


FALL SPOTLIGHT

October 2024

The latest news and updates from the Center for Ethics & Public Service



Say Hello to New Program Coordinator, Anaïse Boucher-Browning

This fall, the Center is thrilled to introduce Anaïse Bucher-Browning, the new Program Coordinator, alongside Center fellows and interns as we persist in our goal of promoting community equity. In the upcoming months, the team will be delving into research on education, health, housing, and legal structures that facilitate fair access. The fellows and interns will be instrumental in aiding the Center's mission through their dedicated efforts.



Anaïse Boucher-Browning (she/her) joined CEPS as Program Coordinator in August 2024. Anaïse is from Boise, Idaho, and she earned a BA from Dartmouth College in human geography where she also studied Spanish, French, and music. She previously worked as a Great Issues Fellow in Global Health and Development at the Dickey Center for International Understanding at Dartmouth and as Student Success and Follow Up Counselor at the College Assistant Migrant Program at Boise State University. Anaïse is passionate about equity issues in education, health, housing, and migration.





CEPS Fellows

Fall 2024





Niara Williams

Community Equity Lab (Health)

Hunton Andrews Kurth Fellow

Niara is a 3L law student from Perrysburg, Ohio. Prior to coming to law school, she obtained her Master's in Public Health from the University of Miami and worked as a research analyst in health communications research. Outside of her master's coursework, she participated in several policy and research initiatives related to maternal health and health equity. She is currently a member of the Health Law Association, If/When/How and the Black Law Student Association. She is pursuing the health law concentration and hopes to specialize in transactional health care work after graduation.

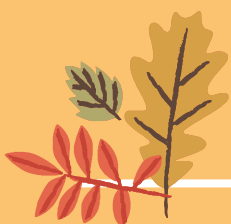


Omarley Spence

Legal Profession Program

William M. Hoeveler Fellow

Omarley is a 3L law student from Lauderhill, FL. They graduated from the University of Florida in 2019 with a B.A. in Economics and an M.S.M in Management. Before law school, Omarley worked as an Associate at Fisher Investments. They are currently the William M. Hoeveler Fellow for the UM Center for Ethics and Public Service (Legal Profession Program), a member of the Black Law Student Association, a council member on the UM Law Student Honor Council, a member of the OUTLaw Student Association, a member of the University of Miami School of Law Trial Team, a 2023 Kozyak Minority Mentorship Fellow, and the former Treasurer of the Caribbean Law Student Association. Omarley spent this past summer working as a summer associate at Venable LLP's Miami Office and will return there as an associate after graduation. Omarley enjoys running and spending quality time with their family in their free time.





Emma Rice

Community Equity Lab (Housing)

William M. Hoeveler Fellow

Emma (2L) graduated cum laude from the University of Florida in 2022 with a B.A. in Political Science and a B.S. in Business Marketing. Prior to law school, she worked as a legal assistant for the Office of the Broward Public Defender in both the Juvenile and Major Crimes Divisions. As a 1L at Miami Law, Emma is a Housing and Community Equity Project fellow with CEPS. During her 1L summer, Emma returned to serve as a HOPE Summer Public Interest Fellow with the Office of the Broward Public Defender. As a 2L, Emma is excited to return to Miami Law as a Junior Staff Editor for the Race & Social Justice Law Review and continue her work with CEPS.



Valerie Caso-Veras

Community Equity Lab (Housing)

Peter Palermo Fellow

Valerie is a 3L law student originally from Miami, Florida. She graduated from Florida International University with a B.A. in Psychology and a concentration in Industrial-Organizational Psychology, where she assisted in researching Florida death penalty cases for the Balanced Justice Project and advocated for immigrant detention divestment with the Florida Immigrant Coalition. In addition to being an active member of the Yvette Ostolaza Mock Trial Team and OUTLaw, Valerie is a Clinical Fellow with Miami Law's Innocence Clinic, passionate about bringing justice to all of those suffering from an imbalanced system. She is pursuing a concentration in Litigation and Dispute Resolution and hopes to continue contributing to social justice initiatives after graduation.





