will have 20 or so in the next month." It's a challenge, among so many others, that Wright appears happy to accept.

MEDIA HITS



"The Justice Department has learned very well what works in court. If you can tell a story about a firm constraining prices, that's a good story to tell a judge. And nothing tells a better story than documents."

—DANIEL SOKOL
Associate Professor of Law

"U.S. Fights AB InBev With Tested Game Plan" (Feb. 3, 2013, *The Wall Street Journal*)



"This is very, very complicated. Free speech can be upsetting. It can inflict psychological distress."

—LYRISSA LIDSKY Stephen C. O'Connell Chair; Professor of Law

"Videos of school fights do lingering harm, but videographers may have legal protection" (Feb. 19, 2013, *Tampa Bay Times*)



"I'm sure the NCAA is looking for a way to bring the matter gracefully to a conclusion with a limited amount of egg on their face. It's more a matter of perception than reality about the admissibility of improper evidence. The NCAA is displaying an excess of concern about image, it looks like to me."

—BOB DEKLE
Master Legal Skills Professor

"Settlement possible after NCAA admits misconduct in UM probe" (Jan. 24, 2013, *The Miami Herald*)



“If it’s a forged signature, it’s not a valid note. It comes down to a matter of proof. It’s a question of fact, whether it is her signature or not. They must prove it’s her signature.”

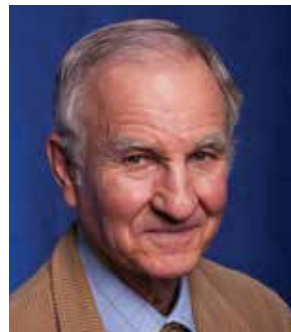
—**JEFFREY DAVIS**
Professor of Law; Gerald A. Sohn Research Scholar

“Attorney: 94-year-old lost \$55,000 from fake papers for Sam Snead’s Tavern” (Nov. 18, 2012, *Naples Daily News*)



—**JOSEPH LITTLE**
Professor Emeritus

“Fans injured at NASCAR race explore legal options” (Feb. 27, 2013, *Associated Press*)



“A ticket to one of these events is like a contract — and its provisions limiting liability are generally enforceable. We enter into these types of contracts on a regular basis, and we often don’t give it a second thought that we may be limiting or even giving up certain legal rights when we do so.”

“You get the justice you can afford. For the most part, people who have status in our society generally get better treatment than others. I don’t think that the criminal-justice system is different from that.”

—**KENNETH NUNN**
Professor of Law; Associate Director, Center on Children and Families; Assistant Director, Criminal Justice Center

“Pill-mill docs often avoid prison, but street-level dealers get locked up” (Feb. 21, 2013, *Orlando Sentinel*)



—**MICHAEL ALLAN WOLF**
Professor of Law; Richard E. Nelson Chair in Local Government Law

“Florida justices side with bank in foreclosure fraud case” (Feb. 7, 2013, *Palm Beach Post*)



“In a sense, this was theoretical fraud, not actual fraud, because the bank withdrew the lawsuit early enough. I think (the justices) were reading the rules and statutes in a common-sense fashion.”



STUART COHN
John H. & Mary Lou Dasburg Professor of Law

“The New Crowdfunding Registration Exemption: Good Idea, Bad Execution” *Florida Law Review*, 64 Fl. L. Rev. 1433 (2012)

The JOBS Act of 2012 created a so-called “crowdfunding” exemption allowing small companies to raise capital from numerous small contributors without the cost and expense of a registration statement under the 1933 Securities Act. Cohn argues that Congress’ good intentions were drowned in regulation due to heavy-handed technical requirements.

