

CENTER FOR ETHICS AND PUBLIC SERVICE ANNUAL REPORT, 2022–2023

MISSION

Founded in 1996, the Center for Ethics and Public Service is a law school-housed ethics education, experiential skills training, and community engagement program devoted to the values of ethical judgment, professional responsibility, and public service in law and society. The Center’s mission is to educate law students to serve their communities as *citizen lawyers*.¹

HISTORY

For 27 years, the Center has served as an incubator and an accelerator for numerous public service initiatives. They include on-campus and off-campus ***clinics*** (Children and Youth Law Clinic, Community Economic Development and Design Clinic, Community Lawyering Clinic, Environmental Justice Clinic, Health Law Clinic, and Social Enterprise Clinic), ***programs*** (Brown University Institute at Brown for Environment and Society partnership, Dartmouth College Ethics Institute Internship Program, Professional Responsibility and Ethics Program, Street Law Program, and University of Miami Joint College of Arts and Sciences Program on Law, Public Policy, and Ethics), ***summer colloquia*** (University of Miami Environmental Justice, Policy, & Science), and ***oral histories and documentary films*** (Oral History and Documentary Film Project).²

FACULTY AND STAFF

The Center’s faculty and staff include founding Director Professor Anthony Alfieri; Fredman Family Foundation Practitioner-in-Residence and Lecturer Alexander Rundlet; Program Coordinators Galen Daniels and Carter Deane Cooper; and Senior Program Manager Lauren Madigan.³

¹ In 2022, the UM Faculty Senate approved the Provost’s recommended continuation of the Center for Ethics and Public Service.

² The *Oral History and Documentary Film Project* compiles oral history archives and produces film documentaries to preserve the cultural and social history of low- and moderate-income communities of color in South Florida. Since 2010, the project has produced five films documenting the history of Coconut Grove Village West, public school segregation in Miami-Dade County, and environmental injustice in the City of Miami.

³ The Center occupies three offices (G259, G277, & G362) and a student workroom (G262) in the UM School of Law Library.

PROGRAMS

The Center operates three programs: the *Community Equity Lab*, the *Black Church Program*, and the *Legal Profession Program*. Program faculty, staff, and students collaborate with schools across the University of Miami⁴ as well as the Florida bar and bench; anti-poverty, civil rights, environmental, and public health organizations; and faith-based groups, nonprofit corporations, and civic and neighborhood associations.

Black Church Program

The *Black Church Program* is a community outreach and rights education project operated in partnership with faith-based groups and faith-affiliated nonprofit corporations in South Florida.⁵

Program highlights include community-based advocacy and organizing in support of the *West Grove Trolley Garage Campaign*, halting the discriminatory placement of a City of Coral Gables municipal bus depot in the historically segregated neighborhood of Coconut Grove Village West; the *East Gables Trolley Access Campaign*, obtaining municipal trolley service for residents of the historically segregated MacFarlane Homestead Subdivision and the Golden Gates District of East Coral Gables; the *Old Smokey Steering Committee-Community Stakeholder Organization*, sparking the investigation and cleanup of nearly a dozen contaminated municipal parks and the class action litigation in *Styles v. City of Miami*; the *Coconut Grove Village West Housing and Community Development Task Force Campaign*, mobilizing a fair-and-affordable housing coalition of Black churches, civic associations, and tenant and homeowner organizations now operating under the auspices of *Grove Rights and Community Equity, Inc.*; *Grace, Inc. v. City of Miami*, facilitating federal voting rights litigation challenging city-wide racial gerrymandering; and the Freedom School youth education project in development with the Coconut Grove Ministerial Alliance and other Village West stakeholders.

⁴ University partners include: Abess Center for Ecosystem Science and Policy; College of Arts and Sciences Department of Geography and Regional Studies; Rosenstiel School of Marine, Atmospheric, & Earth Science; School of Communication; School of Education & Human Development; School of Medicine's Department of Public Health Sciences; Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center; and the UM Libraries.

⁵ Program partners have included the Coconut Grove Ministerial Alliance of Black Churches, Collective Empowerment Group (a tri-county consortium of 40 churches), Grove Rights and Community Equity, Inc. (GRACE), Coconut Grove Village West Homeowners and Tenants Association, Lola B. Walker Homeowners Association (East Gables), St. Paul Community Development Corporation, South Miami Concerned Clergy and Citizens Coalition, among others.