Emma Page

Community Equity Lab (Health)

Steven E. Chaykin Fellow

Emma is a 3L law student with a concentration in Health Law. Originally from Dayton, Ohio, she received her Bachelor's Degree in Public Health from the University of Kentucky, with minors in Biology, Spanish, and Health Communication. During her 1L summer, Emma worked for Legal Services of Greater Miami in the Health and Income Maintenance Unit. During her 2L summer, she worked as a Law Clerk at Zumpano Patricios, focusing on healthcare-related litigation and arbitration. Currently, she is an Articles and Comments Editor for the Race and Social Justice Law Review and a Fellow for the Environmental Justice Clinic. Emma is excited to continue working with the CEPS Health Equity team to foster healthy communities in Miami.



Angela Nguyen Pope

Community Equity Lab (Housing)

David Catsman Fellow

Angela (2L) is a Housing & Community Equity Project Fellow. In 2020, Angela graduated from the University of British Columbia with a double major in History and Gender, Race, Sexuality, & Social Justice Studies. This summer she interned with the Miami-Dade Public Defender's Office, where she gained valuable experience in criminal defense advocacy. As a 1L, Angela was a Housing & Community Project Intern and worked alongside CEPS to establish the factual and legal foundation for HUD Enforcement Action in Coconut Grove Village West. Currently, her coursework focuses on litigation, including post-conviction appeals, evidence, and trial work. As a 2L, Angela is excited to be a member of the International Criminal Court IMCP Team and continue her work with CEPS.





Taimaisú Ferrer Sin
Legal Profession Program
Peter Palermo Fellow

Taimaisú is a 3L law student. She received her Bachelor of Architecture with a minor in Education from Cornell University in 2022. She is a Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Graduate Scholar and an NAACP LDF Earl Warren Scholar. Taimaisú has worked with CEPS since her first year of law school, participating as an intern and then as a Peter Palermo Fellow in the Housing and Community Equity Project within the Community Equity Lab. She is thrilled to continue to work with CEPS in the Legal Profession Program (LPP).



Minah Malik
Legal Profession Program
David Catsman Fellow

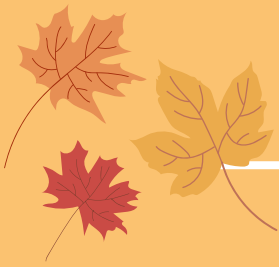
Minah (2L) is from NYC and graduated from George Washington University in 2018 with a B.A. in Political Science. Since coming to law school, Minah has focused on public interest work both as an intern with CEPS intern and as a HOPE Summer Public Interest Fellow at the Miami-Dade Public Defender. She is excited to continue her involvement with the Legal Profession Program with CEPS as a fellow this year.



Kyle Spohn
Community Equity Lab (Health)
Mandel Fellow

Kyle (2L) graduated cum laude from the University of Florida in May 2023 with a B.S. in Business Management and a minor in Communications Studies and Spanish. He is a member of Miami Law's Environmental Law Society and the First-Generation Law Association. During his 1L summer, Kyle served as a HOPE Public Interest Fellow with the P.E.E.R. Group, working on a variety of local projects and litigation related to environmental justice in Miami. As a 2L, Kyle will continue to pursue his passion for public interest and the environment as a legal intern with Miami Law's Environmental Justice Clinic. Kyle is excited to continue his work within the community as a CEPS fellow this year.





The Freedom School



The Freedom School program launched at Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church this past summer with nearly 50 students registered. The Freedom School Program was a pilot that featured an opportunity for participants to engage in a comprehensive curriculum focused on African American Heritage. Throughout the course of the program, students were presented with a variety of learning materials and activities to deepen their understanding and appreciation of their cultural heritage.