ROBERT H. JERRY II
UF Law Dean; Levin Mabie & Levin Professor of Law

“Bad Faith at Middle Age: Comments on ‘The Principle Without a Name (Yet),’ Insurance Law, Contract Law, Specialness, Distinctiveness, and Difference” *Connecticut Insurance Law Journal*, 19 Conn. Ins. L. J. 13 (2012)

Jerry expounds on Kenneth Abraham’s article about

insurer liability for bad faith by pointing out that the concept of institutional bad faith is not a new phenomenon, but rather, one that is as old as the insurance industry itself.

OMRI MARIAN
Assistant Professor of Law

“Meaningless Comparisons: Corporate Tax Reform Discourse in the United States” *Virginia Tax Review*, 32 Va. Tax Rev. 133 (2012)

International comparisons in current corporate tax reform discourse in the United States often mischaracterize the tax-competitiveness of the U.S. tax system. Marian prescribes a road map for the comparisons of tax laws.

WENTONG ZHENG
Assistant Professor of Law

“Reforming Trade Remedies” *Michigan Journal of International Law*, 34 Mich. J. Int’l L. 151-207 (2012)

Zheng critiques the current trade remedy regime consisting primarily of antidumping and countervailing duties and proposes to replace it with a country-specific safeguard that is economically

sensible, democratic and politically feasible.

JOHN STINNEFORD
Assistant Director, Criminal Justice Center; Associate Professor of Law

“Punishment Without Culpability” *Journal of Criminal Law & Criminology*, 102 J. Crim. L. & Criminology 653 (2012)

Stinneford argues that the Constitution should be interpreted in accordance with the common law synthesis of morality and tradition to deny the legislature power to impose punishment without culpability.

JASON NANCE
Associate Director, Center on Children and Families; Assistant Professor of Law

“School Security Considerations After Newtown” *Stanford Law Review Online*, 65 Stan. L. Rev. Online 103 (2013)

Since the tragic massacre at Newtown, our country has turned its attention to school security. Nance provides important points for policymakers and school

officials to consider before embarking on a new phase of school security upgrades.

WINSTON NAGAN
Samuel T. Dell Research Scholar Professor of Law; Founding Director, Institute for Human Rights and Peace Development

Contextual-Configurative Jurisprudence: The Law, Science and Policies of Human Dignity (Vandelpas Publishing)

This book looks at law in a futuristic manner that involves examining the idea of law in terms of decision and policy rather than simply as rules and principles. Nagan undertakes a careful analysis of modern theories of justice and their relevance to the practice and operation of the law.

LEONARD RISKIN
Chesterfield Smith Professor of Law

Riskin has been selected for the 2013 American Bar Association Section on Dispute Resolution’s Award for Outstanding Scholarly Work. His scholarship has “significantly contributed to the dispute resolution field,” according to the ABA.



The law of innovation

Alumni, faculty, students
keep engine of high-tech
growth humming

BY FRANCIE WEINBERG (4JM)
AND RICHARD GOLDSTEIN

With the help of UF Law alumni, faculty and students a technology-centric cluster of businesses known as Innovation Square next to and facilitated by the University of Florida may be nearing its economic escape velocity.

Innovation Hub is an incubator building – within the broader Innovation Square development – that grows entrepreneurial businesses, technology and ideas. Lawyers are increasingly giving those entrepreneurs a hand navigating the contracts, incorporations and intellectual-property problems encountered by businesses in biotech, information technology and mobile application development. Law firms and lawyers are delivering the business and specialized intellectual property services to bring products to the marketplace.

Jeff Lloyd (JD 87), a registered patent lawyer, sees Innovation Hub as a way for small companies to grow into larger ones. “These companies that are just trying to get off the ground have a way of becoming successful companies that are then ready to go out and move into bigger digs,” Lloyd said.

Dean Mead's Jack Bovay (JD 82, LLMT 88), left, and Michael Minton (JD 81, LLMT 82) in the foyer of Gainesville's Innovation Hub. (Photo by Elise Giordano 4JM)

Lloyd’s firm, of Saliwanchik, Lloyd & Eisenschenk, maintains an office in the Hub and assists entrepreneurs with obtaining patents.