Community Equity Lab

Established in 2018 to address the urgent housing and health needs of socioeconomically impoverished and politically disenfranchised communities of color in Florida, the *Community Equity Lab* integrates anti-poverty and civil rights advocacy and grassroots organizing strategies with university-wide, interdisciplinary resources to advance social justice initiatives at the neighborhood intersection of race and inequality in the areas of education, health, housing, municipal equity, and the natural and built environment. The Lab houses two projects: the *Health Equity Project* and the *Housing and Community Economic Development Project*.⁶

Launched in 2020 in collaboration with the School of Medicine’s MD/MPH Program, the Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center, and a coalition of community partners, the *Health Equity Project* engages in community-centered health law and policy research, advocacy, and education. In 2022-2023, Project fellows and interns conducted policy research on the public health effects of housing displacement and neighborhood resegregation, and, moreover, helped shape a panel discussion on the Intersection of Housing, Race & Climate at the Second Annual Black Health Summit, sponsored by the Health Foundation of South Florida and held at Florida Memorial University. Fellows and interns attended the Summit, provided research for Summit panels on Black Maternal Health and Toxic Stress and Healing, served as reporters for all workshops, and were instrumental in the production of the Summit’s Final Report.

Created in 1999 initially as a joint venture with the School of Architecture’s Center for Urban and Community Design to develop interdisciplinary teaching, research, and neighborhood technical assistance models promoting municipal equity in the built environment, the *Housing and Community Economic Development Project* has grown into a broader collaboration with a coalition of community partners, including Black churches, civic associations, and tenant and homeowner organizations, seeking to (i) halt the eviction, displacement, and resegregation of vulnerable tenants and homeowners; (ii) negotiate community benefits agreements; (iii) reform segregative land use and zoning policies; and (iv) build and rehabilitate fair, affordable, and integrated housing. In 2022-2023, Project fellows and interns engaged in doctrinal and legislative research, information-gathering, and relationship-building with neighborhood groups to document the racially disparate impact and segregative effect of land use and zoning policies in the City of Miami, seeking to establish the factual and legal foundation for a fair housing investigation and enforcement action by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

⁶ In recent years (2020-2023), Community Equity Lab projects received grant awards from the University of Miami Laboratory for Integrative Knowledge/U-LINK (\$99,902) and the University of Miami Racial Justice Grant Program (\$5,000), and facilitated a grant award from the Florida Department of Health Miami-Dade County (\$700,000).

Legal Profession Program

The *Legal Profession Program* includes both student-centered leadership workshops and CLE-oriented practice seminars in cooperation with Florida bar associations, federal and state courts, law firms, government agencies, and nonprofit organizations. Program highlights include Legal Malpractice and Law Firm Management Roundtables, the Lawyers in Leadership Award and Hon. William M. Hoeveler Award luncheons, and Legal Profession Colloquia with leading members of the South Florida bar and bench.

INTERNAL AWARDS

The Center confers three leadership awards: the *Hon. William M. Hoeveler Award*, the *Lawyers in Leadership Award*, and the *Andrew D. Fredman Friend of the Center Award*. The *Hon. William M. Hoeveler Award* honors extraordinary members of the bar and bench as well as organizations distinguished by their historical dedication to ethics and public service. The *Lawyers in Leadership Award* honors outstanding members of the bar and bench as well as organizations distinguished by their dedication to ethics and civic leadership. The *Andrew D. Fredman Friend of the Center Award* honors civic-minded members of the South Florida community distinguished by their contribution to the mission of the Center for Ethics and Public Service. *See Appendix A.*

EXTERNAL AWARDS

Center programs have won numerous local, state, and national awards, including two American Bar Association awards, three Association of American Law School awards, and both The Florida Bar and the Florida Supreme Court awards. *See Appendix B.*

COMMUNITY IMPACT

Since 1996, Center faculty and staff have trained more than **1,428** graduate and undergraduate fellows and interns, and collaborated with more than **50,280** civic leaders in ethics and professionalism programs as well as anti-poverty, civil rights, environmental justice, and public health campaigns. Center faculty also have been widely cited in law journals and in the media.