The lessons were developed by Carter Cooper, former Program Coordinator for the Center for Ethics and Public Service (CEPS), and included interactive PowerPoint presentations, reading materials, question and answer components, exit ticket exercises and a host of group activities. These diverse methods of instruction kept students actively participating and ensured that they were able to fully absorb the information being presented to them. The program was carefully designed to cater to a range of learning styles, age groups, ensuring that all participants were able to benefit from the curriculum. Members of the Coconut Grove Village West, CEPS' staff and interns served as lesson facilitators.

The feedback from students was overwhelmingly positive, with many expressing enjoyment and appreciation for the program. Students were particularly enthusiastic about the opportunity to learn about their cultural heritage in a supportive and engaging environment. Peer mentorship proved to be a particularly valuable aspect of the program, allowing students to learn from and support one another throughout the learning process.

The Freedom School Program was a success, evidenced by the students' increased understanding and appreciation of African American heritage and history. The positive feedback from students is a testament to the impact of the program. Certificates were awarded to participants to commemorate their six-week involvement. Gratitude is extended to the donors, Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church and our community partner Coconut Grove Ministerial Alliance (CGMA) for making the program possible.



Freedom School

Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church

Summer 2024





Freedom School

Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church

Summer 2024



Legal Profession Program



The Legal Profession Program is excited to bring you the following events this semester:



Voting Rights Panel- Collaboration with HOPE
Monday, September 23, 2024, Room F109
12:30 - 1:30 pm



Legal Malpractice Roundtable (Class Event)
Monday, November 11, 2024
6:00- 8 pm



William M. Hoeveler Award Ceremony
November 19, 2024, Room D201
6- 8 pm



Community Equity Lab

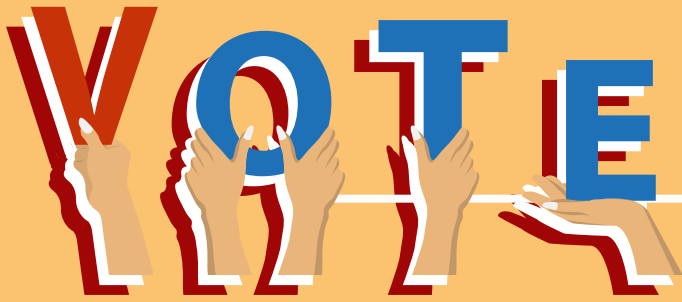
Fair Housing and HUD Enforcement Update

On July 12, 2024, based on the data collection and research by CEPS, the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) opened an official systemic housing discrimination investigation into the practices of the City of Miami under the federal Fair Housing Act, based on the systemic housing discrimination complaint submitted on behalf of the Coconut Grove Village West Homeowners and Tenants Association, Inc. (HOATA), the Coconut Grove Ministerial Alliance, Inc. (CGMA), and Grove Rights and Community Equity, Inc. (GRACE). See GRACE, CGVW, HOATA, CGMA and Nnamdi v. City of Miami et al., Inquiry No. 734632; HUD File No. 04-24-7072-8; Title VI Case No. 04-24-7072-6; Section 109 Case No. 04-24-7072-9.

HOATA, CGMA, and GRACE are challenging the disparate and devastating impact the City's land use, zoning, eviction, and demolition practices have had on the Coconut Grove Village West Community by displacing hundreds of residents. To advance the submission of this systemic housing discrimination claim and to advocate for a robust HUD investigation, CEPS facilitated a exciting partnership with the Miami-based Community Justice Project (CJP), whose attorneys have agreed to provide legal representation for HOATA, CGMA, and GRACE in their capacities as organizational Complainants in the fair housing investigation against the City of Miami.

The Community Equity Lab continues its work to formulate long-term fair housing solutions that preserve and restore increasingly vulnerable communities by integrating public health considerations into fair housing and community planning decision making processes. This framework is being supplemented in Fall 2024 by exploring the interconnectivity between public health and public education policy.





