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FSU LAW FOCUS

November 13, 2026

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From the Dean



Top row (L–R): *Colonel Richard Gordon ('79) (Ret.) and Fred Karlinsky ('92).*
Bottom row (L–R): *Justice Carlos G. Muñiz, Lauren Angulo ('17), and Adrian Mood ('13)*

As we prepare to celebrate **FSU Law's 60th anniversary during Homecoming Weekend** next week, we are proud to recognize five individuals whose accomplishments, leadership, and service reflect the very best of our law school community.

Our **2026 Alumni Association Award recipients** represent the many ways FSU Law graduates and friends make a meaningful difference in the legal profession, their communities, and the lives of others.

This year's honorees are:

- **Colonel Richard Gordon ('79) (Ret.)** – Exemplary Public Service Career Award
- **Fred Karlinsky ('92)** – Distinguished Alum Award
- **Lauren Angulo ('17)** – Alumni Association Service Award
- **Adrian Mood ('13)** – Everyday Hero Award
- **Justice Carlos G. Muñiz** – Class of '66 Award

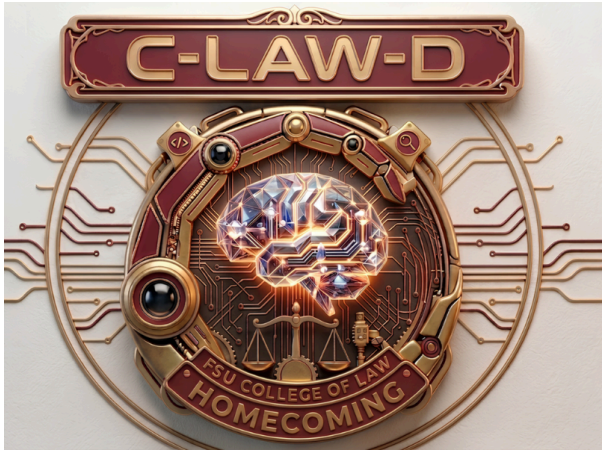
We look forward to honoring these remarkable individuals on **Friday, November 20, at our Homecoming Reception and 60th Anniversary Celebration**, from 6 to 8 p.m. in the D'Alemberte Rotunda and Thompson Green. The evening will also include reflections from alumni representing six decades of FSU Law, offering a special opportunity to celebrate our history, the relationships that connect us, and the future we continue to build together.

We hope you will join us as we celebrate 60 years of FSU Law and the people who make our continued success possible.

Read more about the honorees.

Dean Erin O'Connor

FSU Law Upcoming Event



As part of FSU Law's Homecoming Weekend, the **Institute of Law, Technology & Innovation**, will host **C-LAW-D: AI, Law & Leadership in the Claude Era** on **Friday, November 20, from 2 to 5:30 p.m.** at the College of Law, Main Classroom Building, Room 208.

Building on the inaugural event in May 2026, the program will bring together technology industry leaders, legal practitioners, and professionals to explore emerging issues at the intersection of law, artificial intelligence, and innovation. The event will feature hands-on demonstrations of Claude and OpenClaw, practical tutorials on using AI for research, writing, and professional productivity, and a panel discussion examining the legal, ethical, and business implications of AI. Attendees will also explore AI governance, the future of professional practice, and opportunities for AI innovation in Florida. **Virtual and in-person attendance options are**

available.

This program has been approved for 3.0 Florida Bar CLE credits, including 1.0 Ethics credit and 3.0 Technology credits.

Register

FSU Law Event Recaps



(L-R: Warren Robison, Madison Smith, Nathaniel Birdsong, and Serena Saul)

FSU Law celebrated the **40th anniversary of its Moot Court Final Four** competition, with 2Ls Nathaniel Birdsong, Warren Robison, Serena Saul, and Madison Smith presenting oral arguments before the justices of the Florida Supreme Court. Following the competition, students, justices, and guests gathered for a reception in the D'Alemberte Rotunda to celebrate the finalists and this milestone anniversary. **2L Nathaniel Birdsong received the Best Oralist Award.**

Special thanks to **Shutts & Bowen LLP** for sponsoring the competition and to the Florida Supreme Court justices for their participation and support.

