

From the Dean



Judge Covington talks to students about her career over high tea.

Earlier this month, the Honorable Virginia M. Hernandez Covington, of the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Florida, visited FSU Law to meet with students and faculty members. Judge Covington, who recently hired one of our third-year students for a post-graduation clerkship, has served on the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Florida since 2004. She previously was a judge on the Florida Second District Court of Appeal and an assistant U.S. attorney for the Middle District of Florida. She earned her bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Tampa before graduating from Georgetown University Law Center with her juris doctor degree in 1980. She is very active in community and bar activities and has taught numerous classes in subjects including trial advocacy, intellectual property issues, drug prosecutions, money laundering, asset forfeiture and human trafficking. While on campus, Judge Covington ate breakfast with student leaders, spoke to Professor Ehrhardt's Evidence class, met with the Career Services Office and Judicial Clerkship Committee, provided remarks over lunch to the faculty and met with students for high tea. Her visit was part of our robust Jurist in Residence Program, which brings federal judges from around the nation to the law school.

- Dean Erin O'Connor

Faculty Profile: Charlee Morgan Taylor

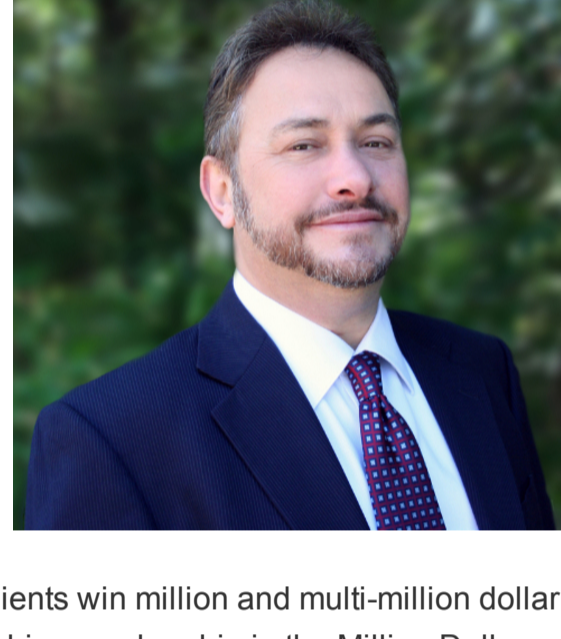
Legal Writing Professor [Charlee Morgan Taylor](#) teaches Legal Writing and Research I and II, as well as Elder Law. Prior to joining the faculty at Florida State in 2005, Taylor clerked for Florida Supreme Court Justice Harry Lee Anstead. Previously, she clerked for Judge Robert T. Benton, II, of Florida's First District Court of Appeal. Taylor is a 2003 graduate of the Florida State University College of Law and earned her bachelor's degree in Spanish from the College of Charleston. While a law student, she served on the *Florida State University Law Review* and on the *Journal of Land Use & Environmental Law*, and was elected to Order of the Coif.



"When I was a law student at the College of Law, the faculty and staff, by example, encouraged kindness and generosity. I love being part of a team that endorses those qualities, which are infectious in such an immersed atmosphere and which engender content and collegial professionals."

Alum Profile: Daniel M. Soloway ('85)

[Daniel M. Soloway](#) is president of the Soloway Law Firm in Pensacola, where he specializes in civil rights, social security and personal injury law. After graduating from FSU Law in 1985, he practiced with McKenzie and Soloway for 13 years before opening his own firm in 1998. With three attorneys and 10 employees, the firm handles cases in both state and federal court, as well as administrative law claims throughout Florida, Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana. Soloway has helped his clients win million and multi-million dollar settlements and trial verdicts, earning him membership in the Million Dollar Advocates Forum. He was chosen from more than 20,000 members nationwide to present an amicus curiae brief on disability law to the U.S. Supreme Court on behalf of the Association of Trial Lawyers of America. He has also earned recognition for his pro bono work, including The Florida Bar President's Pro Bono Service Award and the Escambia-Santa Rosa Bar Association's Pro Bono Publico Award. Soloway has served as an adjunct professor at FSU Law, teaching courses in 2008 and 2016 with groundbreaking civil rights attorney Fred Gray.



"I feel very lucky to not only do what I've always wanted to do with my life, but also to teach law students and young lawyers what I've learned," Soloway said about his 33-year career and love of trying cases. "This helps them reach their own goals and aspirations, something I've found just as fulfilling."