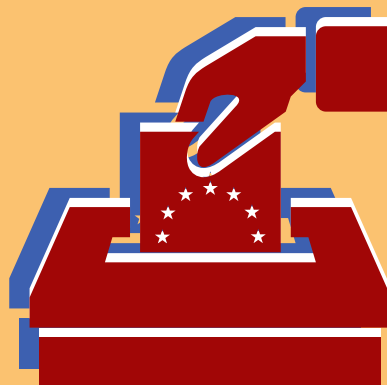
Voting - November 2024 Election

Voting is one of the most powerful tools you have to shape the future of your community, state, and country. We each are directly impacted by decisions made on issues like education, climate change, healthcare, and job opportunities. By voting this November, you have a chance to make your voice heard on critical topics.

Many of the policies passed today will affect you for years to come. Voting gives you the power to support leaders and initiatives that align with your values and vision for the future. If you don't vote, others will make those decisions for you, and the changes they implement may not reflect your interests or needs.

When students turn out in large numbers, it sends a message to elected officials that young people care and are paying attention, making politicians more likely to consider the issues that matter to you.

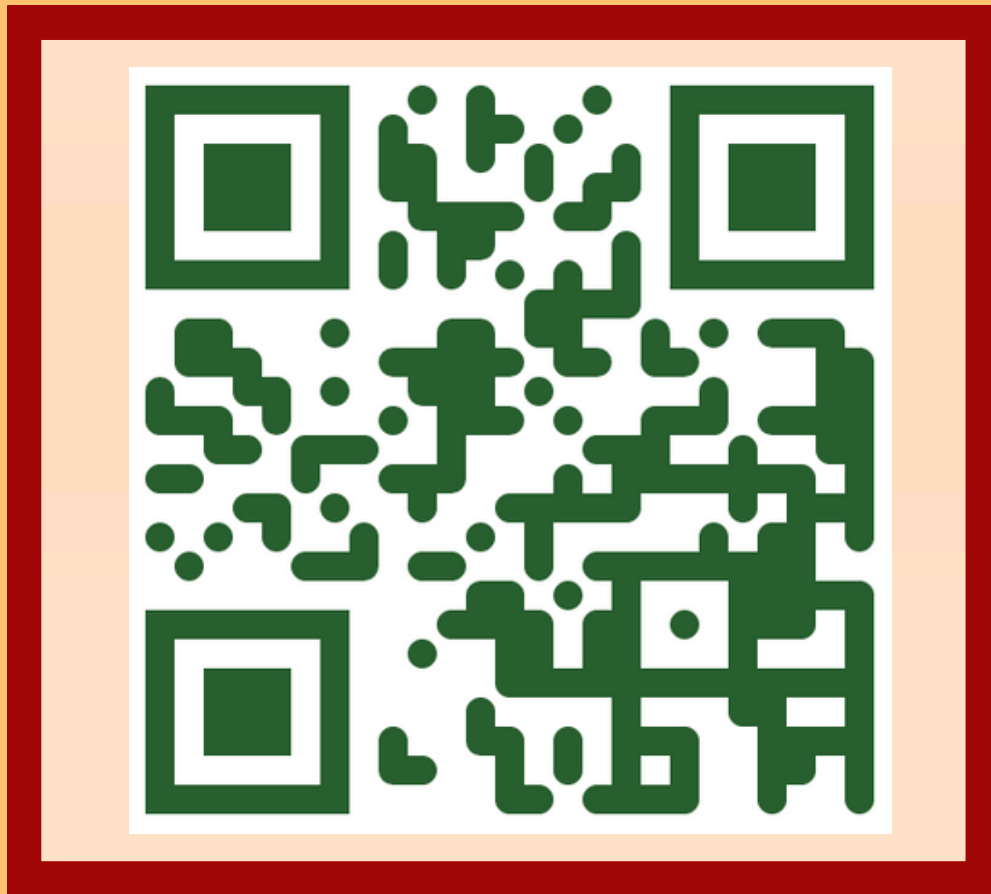
Finally, voting is not just a right but a responsibility. It's your chance to participate in the democratic process and contribute to the direction of our nation. Whether it's for local candidates or national elections, every vote counts and every vote matters. Make sure your voice is part of the conversation. Register, get informed, and head to the polls this November to make a difference!