“We’ve been helping the university protect its inventions for over 25 years,” Lloyd said. “It’s important for us to show our support for them and make sure that we’re very easily accessible to them.”

As Innovation Hub nurses 25 startups, more established firms are starting to fill in the surrounding Innovation Square, said Ed Poppell, UF’s economic director – Innovation Square. Within the last year, Mindtree, an India-based software company; Sears Holding Company; and Mobiquity, a national mobile applications firm, have announced plans for the creation of hundreds of new jobs in the development located between the university campus and downtown Gainesville. The Square is in the former location of Alachua General Hospital, which was demolished in 2010.

Dean Mead, a commercial law firm with four Florida offices, has been involved with Innovation Square’s development through tax structuring and real estate work. Jack Bovay (JD 82, LLMT 88), Dean Mead’s Gainesville partner, hopes to see economic wins from Innovation Square. “We want the businesses to stay here and thrive here and employ our young people and keep our University of Florida graduates here in Gainesville,” he said.

GrayRobinson has responded to the growth with its first Gainesville office under the direction of Thomas C. McThenia Jr. The GrayRobinson partner said he intends to hire lawyers for the office.

“We chose Innovation Square as both the current and what we can see as the future opportunities,” said McThenia, whose practice focuses on intellectual property and venture capital. “It seemed to me, as a newcomer to Gainesville, as the best place to locate.”

Business and intellectual property lawyer Cathy Mitchell (JD 88) is expanding her practice from her home base in Princeton, N.J., to Gainesville, which includes a presence in Innovation Hub. She said the state of



Florida, UF and the city’s nurturing of innovative startups contributed to her decision.

Inventions to store shelves

In the past decade, the UF Office of Technology Licensing has licensed university technology to more than 100 companies, according to its website. NanoPhotonica, whose top technological management are faculty or were trained at UF, is one of those companies. NanoPhotonica CEO Chris Morton describes the business as dedicated to applying breakthrough electro-optic technologies.

NanoPhotonica develops products that make it easier to see phone screens and high-definition flat panels for companies in Asia.

But before some of its most innovative products land on store shelves, Morton must sort out other puzzles – of the legal variety with the help of UF Law.

“That’s part of the theory of the Hub: to have these people available,” Morton said. “It’s nice to be able to say, ‘Hey listen, we might have uncovered some additional IP (intellectual property), can you be there for a half hour?’ or ‘Can you meet with a potential investor of the company and give him your views on why the patents are strong?’”

So the Hub brings together lawyers with entrepreneurs who need their guidance. Morton said partners in Saliwanchik, Lloyd & Eisenschenk have been helpful in his work.

“It became a natural relationship that just sort of evolved,” Morton said. “And there are other patent attorneys and service providers there, too. They all give you the feeling that you can drop in and say, ‘Hi.’”

In an April 15 *New Jersey Law Journal* article, Mitchell summed up the method that technology companies, lawyers and universities use to bring innovative products to the marketplace. “Tech transfer offices receive invention disclosures from university faculty, staff and students. The offices typically evaluate these disclosures for their commercial possibilities and, when possible, license them to industry,” Mitchell wrote.



Mitchell



Lloyd



Morton

Issues related to patents, copyright and trademarks form the bulk of intellectual property law concerns. More generally, Mitchell wrote, “Lawyers enable transactions. They make sure that the deals go through smoothly. They minimize the client’s exposure to legal risk going forward.”

Poppell added that, ultimately, the growth of high-tech, high-paying jobs means opportunities for skilled professionals, including UF Law alumni. “It also creates career paths in Gainesville,” Poppell said. “The more jobs we create, the more opportunities we create for students to stay in Gainesville.”

Beyond jobs

The growing host of lawyers delivering legal services to the entrepreneurs in Innovation Square may also turn out to be a boon to students for interning opportunities. Mitchell said she appreciates the nearby resources of the law school and has already made use of one of them by working with a UF Law 3L intern.

