Students Present Oral Arguments at Florida Supreme Court

Lauderdale, February 18—FSU law student Jay Portnoy earned a spot at the Florida Supreme Court Thursday by being selected to present an oral argument on behalf of a defendant accused of causing a death. Portnoy, a 3L at Florida State University College of Law, was one of six law students selected to present the case, "Jones v. Florida Division of Emergency Management," which involves a claim of bad faith against a governmental agency. The case is a first amendment challenge to a 2009 settlement agreement with a Gayle Jones, who was injured in a accident for which she later died.

Portnoy created a mock trial team, which he led with the help of former law student Joseph Burns. Burns is a student ambassador for the FSU Law Symposium. He is also a student ambassador for the FSU Law student association. Burns externed for the First District Court of Appeal, the Florida Division of Emergency Management. He drafted and submitted appeals to the Supreme Court of Florida. Portnoy externed for the First District Court of Appeal, the Florida Division of Emergency Management. He drafted and submitted appeals to the Supreme Court of Florida.

"I was always moved by people with Down syndrome as these individuals are extraordinary in their own way," said Portnoy. "I really just wanted to volunteer, but the board learned about my legal background and thought I would be a better fit serving on the board."

"I think it was really just a matter of my background and experience that made me a good fit," said Burns. "I have always been interested in helping others. As a student, I have been active in the legal community and have served as a student ambassador for the FSU Law Symposium. I have also been active in the local community, serving on the board of directors for the Down Syndrome Association of Jacksonville. I have been involved in numerous community service projects, including volunteering at local hospitals, animal shelters, and schools."

"I am excited to be involved with the Down Syndrome Association of Jacksonville," said Burns. "I am looking forward to helping others in the community and making a difference in the lives of people with Down syndrome."

Stephen Portnoy, 3L at the University of West Florida in Pensacola, telephoned his brother and student ambassador for the FSU Law Symposium,烧 about the opportunity to present an oral argument at the Florida Supreme Court. Portnoy, who is a second-year student, was chosen for the opportunity due to his experience in appellate law. He externed for the First District Court of Appeal, the Florida Division of Emergency Management. He drafted and submitted appeals to the Supreme Court of Florida.

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The Florida Supreme Court selected Portnoy and five other law students to present arguments in the case "Jones v. Florida Division of Emergency Management." The case is a first amendment challenge to a 2009 settlement agreement with a Gayle Jones, who was injured in a accident for which she later died. Portnoy created a mock trial team, which he led with the help of former law student Joseph Burns. Burns is a student ambassador for the FSU Law Symposium. He is also a student ambassador for the FSU Law student association. Burns externed for the First District Court of Appeal, the Florida Division of Emergency Management. He drafted and submitted appeals to the Supreme Court of Florida. Portnoy externed for the First District Court of Appeal, the Florida Division of Emergency Management. He drafted and submitted appeals to the Supreme Court of Florida.