Plan Your Vote

The deadline to register to vote for Florida residents is October 7, 2024 for the upcoming Presidential Election on November 5th. Not a resident of Florida? Visit [Vote.gov](https://www.vote.gov) to get the deadlines for your state today.

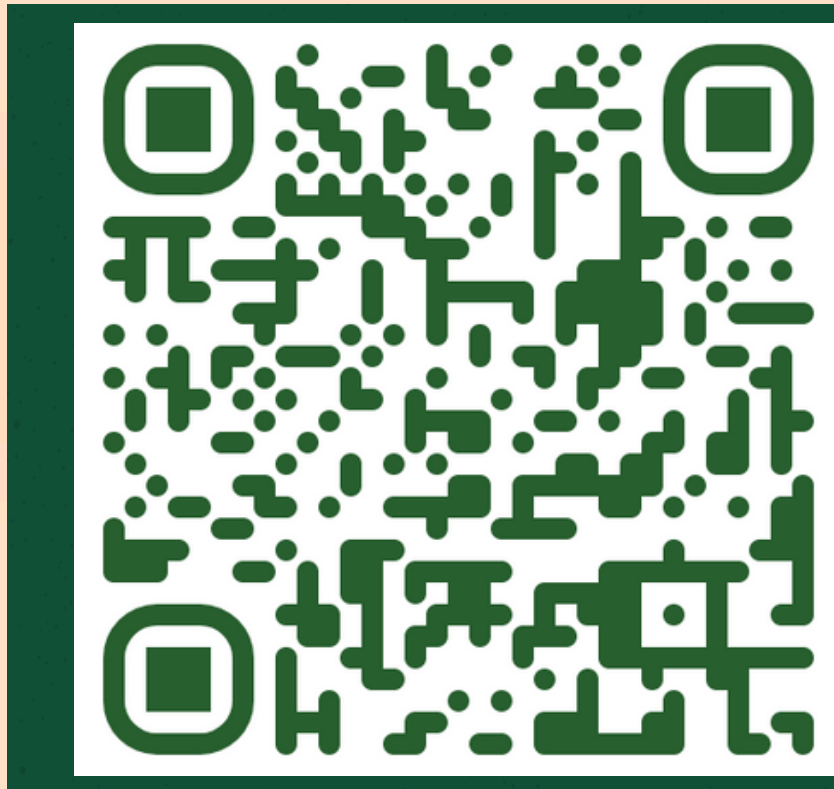


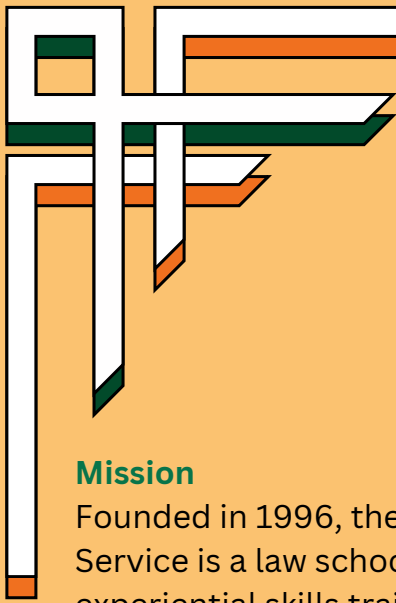
“Voting is the expression of commitment to ourselves, one another, this country and the world.”- Sharon Salzberg



CEPS Internships

If you are a student with a passion for law and community service, consider applying to be a CEPS intern. Scan the QR code to complete a brief questionnaire.





MIAMILAW

UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI SCHOOL OF LAW

CEPS Center for Ethics and Public Service

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.

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 Miami 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.

Community Impact

Since 1996, Center faculty and staff have trained more than 1,400 graduate and undergraduate fellows and interns, and collaborated with more than 50,000 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.

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FREDMAN FAMILY FOUNDATION PRACTITIONER IN RESIDENCE

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