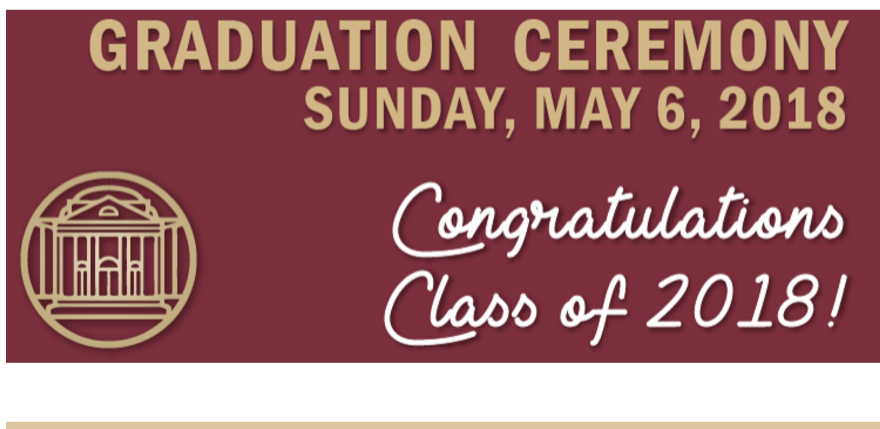
Student Profile: 3L Johana Nieves

Desired Practice Location: Palm Beach, Tampa, Orlando or Tallahassee
Graduation Date: May 2018
Specialization: Business law
Field of Law Sought: Has a strong interest in procurement law, public-private partnerships and corporate law overall; also interested in land use law.



Third-year law student Johana Nieves is the proud daughter of a U.S. Army veteran and has lived in seven states and three countries. Nieves earned a bachelor's degree in political science with an international studies minor from Keene State College in Keene, New Hampshire. When she graduates with her J.D. in May, she will also earn the Business Law Certificate. Nieves has served as president, vice president and 1L representative of the Aviation and Space Law Society, and activities director and internal vice president of the Women's Law Symposium. She has also been a member of the Cuban American Bar Association, the Business Law Society, Phi Alpha Delta, the Public Interest Law Students Association, the International Law Students Association and the Student Bar Association. The summer after her 1L year, Nieves interned at Sikorsky Aircraft Corporation, a Lockheed Martin Company in Stratford, Connecticut. In that role, Nieves drafted agreements, reviewed documents for litigation and participated in integration efforts for a new acquisition. She also negotiated contract terms with suppliers and performed contract risk analysis on supplier agreements. From October 2016 to September 2017, Nieves clerked at Gray Law, a family and marital law practice in Tallahassee. Last summer, Nieves externed at Domi Inc., a non-profit startup incubator and coworking space in Tallahassee. In this role, Nieves worked with an experienced attorney to counsel local startup companies and draft agreements. Since last August, Nieves has clerked at Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney PC, where she has drafted legal documents and performed bill analysis and legal research regarding land use, procurement, securities, governmental and regulatory matters. This spring she has also worked at the FSU Business Law Clinic. Nieves has also volunteered at the Entrepreneurship Bootcamp for Veterans with Disabilities, the Florida Association for Women Lawyers' Lobby Days and the Florida Supreme Court Library. Nieves is fluent in Spanish and speaks elementary Italian. If you are interested in hiring Nieves after graduation, [visit her LinkedIn profile](#).

"I have been fortunate to live and attend schools around the world, including in Abu Dhabi, Puerto Rico and Panama. Growing up in several countries has taught me to learn and adapt quickly. This ability has helped me excel in law school and in professional settings."



GRADUATION CEREMONY
SUNDAY, MAY 6, 2018

Congratulations
Class of 2018!



DISTINGUISHED PUBLIC SERVICE CAREER AWARD

NOMINATION DEADLINE: FRIDAY, MAY 11, 2018

EMAIL NOMINATIONS & QUESTIONS TO:
LAWDEAN@LAW.FSU.EDU

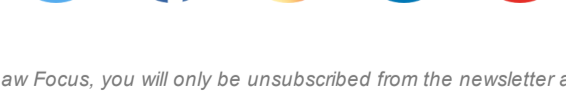
GET INVOLVED

SUBMIT A CLASS NOTE

SHARE MY TORCH MOMENT

MAKE A GIFT

[ABOUT US](#) | [ACADEMICS](#) | [ADMISSIONS & FINANCIAL AID](#) | [OUR FACULTY](#) | [ALUMNI](#) | [CAREERS](#) | [STUDENTS](#)



If you unsubscribe from the FSU Law Focus, you will only be unsubscribed from the newsletter and not other emails from FSU Law.

Share this email:



[Manage](#) your preferences | [Opt out](#) using TrueRemove™
 Got this as a forward? [Sign up](#) to receive our future emails.
 View this email [online](#).

425 West Jefferson Street
 Tallahassee, FL | 32306 US

This email was sent to .
 To continue receiving our emails, add us to your address book.



[Subscribe](#) to our email list.