



FSU LAW FOCUS

Friday, November 8, 2024

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From the Dean

We are excited to announce that **FSU Law has been ranked as the nation's eighth law school for best value for the second year in a row, according to The National Jurist's preLaw magazine.**

The prestigious ranking highlights law schools that provide an exceptional return on investment, factoring in bar exam passage rates, post-graduation employment rates, and tuition costs compared to cost-of-living expenses.

In addition to this recognition, the College of Law was also named to the **A+ list for Business Law by preLaw magazine**, highlighting the law school's comprehensive and robust offerings in business law education. This dual recognition underscores FSU Law's commitment to providing students with both outstanding value and specialized expertise in key legal fields.



Dean Erin O'Connor

Distinguished Speaker Series: Law, Technology & Innovation

Join us on **November 16 at 12:15 p.m.** in the D'Alemberte Rotunda for the **Distinguished Speaker Series in Law, Technology & Innovation** featuring [Lawrence Lessig](#), Roy L. Furman Professor of Law and Leadership from Harvard Law School.



Lessig will deliver his lecture "**Democracy, Meet A.I., I'm Not Sure You Two Will Get Along**," discussing how AI's emerging technologies threaten democratic ideals and capacity.

[Click here](#) to learn more.

Faculty in the News: Michael Morley



[Professor Michael Morley](#), Director of the Election Law Center, has been a go-to expert in the lead-up to the 2024 elections, including features on several media outlets:

- [CNN "Last-minute challenges in battleground Pennsylvania target thousands of mail-in ballots"](#)

- [Fox 35 Orlando, "What happens with Amendments 3 & 4 after the election"](#)
 - [Tampa Bay Times, "Hurricane damage effects on Florida election turnout unclear"](#)
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Faculty in the News: Mason Marks



[Florida Bar Health Law Section Professor Mason Marks](#) was featured on an NPR segment titled "**Voters to decide whether Massachusetts can legalize certain psychedelic drugs.**"

The piece highlights the growing interest in psychedelics due to emerging research suggesting their therapeutic benefits, particularly for mental health conditions like depression and PTSD. Marks references how similar therapy centers in Oregon largely operate safely but have a high cost of access, making it a psychedelic tourism destination.

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

Alumni News: Kelly A. O'Keefe

Congratulations to alumni **[Kelly O'Keefe \('94\)](#)**, a shareholder at Stearns, Weaver, and Miller who was **elected to The American Law Institute (ALI)**. ALI is a leading research and advocacy group of judges, lawyers, and

legal scholars established in 1923.

O'Keefe specializes in estate, probate, trust litigation, and complex commercial, real estate, and land use matters. She also advises businesses on campaign laws and government regulations. Before entering private practice, O'Keefe clerked for three Florida Supreme Court Justices.



A recognized leader in the legal field, O'Keefe is recognized regularly by The Best Lawyers in America, Florida Trend, and Super Lawyers magazines and holds an AV Preeminent Rating from Martindale-Hubbell. She is a frequent lecturer and author on various topics related to estate, probate, and trust litigation.

"I am honored to have been elected to the American Law Institute, and thank Dean O'Connor for nominating me. Throughout my legal career, I have strived to make positive changes in the law and improve the legal profession. Being part of this organization will allow me to continue that meaningful work."



We invite all alumni and students to [join FSU Law Connect](#), a new platform exclusively for the FSU Law community. Alumni can keep in touch with the College of

Law and other alumni, post jobs, and access career development tools. If you haven't already joined FSU Law Connect, please join today to help us increase engagement and connection.

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