Law firm leaders envision cross-pollination between UF Law and the creativity blossoming at Innovation Square. Michael Minton (JD 81, LLMT 82), immediate past president of Dean Mead and chairman-elect of the Board of Trustees for the University of Florida Law Center Association, noted that connections with Innovation Square inject practical experience into the curriculum.

“There’s a lot of conversation across the country about the nature of the third-year law

school academic curriculum,” Minton said. “There’s a lot of movement toward more practical, more real-world exposure. The University of Florida has been very supportive of this effort. This is a way to teach new students about the balance of being a well-rounded business lawyer.”

In addition to working with Hub entrepreneurs, Lloyd is a UF Law adjunct professor, who trains the next generation of patent lawyers in Patent Drafting and Prosecution 1 and 2. The courses take students through the steps of being presented with an invention to obtaining a patent for it.

Lloyd said his Innovation Hub office makes him more accessible to students as well as the UF Office of Technology and

Licensing. The law firm’s open-door policy encourages anyone to come by and ask questions or seek help. The Hub is designed to provide an affordable location and encourage more interaction among the tenants in the building.

Bovay, also an adjunct professor at UF Law, teaches Advising the Entrepreneur, a course for third-year students that delves into choice of entity, and governing and employment agreements.

“My goal for them is that they will be able to hold their own in a conversation with gray-hairs like me when they first get started in the law practice,” said Bovay, who serves on the Law Center Association Board of Trustees. “I want them to have heard some of the terms and have some familiarity.”

“This is a way to teach new students about the balance of being a well-rounded business lawyer.”

—MICHAEL MINTON (JD 81, LLMT 82)

Following her heart, saving a bay

UF Law propels corporate lawyer on a new path

BY JENNA BOX (3JM)

UF Law LL.M. candidate Alexis Segal during a cleanup mission at Biscayne Bay.

“OK, brace yourself,” the email began.

It was a Sunday morning in 2010 when Alexis Segal, a corporate litigation attorney for Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP, opened that email. She was not ready for the news that followed: The executive director wanted to quit an embryonic nonprofit organization on which Segal served as a board member in her spare time.

“I’d like to offer the role of executive director to you,” the email said.

Nearly three years later, Segal, an Environmental and Land Use Law LL.M. candidate, read the message out loud inside the program’s office on the second floor of Bruton-Geer Hall. She looked down and paused. “Never in a million years did I think of being the executive director of anything,” she said.

Segal had been practicing law for seven years, but she never felt connected to her work. Certain she could find that connection, she volunteered with various groups. Eventually, she found Waterkeeper Alliance, the international headquarters of more than 200 waterkeeper organizations. Soon after, she signed on to help form the Biscayne Bay Waterkeeper from New York City as a board member.

Biscayne Bay was special to Segal: She practically grew up on it. Every weekend her family would spend a day on the water. But as clear and beautiful as it seemed, Biscayne Bay had a dirty secret. Sewage spills from aging pipelines contaminated the area. Years later, the bay became the target of a government-funded infrastructure project with potentially serious environmental consequences.

In 2010, Segal figured it was time to pursue her passion. A few months after opening that email, she quit her steady corporate litigation practice, sold her Manhattan apartment and moved home to Miami. At the age of 33, she would live with her parents and have a makeshift office in the den. She had to build the job she wanted from scratch, but in January 2011, Biscayne Bay Waterkeeper was born.

Within six months, Segal challenged a pending permit that would allow for the

deepening and widening of the Port of Miami in Biscayne Bay. Project plans called for blasting lime rock and dredging the bay. Under the rock lay an aging pipeline that daily carried 25 million gallons of raw sewage to a nearby treatment plant. Biscayne Bay Waterkeeper agreed that the pipeline had to be replaced but wanted assurances that contractors would blast as far as possible from the line. Segal warned of a catastrophe similar to the BP spill – only this one would be with sewage.

