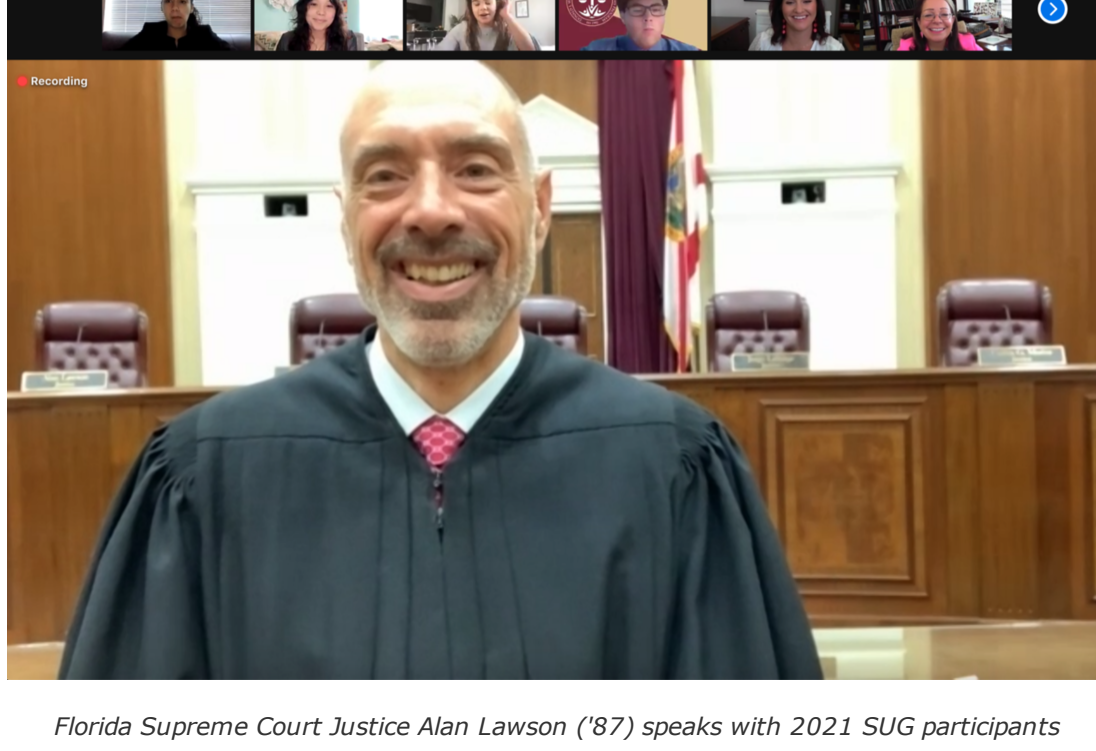


## From the Dean



Florida Supreme Court Justice Alan Lawson ('87) speaks with 2021 SUG participants

We welcomed our 30th class of students to the Donald J. Weidner Summer for Undergraduates Program (SUG) on June 1. The 2021 program is being held virtually, but students are immersed in the same types of sessions and activities that have earned SUG national honors. Students are participating in frequent legal writing, criminal procedure and leadership classes; attending sessions on LSAT preparation and the law school admissions process; hearing from current law students about the law school experience; and meeting with alumni and FSU Law administrators to learn more about the legal profession and the wide variety of jobs available to law school graduates. Current law students who are serving as mentors are also available to help SUG participants navigate the program and provide advice related to law school. Last week, students were treated to an hour-long Q&A session with alumnus Justice Alan Lawson ('87). This week, the students' packed schedule included virtual interviews with more than 60 FSU Law alumni from across the country and lunch with FSU Law faculty members. Students also attended a networking reunion session with 30 SUG alumni located around the nation in celebration of SUG's 30th class. Next week, SUG students will attend a special session with alumnus Benjamin Crump ('95). The program will conclude on Friday, June 25, with a closing reception and awards ceremony featuring program benefactor and FSU Law alumnus Wayne Hogan ('72). We are grateful to Wayne for making this program possible and to him and the many other alumni who help us provide an enriching four weeks of programming to the next generation of lawyers each summer.

-Dean Erin O'Connor

## 2021 Magazine Available Now

The 2021 Florida State Law magazine was published in May and delivered to mailboxes earlier this month. In addition to the most recent annual report, the publication includes a cover article about some of FSU Law's most successful Black alumni and the law school's new Black Alumni Network. The magazine also includes a dean's message about adjusting and advancing during COVID-19, and highlights some of the top news stories of the academic year, including a record-setting competition season for the Moot Court Team. Many of our outstanding alumni and students are featured throughout the publication, as are photos from the unprecedented year. Digital copies of the publication are available [online](#).



## Alum Profile: Jessica M. Icerman ('12)

[Jessica M. Icerman](#) is an associate in the Tampa office of Stearns Weaver Miller. She is a member of the firm's Land Development, Zoning & Environment Group and is Florida Bar board certified in city, county and local government law. Icerman represents clients before local and state governments and in litigation on land use and land development issues. She has experience representing clients in matters involving rezonings, comprehensive plan amendments, and all aspects of land development permitting and litigation. Prior to joining Stearns Weaver Miller in 2019, Icerman was an assistant county attorney at the Leon County Attorney's Office. While attending FSU Law, she was a law clerk for the City of Tallahassee. Icerman is very involved in the St. Petersburg Chamber of Commerce and is a member of the St. Petersburg Downtown Partnership Developer's Council and the Tampa Bay Builders Association. Icerman is also a volunteer with the Florida Guardian ad Litem Program.



*"FSU Law's Environmental and Land Use Law Certificate program helped prepare me for my role as Leon County's land use attorney. I am fortunate to continue my land use career at Stearns Weaver Miller, where I continue to learn and grow in the field."*

## Student Profile: 2021 Grad Kenny Acevedo

**Desired Practice Location:** Central Florida

**Specialization:** Business law

**Field of Law Sought:** Transactional Work, In-house Counsel, Real Estate, Immigration, Public Interest

Kenny Acevedo is from Winter Garden, Florida. He received his Bachelor of Science in advertising/public relations and international studies from Evangel University and graduated from FSU Law in April. During the spring 2021 semester, Acevedo worked as an intern with LatinoJustice, where he helped organize legal strategy with the legal team regarding potential impact litigation cases and relevant immigrant rights issues. He also conducted legal research concerning voting rights, language access policies, Florida statutes and emergency orders. In addition, Acevedo analyzed proposed bills in the Florida Legislature and wrote letters of opposition or letters of support in regard to these bills that aligned with the core values of LatinoJustice. From the summer of 2019 to December 2020, Acevedo worked as a construction law clerk with the Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation, where he managed a caseload of 40-60 cases, reviewing complaints made by Florida residents to determine whether there was probable cause in their allegations. If you are interested in connecting with or hiring Acevedo, visit his [LinkedIn profile](#).



*"From studying to working in the government to serving at a civil rights group in Orlando, I have learned a lot along the way and hope to continue growing in my next position. Whether or not I work in a job that directly relates to serving in the public interest field, I would like to be able to take what I learn and help others in any way that I can. Having grown up in the Central Florida area almost all of my life, I hope to stay and serve in this community."*

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