



FSU LAW

Focus

September 1,
2023

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From the Dean



(L-R) Second-year law students Allison, Jake, and Ashvi with Professor Justin Sevier on the first day of classes

The fall 2023 semester began this week, and although Hurricane Idalia caused some hiccups in our schedule, we are delighted to have students back on campus! In addition to welcoming back our returning 2Ls and 3Ls, we are joined by 139 new 1Ls, more than a dozen new LL.M. students, and 17 transfer students. The hallways and classrooms are full of energy as we all embrace the promise that a new academic year brings. We are also thrilled to have our new faculty members on campus. For those who may have missed past issues of the newsletter that highlighted our new professors, we have nine new full-time faculty members this year—which we believe is a record! They are already making substantial contributions to the vibrant scholarly atmosphere that brought me to FSU Law, and a number of them have been honored for their exceptional teaching at past institutions, so our students are in great hands.

Erin O'Connor
Dean Erin O'Connor

2023 Homecoming Festivities



We will host our 2023 Homecoming festivities in October and would love for you and your family to join us! Law school events will begin Friday, October 20, with a Homecoming Pig Roast hosted by Pittman Law Group. On Saturday, October 21, all alumni are invited to our Alumni Board meeting, and all alumni and their families are invited to the Law Alumni Tailgate Party on the James Harold Thompson Green prior to the FSU v. Duke football game. On Sunday, October 22, the festivities will conclude with a 50-year Alumni Brunch, celebrating the class of 1973. In addition, the classes of 1973, 1983, 1993, 2003, and 2013 are celebrating reunions, and we encourage members of these classes to connect at our festivities. You can [visit our](#)

[website](#) to learn more about FSU Law events and register to attend. We look forward to seeing you and your families!

Alum Profile: Zachary W. Lombardo ('15)

Zachary W. “Zach” Lombardo is an associate at Woodward, Pires & Lombardo, P.A. in Naples. Lombardo represents clients in land use and local government law matters, including comprehensive plan amendments, rezonings, variances, conditional uses, and non-conforming uses. He also represents clients on matters involving public records, including litigation, and counsels clients on environmental concerns involving state lands, environmental resource permits, and sovereign lands leases. In addition, Lombardo serves as board counsel to the City of Everglades City Planning and Zoning Committee and assists in representing various special district clients and municipal clients. Recently, Lombardo became Florida Bar board certified in city, county, and local government law. He is very involved in professional and community organizations. Lombardo served as president of the Collier County Bar Association Young Lawyers Section for 2022-2023 and currently serves on the executive council of The Florida Bar Environmental and Land Use Law Section.



“I am grateful to have had the opportunity to become board certified. I have been fortunate to have great mentors, and I look forward to continuing to learn, follow my passion, and develop my practice.”

Student Profile: 3L Trellanie Jordan

Desired Practice Location: Atlanta, Georgia, or Charlotte, North Carolina; would also consider remote opportunities

Expected Graduation: May 2024

Field of Law Sought: Entertainment law;
especially interested in contract drafting,
intellectual property, and copyright



Trellanie Jordan, from Valdosta, Georgia, attended Georgia Southern University for her undergraduate studies, where she earned a Bachelor of Science in Child and Family Development. She will graduate from FSU Law this spring and will earn the Business Law Certificate. Jordan plans to participate in the College of Law’s Business Law Clinic during the spring 2024 semester, where she will help advise business and social entrepreneurs in the FSU community and will learn basic bargaining, drafting, risk-assessment, and legal ethics skills. During the spring of her 2L year and the following summer, Jordan was a legal intern with the Florida Department of Management Services Office of the General Counsel, where she worked in the litigation and transactional programs. Her responsibilities included performing legal research and contract modifications and preparing for hearings. During the summer after her 1L year, Jordan was a legal intern with the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Civil Rights. There, she assisted attorneys with discrimination complaints filed against DOE financial assistance recipients, which included researching relevant legal issues and drafting case documents.

At FSU Law, Jordan is a student ambassador with the Office of Admissions and a member of the Black Law Students Association. If you are interested in connecting with or hiring Jordan after graduation, visit her [LinkedIn profile](#) or email her at tj22h@fsu.edu.

“I am enthusiastic about applying my legal education and practical skills to tackle real-world challenges, all while embracing continuous growth as a new attorney. The journey before me holds great promise, and I am excited about what lies ahead.”



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