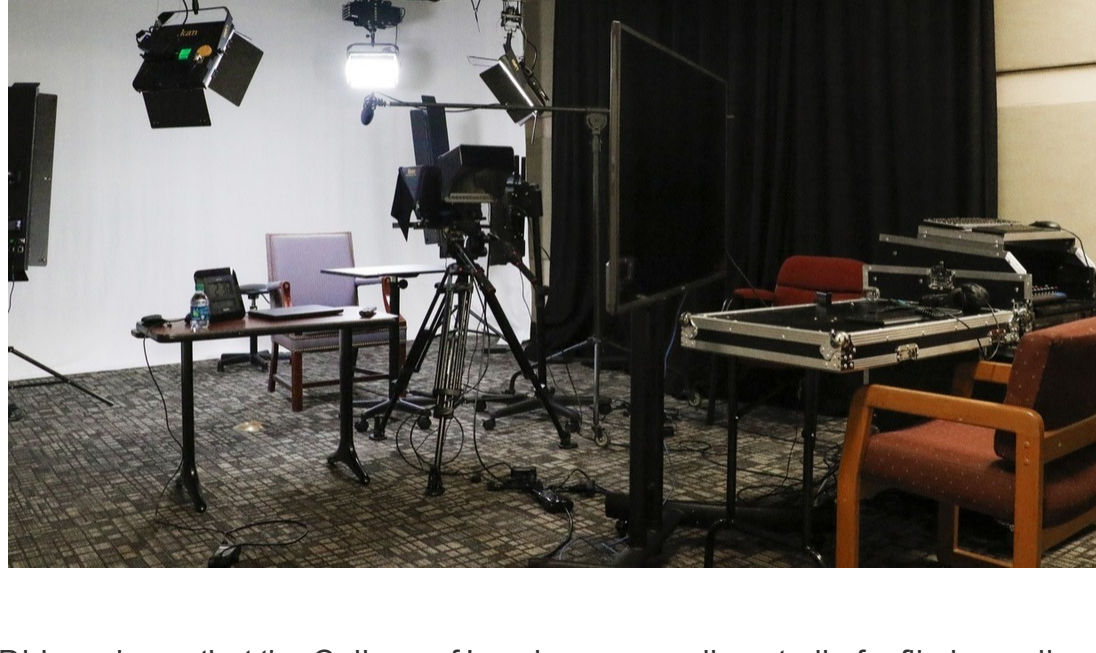


## From the Dean



Did you know that the College of Law has a recording studio for filming online courses and other videos? The space, which we began utilizing in the fall of 2017, was made possible by the generous support of the Workers' Compensation Institute and alumnus Jim McConnaughay ('69). It includes a green screen, teleprompter, backdrops and multiple cameras and sound mixers. Our dedicated team of audio video professionals records videos in the room and edits the footage to create a wide variety of video products. Many groups within our community have used the studio, including our Trial Team, Career Services Office, Alumni Affairs Office, Summer for Undergraduates Program and Office of Student Advancement. Additionally, numerous adjunct professors who teach courses in our online Juris Master program have filmed their class sessions at the law school. We have also recorded students, faculty members and administrators for marketing videos and projects to congratulate members of our community on special achievements. We are also capable of conducting livestream videos in the studio. Although most of us have not been working on campus during the past couple of months, we continue to utilize the recording studio. I have personally filmed two messages for students in the last two weeks. If you haven't seen our studio, I invite you to visit campus for a tour once it is safe to do so. We would love to show you the space!

-Dean Erin O'Connor

## Professor Linford Authors Amicus Brief Before the U.S. Supreme Court

On Monday, May 4, live [teleconference oral arguments](#) were held for the first time in a U.S. Supreme Court case, *United States Patent and Trademark Office v. Booking.com*, a dispute over the protectability of Booking.com as a trademark. Jake Linford, the Loula Fuller and Dan Myers Professor at FSU Law, was the lead author on an [amicus brief before the Supreme Court](#).



