

From the Dean



President Emeritus Talbot "Sandy" D'Alemberte (1933-2019)

It is with a heavy heart that I share the news of Sandy D'Alemberte's passing on May 20, 2019. Sandy lived an amazingly full and extremely productive life, and he will be sorely missed. He will undoubtedly be remembered for his countless contributions to Florida State University, the state, the legal profession and around the world. Closer to home, he left an important and permanent legacy at the law school, and it is hard to imagine our community without his brilliance and compassion. In his time as dean of the College of Law, Sandy raised the profile of the law school in the eyes of the rest of the world. Along the way, he helped us raise our own expectations of ourselves, and that's something we carry to this day. His transformation of our physical facilities and programs brought gravitas to our institution and forever increased opportunities for our students. As president of FSU, he also increased law student opportunities when he established the Center for the Advancement of Human Rights. For the last 16 years, Sandy was passionate about teaching at the law school, and he devoted himself to cultivating and mentoring his students. His accomplishments are too many to mention in this short column, but as we mourn him, we know the world is a better place because of Sandy. Last year, the Sandy D'Alemberte Scholarship in Human Rights Law was established at the law school to honor Sandy and his many contributions. The scholarship enables D'Alemberte Scholars to pursue opportunities and careers that provide a voice to those who need it most. For those looking for a way to honor Sandy's memory, a gift to the scholarship is one way to do so. [Gifts in Sandy's honor can be made online](#). In addition, Sandy's family and friends are collecting memories of Sandy and have asked that alumni and students email their memories and anecdotes to dalebertememories@law.fsu.edu or mail them to the law school, c/o Lynn Peacock, at 425 W. Jefferson St., Tallahassee, Fla. 32306-1601. Memorializing Sandy in this way will be particularly meaningful to those who loved him. As we learn more about how Sandy will be celebrated, we will share those details with the FSU Law community.

- Dean Erin O'Connor

Faculty & Alum Profile: Christi A. Lawson ('01)

Christi A. Lawson is an adjunct professor teaching Regulatory Compliance at the FSU College of Law. She is a partner and litigation lawyer in the Orlando office of Foley & Lardner LLP. Lawson is a member of the firm's Consumer Financial Services, Labor & Employment and Privacy, and Security & Information Management Practices, as well as the Trade Secret/Noncompete Specialty Practice. As a member of the Litigation Department, Lawson has experience working with all aspects of complex litigation and trial matters, and with preparing briefs for matters before appellate courts in Florida, Nevada, the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth and Eleventh Circuits, and the United States Supreme Court. Lawson maintains a broad-based consumer financial services practice. She has substantial experience litigating claims under and counseling clients regarding compliance with federal and state consumer lending laws and other federal and state unfair trade practice and consumer protection laws. In addition, Lawson handles regulatory enforcement actions and provides general compliance counseling for lenders (banks and non-banks), servicers and consumer reporting agencies. Lawson is active in her community, having served two terms as chairman of the City of Orlando's Civil Service Board. She currently serves as co-chair for the governing board for Orlando's chapter of ATHENA PowerLink®, and chair of the board of directors of New Image Youth Center, which aims to improve the lives of inner-city youth by providing an environment where students feel safe to dream. In 2012, Lawson received the ABA Military Pro Bono Project Outstanding Services Award in recognition of the pro bono services she provided to junior-enlisted, active-duty service members. Lawson earned her bachelor's degree in political science from Florida State University, specializing in Middle Eastern relations, with a minor in history. She graduated *magna cum laude* from FSU Law in 2001.



"I am honored to be teaching at my alma mater. The FSU College of Law is truly unparalleled in its devotion to ensuring that the students receive a world-class education, including teaching the students the skills needed to thrive in today's legal market. I enjoy my work in the area of consumer financial regulatory compliance, but teaching allows me to step away from the day-to-day business of practicing law and reconnect with my love of the study of the law. My goal in teaching is not only to teach the legal theories that provide the foundation for regulatory compliance, but also to feed the students' interest in and love of the law."

Alum Profile: Paul M. Harden ('75)

Paul Harden is a sole practitioner in Jacksonville, where he splits his time between representing the Jacksonville Jaguars of the National Football League, and public and private sector clients in matters related to land development, zoning, vested rights and solid waste regulation. Harden has represented the Jaguars since their expansion year into the National Football League and, prior to that, the predecessor Touchdown Jacksonville. Harden has significant experience in land use litigation and local government legislative activity. His clients include Waste Management, Home Depot and major landholders in the Northeast Florida area. Harden served as chairman of the Jacksonville Planning Commission, and is a member of The Florida Bar Environmental and Land Use Law Section, as well as the Jacksonville Bar Association and the Florida Planning and Zoning Association.



Student Profile: 2019 Grad Eugene White

Desired Practice Location: Bozeman, Missoula, Helena or Billings, Mont.
Specialization: Environmental law in the areas of water law and land use regulation
Field of Law Sought: Hopes to center his practice primarily in the field of water law



Originally from Ennis, Mont., Eugene White holds a bachelor's degree in health and human performance from the University of Montana in Missoula. He graduated from FSU Law earlier this month. Currently, White is clerking for Lulich Attorneys and Consultants in Sebastian, Fla., where he drafts and edits legal documents and correspondence. This spring, White clerked for the Mowrey Law Firm in Tallahassee. He assisted in all stages of civil and commercial litigation, including research, trial preparation, client intake, trial assistance, and drafting and editing motions, pleadings and memoranda. Last summer, White was a legal research intern to staff attorney Christina Nutter of the State Attorney's Office in Hernando County. During law school, White served as vice president of the FSU Law Transfer Student Organization. He also worked as a staff editor on the *Journal of Land Use & Environmental Law*. White plans to sit for the Uniform Bar Examination in Montana in July 2019. He is also establishing a fly-fishing outfitting business, All Valley Anglers Outfitting Co., in Ennis, Mont., providing guided fly-fishing charters on the Madison River and surrounding area. If you are interested in hiring White or helping him make connections in Montana, [visit his LinkedIn profile](#).

"My experience at FSU College of Law has given me new insight and appreciation for the legal issues facing our environmental and water resources. I look forward to employing and honing that new experience in the field of practice."



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