APPENDIX A: AWARDS CONFERRED

HON. WILLIAM M. HOEVELER AWARD, 2002-2023

Dr. Marvin Dunn, 2023
The Honorable Michael A. Hanzman, 2022
The Honorable Adalberto Jordan, 2021
Julie K. Brown, 2019
Patricia Borns & Jenny Staletovich, 2018
Friends of the Everglades, 2017
The Honorable Marcia G. Cooke, 2016
George Knox, 2015
The Honorable Barbara J. Pariente, 2014
The Honorable Jay Cristol, 2013
The Honorable Justice R. Fred Lewis, 2012
Katherine Fernandez Rundle, 2011
The Honorable Joseph W. Hatchett, 2010
The Honorable Donald L. Graham, 2009
The Honorable Mario P. Goderich, 2008
The Honorable Peter T. Fay, 2007
Janet Reno, 2006
The Honorable Rosemary Barkett, 2005
Walter H. Beckham, Jr., 2004
The Honorable Daniel S. Pearson, 2003
The Honorable William M. Hoeveler, 2002

LAWYERS IN LEADERSHIP AWARD, 2000-2023

Civil Rights Collective, 2022
Tiffani G. Lee, 2021
The Honorable Jacqueline Becerra, 2019
Florida Justice Institute, 2018
Monica Vignes-Pitan, 2017
Charles E. Elsesser, Jr., 2016
The Honorable Darrin P. Gayles, 2015
Elizabeth Schwartz, 2014
Patricia Redmond, 2013
Carlos J. Martinez, 2012
Joseph Centorino, 2011
Marcia K. Cypen, 2010
Kathleen Williams, 2009
Cheryl Little, 2008
The Honorable Peter R. Palermo & Edna Shalala, 2007
M. Minnette Massey, 2006
Jeannette F. Hausler & The Honorable Patricia A. Seitz, 2005
H. T. Smith, 2003
Carlos M. de la Cruz, The Honorable Joan A. Lenard, & Richard C. Milstein, 2002
Ellen Catsman Freidin, Joseph P. Klock, & The Honorable Henry Latimer, 2001
President Emeritus Edward T. Foote II, 2000

ANDREW D. FREDMAN FRIEND OF THE CENTER AWARD, 2001-2023

D. Porpoise Evans, Edith Georgi, Jane Moscovitz, John O’Sullivan, & Dwayne Robinson, 2023
Natalie Barefoot & Daniela Tagtachian, 2019
Cynthia McKenzie & Jan Jacobowitz, 2016
Ralf Brookes, Philip Freidin, Lowell J. Kuvin, & Joel S. Perwin, 2014
Cristina Favretto, Laverne Pinkney, & Beatrice Colastin Skokan, 2013
Coconut Grove Ministerial Alliance & Donald A. Cramp, Jr., 2012
Karen Throckmorton, 2011
JoNel Newman, Bernard P. Perlmutter, & Kele Stewart Williams, 2010
John M. Barkett, 2009
Neal R. Sonnett, 2008
Dennis O. Lynch & Jessi Tamayo, 2007
Sandford L. Bohrer & Charles E. Elsesser, Jr., 2006
Arturo Brito, M.D., Lawrence Friedman, M.D., & JoNell Efantis-Potter, R.N., Ph.D.,
Hy Shapiro, & Gwen Wurm, M.D., 2005
Louis J. Chiavacci, Dr. Susan Mullane, & Samina Quraeshi, 2004
Ed Asper, Juan C. Enjamio, Adrian J. Parry, & Laura C. Walker, 2003
Steven E. Chaykin & Holly R. Skolnick, 2002
Elinor Catsman, 2001

APPENDIX B: AWARDS RECEIVED

CENTER AWARDS

2023 Public Service Award, South Florida Caribbean Bar Association
2017 Community Service Award, Coconut Grove Ministerial Alliance of Black Churches
2016 Award for Social Justice, Coconut Grove Drug-Free Prevention Partnership
2014 Miami People, Miami New Times
2014 Community Recognition Award, G.W. Carver High School Alumni Association
2012 E. Smythe Gambrell Professionalism Award, American Bar Association
2012 Public Interest Innovative Service Award, UM School of Law
2011 Appreciation Award, Coconut Grove Ministerial Alliance of Black Churches
2009 Innovative Service in the Public Interest Award, UM School of Law
2007 Innovative Service in the Public Interest Award, UM School of Law
2007 William Pincus Award, AALS Section on Clinical Education
2007 Father Robert Drinan Award, AALS Section on Pro Bono and Public Service
2004-2005 Gary Bellow Scholar, AALS Section on Clinical Education
2002 UM Omicron Delta Kappa National Leadership Honor Society
2001 *Arete* Award, Miami-Dade County Commission on Ethics and Public Trust
2000 Seventh Annual Professionalism Award, The Florida Bar
1999 Faculty Professionalism Award, Florida Supreme Court
1998 E. Smythe Gambrell Professionalism Award, American Bar Association