Much of [Linford's scholarship](#) challenges trademark doctrine when it deviates from trademark law's proper focus on consumer perception and consumer use. The Patent and Trademark Office proposed a rule that would bar registration of a mark comprised of an ostensibly generic term and a top-level domain like .com. The rule would require courts to ignore evidence that consumers see the combined term as a source signifier. As Linford argued in [an earlier article](#), the rule is in error because it fails to recognize how language meaning, including the meaning of many trademarks, continually changes through use. Moreover, ignoring the acquired source significance in a trademark imposes costs on consumers and harms competition. In the brief, Linford joined trademark and internet professors in arguing that "if there is sufficient evidence that the majority of consumers have come to see a term as source-signifying rather than merely product-designating, the term should be protectable like any other trademark."

On the evening of the historic oral argument, Linford participated in a virtual panel of trademark experts hosted by American University Washington College of Law. The panelists recapped the oral argument and discussed the potential implications of the Court's pending decision. [A recording of the panel discussion is available online.](#)

## Student Profile: 2020 Grad Jordan Botsch

**Desired Practice Location:** Tampa Bay area  
**Field of Law Sought:** Has experience in both insurance defense and family law and would like to continue in either of those fields after the bar exam



Jordan Botsch is from Tarpon Springs, Florida, in the Tampa Bay area. She graduated *summa cum laude* from FSU with a bachelor's degree in history and a minor in political science. She became a double 'Nole earlier this month when she graduated from FSU Law. During her 3L year, Botsch was a teaching assistant for two courses in the Juris Master Online Program—the Workplace Privacy and Cybersecurity class during the fall semester and Consumer Protection during the spring semester. Last summer, Botsch clerked for Rywant, Alvarez, Jones, Russo & Guyton P.A., where she conducted legal research in insurance defense issues and drafted motions for summary judgment regarding personal injury protection and construction defects. During the spring semester of her 2L year, Botsch externed for the Honorable Karen Gievers of Florida's Second Judicial Circuit. There, she researched personal injury cases, wrongful death claims and foreclosures. She also worked with Judge Gievers through tobacco litigation and made recommended rulings on a variety of motions in limine. During the fall semester of her 2L year, Botsch participated in the FSU Public Interest Law Center Children's Advocacy Clinic, where she independently handled cases. She participated in judicial review hearings and gained practice in Social Security and Medicaid. Botsch spent her 1L summer clerking for Children's Legal Services at the Florida Department of Children and Families. She conducted research and helped attorneys prepare for trial or hearings, and drafted a termination of parental rights petition and petitions for dependency. That summer, Botsch also clerked for the Honorable Carl C. Hinson in the Family Law Division of Florida's Thirteenth Judicial Circuit. She observed trials, hearings and court proceedings in family law cases including adoption, divorce and custody issues.

During law school, Botsch served as both the associate editor of the *Journal of Land Use & Environmental Law* and an article selection editor of the *Journal of Transnational Law & Policy*. She was also a member of the Student Bar Association and Women's Law Symposium. If you are interested in hiring Botsch, [visit her LinkedIn profile](#).

*"FSU Law has provided me with the skills and educational background to be successful in the legal field. I look forward to offering these skills and helping my community."*

## Student Profile: 2020 Grad Dominick Mezzoline

**Desired Practice Location:** Naples, Florida area or the Southwest Florida region  
**Field of Law Sought:** Open to working in any area of law



Originally from Naples, Florida, Dominick Mezzoline earned a bachelor's degree in political science from Florida Gulf Coast University. He graduated from FSU College of Law earlier this month. During the fall semester of his 3L year, Mezzoline worked closely with an attorney at the Tallahassee Legal Aid Foundation. He conducted research and analyzed case law, statutes and legislation history for family law cases. He was also able to observe trial hearings for these cases. During his 2L summer, Mezzoline also worked for the Tallahassee Legal Aid Foundation, where he assisted in consultations with clients that ranged from probate cases to landlord tenant issues. He also processed client intake and managed confidential client information. If you are interested in hiring Mezzoline, [visit his LinkedIn profile](#).

*"I am so thankful for the knowledge and experience that I have gained from my time at FSU Law."*



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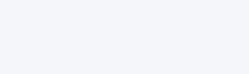
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