



## COLLEGE OF LAW

# FSU LAW FOCUS

October 20, 2017

### From the Dean



Homecoming 2017 is quickly approaching and we hope you will join us for our events! All alumni are invited to a reunion reception on Friday, November 17, from 6-9 pm and to our alumni association board meeting and tailgate party on Saturday, November 18 – times will be determined based on the not-yet-announced start time for the Delaware State vs. FSU football game. For more information on these and other events, [visit our website](#) . Please be sure to [register online](#) by Monday, November 13 if you plan to attend. Homecoming is

one of our favorite law school events because so many friendly faces return to campus – we hope yours will be among them this year!

- Dean Erin O'Connor

*Pictured above: Homecoming 2016 Tailgate Party*

## Faculty Profile: Wayne A. Logan

[Wayne A. Logan](#), Gary & Sallyn Pajcic Professor, teaches and writes in the areas of criminal law, criminal procedure and sentencing. He has published extensively and his work has appeared in the nation's leading law journals, including the *Georgetown Law Journal*, the *Michigan Law Review*, the *Minnesota Law Review*, the *Notre Dame Law Review*, the *Pennsylvania Law Review* and the *Vanderbilt Law Review*. One of



Logan's main research areas concerns sex offender registration and community notification laws (a.k.a. "Megan's Laws"). His book on the subject was cited by the U.S. Supreme Court in 2013 and he is the co-editor (with University of Michigan Law Professor J.J. Prescott) of the first book to provide empirical analyses of registration and notification laws, which will be published by Cambridge University Press. This past summer, Logan was invited by a law school in India to consult on potential creation of a sex offender registry. Logan is also the co-author of the nation's leading treatise on collateral consequences of criminal conviction and in early November will provide a presentation on the subject to the Florida Constitution Revision Commission. Logan is frequently quoted in national media outlets, such as *The New York Times* and *The Wall Street Journal*. He is an elected member of the American Law Institute, a past chair of the Criminal Justice Section of the Association of American Law Schools, and currently serves on the association's Standing Committee on Membership Review. In 2015, Logan received a University Teaching Award and for the past several years has served as a faculty advisor to the *Florida State University Law Review*. He teaches Criminal Procedure: Police Investigation, Criminal Procedure: Adjudication, Criminal Law, Sentencing Law and Policy, and Capital Punishment.

*"My teaching, research and law reform efforts are closely related," Logan said. "My teaching informs my research, and vice versa, and my work with law reform organizations affords valuable insights into the challenges facing the criminal justice system, providing my students with a richer understanding of the real-world effect of law and policy."*

## Alum Profile: Jami A. Coleman ('08)

Jami A. Coleman practices at Viera Williams P.A., in Tallahassee, where she specializes in tax law, probate matters, estate planning and business law. The majority of her practice is devoted to helping business owners and individuals with their business and tax related matters. In addition to obtaining her J.D. from Florida State, Coleman earned a Master of Law in taxation from Georgetown University Law Center. Coleman's previous experience includes working for Special Trial Judge John F. Dean at the United States Tax Court and serving as an attorney for the Legal Services of North Florida Low Income Taxpayer Clinic, where she assisted approximately 300 low-income taxpayers annually with their tax controversies against the Internal Revenue Service. Earlier this year, Coleman was honored by the Tallahassee Bar Association as the recipient of the Thomas M. Ervin Jr. Distinguished Young Lawyer Award. The award was presented to Coleman in part for her pro bono work and commitment to low-income individuals and families. Coleman was selected as a fellow for the Real Property, Probate & Trust Law Section of The Florida Bar as well as a 2017 Rising Star. Coleman was also in the spotlight when she graced the cover and was featured in the August/September issue of *Tallahassee Woman Magazine*. The article focused on Coleman's journey to "design a life with meaning and purpose."



## Student Profile: 3L Christopher Villa

### **Desired Practice Location :**

Florida or Georgia, preferably in an urban environment

**Expected Graduation :** May 2018

**Field of Law Sought :** real estate, probate, trust and estates; also interested in a judicial clerkship for a Florida appellate court or the Florida Supreme Court

Originally from Jacksonville, Illinois, Christopher Villa earned a bachelor's degree in criminal justice with minors in law & society and psychology from Western Illinois University. Currently, Villa is a notes and comments editor for the *Florida State University Law Review* and a member of the *Journal of Transnational Law & Policy*. The summer after his 1L year, Villa was a judicial clerk for Florida's Second Judicial Circuit in Tallahassee, where he assisted judges and staff



attorneys with legal research and writing projects, including motions to suppress, motions for new trials and an appeal. During the 2016-2017 academic year, Villa was a teaching assistant for Professor Christopher F. Busch's Legal Writing and Research class. In this role, Villa held a citation workshop and weekly office hours to review course materials with law students and help them with their assignments. This summer, Villa was a graduate intern at First American Title Insurance in Atlanta, where he analyzed access on a million-acre timber transaction, which involved direct communication with the client and outside companies. He also reviewed and edited title commitments. If you are interested in hiring Villa after graduation, [visit his LinkedIn profile](#) .

*“I started training in jiu-jitsu my second semester of law school. It has taught me the importance of staying calm in stressful situations and developing a game plan to come out on top.”*



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