Eduardo A. Vega, assistant director of engineering for the Miami-Dade Water and Sewer Department, said there was “minimum risk” of a sewage spill. If a spill was to occur, he said there would be “some overflow of sewage on the street.” The permit’s final version reflected safer practices, including connections on land between the new and old pipelines instead of underwater, which reduced risks to the bay, Vega said.

The 2012 settlement between the state and Biscayne Bay Waterkeeper increased the distance crews would blast from the sewage line, Segal said. The conservation group won other improvements in the final permit, including \$1.3 million toward a county trust fund for projects to protect the bay. As of April 2013, the PortMiami expansion project was 80 percent complete, Vega said.

In the midst of the legal battle, Segal visited UF Law to speak at the 2012 Public Interest Environmental Conference as a waterkeeper panelist. She felt like the perennial underdog in her work, she said, but the conference opened her eyes to a new sense of support. That fall, with the aid of a Southeast Climate Consortium fellowship, Segal joined the 2013 LL.M. class.

During her marine resource protection research at UF Law, Segal led the Biscayne Bay Waterkeeper in a new campaign to fix Miami-Dade County’s decrepit sewage infrastructure. In a two-year period, more

than 47 million gallons of raw sewage spilled into Miami-Dade County waterways and onto streets from aging sewage lines. The problems caught the attention of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, which brought a federal enforcement action against the county for violating the Clean Water Act.

Miami-Dade County, the state and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency are negotiating a consent decree under which the county plans to spend about \$1.5 billion to upgrade wastewater treatment plants, pump stations and pipelines. Segal worried that the consent decree would omit protections against flooding tides, storm surges or rising sea levels that could threaten sewage infrastructure. As a result, Biscayne Bay Waterkeeper requested to join this enforcement action as a party to the case.

“They’re so underwater with these repairs that they can’t look past the immediate fixes,” Segal said. “It’s like putting a Band-Aid on a gaping hole.”

Segal said UF Law has reinforced her confidence in her legal strategies on behalf of Biscayne Bay. The LL.M. program also gave her unique opportunities, including studying in

Belize over spring break and kayaking on the Ichetucknee River with public environmental law legends. Meanwhile, she commuted to Miami almost weekly to lead Biscayne Bay Waterkeeper while attending classes on weekdays in Gainesville. Segal also has been nominated by Florida Sea Grant for the Knauss Fellowship — a yearlong fellowship in marine policy. If chosen, Segal will continue her education by working with a government host in the Washington, D.C., area.

Segal said managing school and the organization is “impossible almost.”

“But fighting for the right to clean water felt homegrown,” she said. “The fact that it’s Biscayne Bay makes it even closer to my heart.”

Segal said UF Law has reinforced her confidence in her legal strategies on behalf of Biscayne Bay.



Members of The John Marshall Bar Association show off their personalities in front of the Martin H. Levin Advocacy Center. (Photo by Haley Stracher 4JM)

**The Florida Bar Annual
UF Law Alumni Reception**
June 27
6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Boca Raton Resort & Club
Boca Raton

**Law Alumni Council Board
of Directors Meeting**
June 28
8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
Boca Raton Resort & Club
Boca Raton

**Marshall Criser Lecture with
guest Richard Susskind**
Sept. 12
UF Law campus

**Gideon v. Wainwright
symposium hosted by the Criminal
Justice Center**
Sept. 19
UF Law campus

**Heritage of Leadership and
Fall Book Awards Ceremony**
Sept. 20
UF Hilton Conference Center

**Law Center Association Board of
Trustees / Law Alumni Council
Meeting**
Sept. 21
UF Law campus

**Weyrauch Distinguished
Lecture with guest
Pedro Neguara**
Oct. 21
UF Law campus

**International Tax Law
Symposium**
Nov. 1
UF Law campus