



April 11, 2025

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## From the Dean



**Florida State University College of Law has climbed 10 spots to secure the No. 38 position overall in the U.S. News & World Report's annual survey of the nation's top public and private law schools! The College of Law shares this ranking with Emory University, UC Irvine, Fordham University, and the University of Florida.**

This is our highest ranking ever, and we are incredibly proud to see our efforts being recognized. We have risen 18 spots over the past two years, which underscores the strength of our world-class faculty, our robust legal curriculum, and our top-notch student support services. I also want to thank the university's commitment to investing in our students' success--we're thrilled to see these efforts reflected in our rankings.

FSU College of Law is also ranked No. 17 among public law schools nationwide and is in the Top 25 among public law schools in eight law specialties: Environmental Law (No. 8); Contracts/Commercial Law (No. 13); Criminal Law (No. 14); Tax Law (No. 15); Constitutional Law (No. 16); Business/Corporate Law (No. 17); Health Care Law (No. 24); and International Law (No. 25).

These rankings add to the College of Law's growing list of national accolades—including No. 3 in the nation for best student quality of life, No. 6 for best professors, No. 6 for best post-graduate employment, and the nation's No. 8 best value—further solidify our reputation as a top-tier institution.

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

*Erin O'Connor*

Dean Erin O'Connor

## Preview Day 2025



**FSU College of Law recently hosted its Annual Admitted Student Preview Day, welcoming 90 prospective students from across the nation.**

This event provided a unique opportunity for admitted students to engage with faculty, staff, and current students while learning about the academic and extracurricular offerings at FSU Law. Highlights included a mock class with Professor Kahn, a student panel with current 1Ls, and a keynote address from distinguished alumna and President-Elect of the FL Bar Sia Baker-Barnes.

We concluded the day with an ice cream social, helping students build connections with their potential future classmates. It was an inspiring day, and we look forward to seeing these future lawyers on campus!



## FSU Law in the News

FSU College of Law is once again in the spotlight for its impactful work and contributions to the community.

*WFSU* recently highlighted the efforts of FSU College of Law students, who, under the guidance of Professor Paolo Annino, have been working diligently to pass a new bill requiring Florida's public educators to undergo training on human trafficking. This initiative demonstrates the law school's commitment to social justice and advocacy.

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

The FSU Bankruptcy Law Clinic is also in the news with an interview with Law 360. Adjunct professor Michael Markham spoke to Law 360 about the creation of the clinic and the hands-on experience that students are able to gain as total bankruptcy filings continue to rise across the United States.

[Click here](#) to learn more.

## Alumni News: Miguel de la O ('89)



We are pleased to share that alumnus **Judge Miguel de la O** of the 11th Circuit has been honored with the prestigious **2025 William M. Hoever Judicial Professionalism Award**. This esteemed recognition is presented by the Henry Latimer Center for Professionalism and the Florida Bar's Standing Committee on Professionalism.

The award is given annually to judges who exemplify the highest standards of character, integrity, service, and legal competence—both on the bench and within the community. Judge de la O was awarded alongside Chief Judge Cecilia M. Altonaga.

To read more [click here](#).

**Student Feature: 3L Ashvi Luthra**



Recently, 3L Ashvi Luthra had the incredible opportunity to contribute to an advocacy campaign in Ghana, an experience that proved both transformative and inspiring.

A member of the FSU College of Law's **[International Human Rights Advocacy Clinic](#)**, Luthra worked alongside the Human Rights Advocacy Center in Ghana. During her time there, she gained valuable insights into the intentionality behind planning and executing effective advocacy campaigns. Whether through strategic outreach or event coordination, Luthra saw firsthand how these efforts can make a meaningful impact. The experience seamlessly connected her classroom learning with real-world application, reinforcing her passion for human rights work and solidifying her desire to continue in this field post-graduation.

**[Click here](#)** to read her reflection on the trip.

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