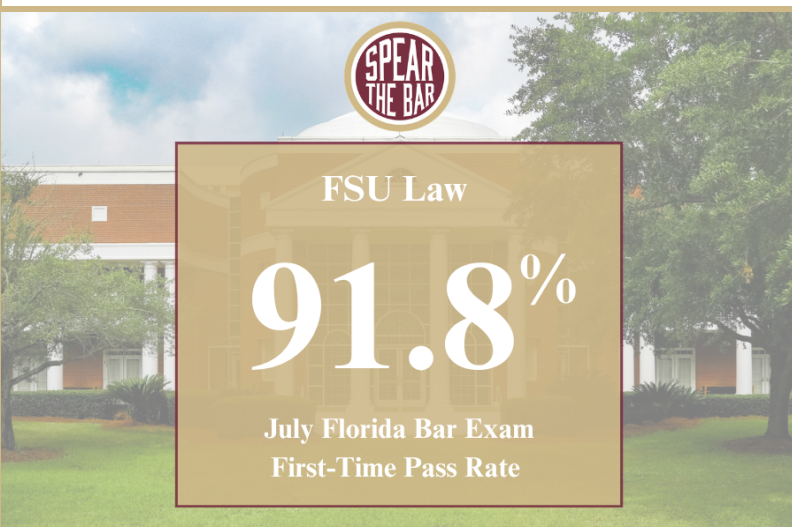


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From the Dean



We are tremendously proud of our graduates who sat for the Florida Bar Exam for the first time this July and achieved an outstanding **91.8% passage rate—the highest among Florida law schools.**

Of FSU Law's 110 first-time test-takers, 101 passed the exam. This extraordinary result reflects the talent, discipline and determination of our graduates, as well as the commitment of our faculty and staff to their success. Our graduates worked incredibly hard to reach this milestone, and we are excited to see all that they will accomplish as they begin their legal careers.

I am especially grateful to our **Bar Success Team**, Director of Bar Success Jami Ferrell, Associate Dean for Academic Programs and Student Advancement Nancy Benavides, Assistant Dean for Academic Success Laura Dennis, and Professor Cecilia Smith, for their dedication to preparing and supporting our graduates. I also want to thank our alumni and friends who contributed to the College **Spear the Bar Food Pantry**, which provides meals and snacks during the bar study period, as well as those who contributed to our Annual Fund, which provides lunch and snacks at the bar exam in Tampa.

Congratulations to all of our graduates on this exceptional accomplishment!

[Read the full article here.](#)


Dean Erin O'Connor

FSU Law Fundathon

The first week of October marks the start of our three-week **Fundathon**, running **October 5–24**, when FSU Law students will connect with alumni in support of the **College of Law Annual Fund** and this year's campaign, **Innovative Leadership: The Future of Law Starts Here**.

At FSU Law, we are preparing students to lead in a legal profession that continues to evolve. Annual Fund support helps make that possible by creating opportunities for students to develop the leadership, adaptability, and professional skills they will carry throughout their careers.

Your gifts support experiences that go beyond the classroom—from leadership and mentorship programs, conferences and experiential learning opportunities to access to leading experts and practitioners, professional development workshops, and innovative programs. Annual Fund support also strengthens student organizations, faculty scholarship, and the centers and programs that enrich the FSU Law experience.

We invite you to [watch our Annual Fund video](#) to learn more about how FSU Law is preparing tomorrow's leaders—and how your support makes it possible.

We are deeply grateful to our alumni for their continued generosity. When you receive a call or email from one of our students beginning October 5, we hope you will take a moment to connect with them and consider making a gift. You can also give online anytime at [give.fsu.edu/law](#).

Thank you for investing in our students and the future of FSU Law.

FSU Law Faculty News

Michael Morley, Sheila M. McDewitt Professor of Law and Faculty Director of the Election Law Center, was recently featured in a *Fox News* article titled, “**Not a slam dunk: Trump’s 2028 mail-vote push hinges on one big legal question.**” In the article, Professor Morley explains how the legal validity of the executive order hinges fundamentally on how the judiciary characterizes it.

[Click here](#) to read the article.

In addition, Professor Morley was featured in a *Cronkite News* article, “**Supreme Court ruling clears way for mail ballots, used by 78% of Arizona voters, to proceed as usual.**” Professor Morley discusses the issues with forcing sudden, drastic procedural changes on election officials while an election cycle is underway.

[Click here](#) to read the article.

(L-R: **Graham Bryant**, Counsel at Troutman Pepper Locke; **Keith Coyle**, Chief Counsel at the U.S. Department of Transportation; **The Honorable Judge Thomas Griffith**, Special Counsel at Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP; **Christina Manfredi McKinley**, Partner at BlankRome; and **Professor Craig Green**)

Last week, **Craig Green**, Steven M. Goldstein Professor of Law, spoke at the **Federal Bar Association's Annual Meeting & Convention** in Richmond, Virginia.

Green participated in a panel examining recent changes in administrative law, including the history of the administrative state and the impact of several major decisions from the U.S. Supreme Court's October 2023 Term. He was joined by the Honorable Judge Thomas Griffith, Keith Coyle, chief counsel of the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration at the U.S. Department of Transportation, and Christina Manfredi McKinley, partner at Blank Rome.

FSU Law Event Recap

(L-R: **Erik Saylor**, **Rebekah Davis**, **Tim Dennis**, **Paige Shoemaker**, and **Kateelyn Lavine**)

The **Office of Career Services**, in partnership with the **Government Lawyers Section of The Florida Bar**, hosted a **Government Lawyers Panel** this week, giving students an opportunity to hear directly from attorneys working across Florida state government.

Panelists **Erik Saylor**, General Counsel for the Department of Elder Affairs; **Rebekah Davis**, General Counsel for the Florida Department of Transportation; **Tim Dennis**, Chief Assistant Attorney at the Florida Attorney General's Office; **Paige Shoemaker**, Attorney at the Office of Financial Regulation; and **Kateelyn Lavine**, Special Litigation Advisor at the Department of Management Services, discussed the benefits of government practice, internship opportunities, career pathways, and strategies for building professional connections with attorneys in the field.

Today: FSU Law Frontiers Event

Don't miss this afternoon's **Frontiers in Law & Technology webinar, "Digital Compliance,"** at **12:30 p.m.**

Reed Smith attorneys **Tyler J. Thompson**, **Talia Boasgin Behar**, and **Abigail Walker** will discuss emerging issues in privacy, technology and artificial intelligence, with practical insights into navigating today's evolving digital compliance landscape.

[Click here](#) to register.

FSU Law Social Spotlight

Our FSU Law graduates **earned the highest first-time bar passage rate among Florida law schools on the July 2026 Florida Bar Exam**, with a **91.8% passage rate**.

The news also reached a new milestone on social media, becoming our most-liked, commented-on and reposted Instagram post to date, with more than **7,400 likes**, **51 comments**, **126 reposts** and **1,100 shares**.

We are incredibly proud of our graduates and grateful to everyone who joined us in celebrating this achievement!

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