Click here to watch the recording.



On November 3, FSU Law's **Election Law Center** hosted a Midterm Election Watch Party at Hayward House, bringing together students, faculty, and alumni to follow live election results as ballots were counted nationwide. The event featured special guest **Michael T. Morley, Sheila M. McDevitt Professor of Law and Faculty Director of the Election Law Center**. Attendees enjoyed refreshments, discussed legal issues surrounding elections, and explored the intersection of election law and the democratic process in real time.

FSU Law Faculty News



Denise Harle, clinical professor and director of FSU Law's First Amendment Clinic, joined seven other legal scholars in submitting an amicus curiae brief to the U.S. Supreme Court in *Nathan v. Alamo Heights Independent School District* . Filed November 10, the brief addresses a constitutional challenge to a Texas law requiring the display of the Ten Commandments in public school classrooms. The scholars argue that the Supreme Court should decline to review the case, allowing lower courts to further develop the historical framework for interpreting the First Amendment's Establishment Clause.

Read the brief and case filings.



Lawrence Krieger, clinical professor and co-director of the Clinical Externship Program, was featured in ***Law.com's*** article, **"Billable Hours and Lawyer Stress Have Long Been Intertwined. Can AI Provide a Solution?"** The article explores the relationship between billable-hour requirements and attorney well-being, including whether artificial intelligence could help address longstanding sources of stress in the legal profession.

FSU Law Student News



Last week, FSU Law's **Federalist Society for Law and Public Policy Studies** hosted **Not Under My Roof: Parental Rights and the Limits of State Power**, featuring **Noel Sterett**, senior counsel at Alliance Defending Freedom's Center for Parental Rights, and **Rima Nathan** , clinical professor and director of the Claude Pepper Elder Law Clinic. The speakers explored the constitutional and common-law foundations of parents' rights to direct their children's upbringing, examining landmark cases from *Meyer v. Nebraska* and *Pierce v. Society of Sisters* to *Mahmoud v. Taylor*, and discussed the role of government in shaping parental rights.



Additionally, the **Federalist Society for Law and Public Policy Studies** hosted **Article I in Action**, featuring alum **Chad Revis** ('21), general counsel to U.S. Senator Ashley Moody. Revis shared his experience working in the legislative branch and offered students a behind-the-scenes look at a typical day as Senate counsel, from drafting legislation and developing policy to navigating committee hearings and nominations. The discussion provided students with firsthand insight into the responsibilities of advising a U.S. senator and the unique legal work involved in the legislative process.

Special thanks to Florida Supreme Court Justice Carlos G. Muñiz for joining the event to introduce Revis, his former law clerk.



Last week, FSU Law librarian Justin Peters, circulation assistants 3L Jamie Hallinan and 3L Jessica Concepcion, and 2L Josh Carson represented the College of Law at the **International Conference on Legislation and Law Reform** in Washington, D.C. The conference brought together participants to discuss legislative processes and law reform.

FSU Law Social Spotlight



Last week, FSU Law celebrated **Love Your Lawyer Day,** recognizing the attorneys who make a difference through their dedication to the legal profession and the communities they serve. From advocating for clients and providing public service to teaching and mentoring future lawyers, their contributions create a lasting impact. In honor of Love Your Lawyer Day, we invite you to show your appreciation for the legal professionals in your life by supporting the next generation of FSU Law leaders.

Make a gift to FSU Law.



FSU College of Law has produced a **60-Year Commemorative Coin** to recognize participation in supporting the law school during its 60 year anniversary.

Alumni can earn a 60-Year Commemorative Coin by Donating $250+ ***AND*** joining and engaging on FSU Law Connect, **OR** attending an in-person Alumni Event. These actions must be taken **between January 1 and December 31, 2026** to be eligible for the coin.

Find Details on Eligibility Requirements for FSU Law's 60-Year Coin.

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