

University & Faculty Senate Reapprove CEPS

We are happy to announce that The Provost recommended the Center for Ethics and Public Service continue, with its next review during the 2025-2026 review cycle. Every five years, School-Based Centers and Institutes, must disclose their activities and undergo review by the Office of the Provost (OTP) in consultation with the Dean of their host school. The review is rigorous and thorough. In his review, the Provost noted that **the Center has made notable contributions to our community**. That recommendation was voted on and approved by the faculty senate.

1L Interns

Janeal Fordham, Legal Profession Program

Janeal Fordham graduated magna cum laude from Spelman College in May 2018 with a B.A. in Political Science. Upon graduation, Janeal served as the 2018-2021 Gallard Fellow at The Branson School, a selective, private school in the Bay Area. While at Branson, Janeal was a US History teacher, an Admissions team member, and affinity space advisor for the Women of Color and Black Student Union groups. As Director of Community Engagement, Janeal consistently tailored engaging programming for the school community culminating in more than 12,000 hours of community outreach and volunteer events. More recently, Janeal has been a researcher for The Canary Film Project, a documentary depicting the disproportionate Black maternal mortality rate. While in Los Angeles, she served as a community engagement board member for Sistas of LA, an affinity collective of 2,000 Black women in the Los Angeles area. Now, in her first year at the University of Miami School of Law, Janeal encourages a pro bono ethic as a HOPE Public Interest Scholar. Janeal plans to use her law degree in community advocacy particularly at the intersections of health, literacy, data privacy, and racial justice.



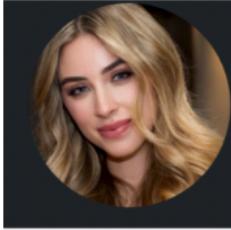
Estefanía Hernández, Legal Profession Program

Estefanía is a first-year law student from Coral Springs, Florida. Prior to coming to law school, she taught high school English and engaged in youth mentorship. This summer she worked as a summer intern at Diaz Reus, an international law firm. She is currently a member of the Hispanic Law Association, First Generation Law Association, and the Critical Legal Collective. She hopes to focus her coursework on litigation skills and civil rights advocacy. She is excited to join CEPS and contribute to advancing its mission through projects and outreach.

Omarley Spence, Legal Profession Program

Omarley Spence is a 1L at the University of Miami School of Law and is from Lauderhill, Fl. He graduated from the University of Florida in 2019 with a B.A. in Economics and an M.S.M in Management. Prior to coming to law school, he gained skills in project management and financial market trend tracking while working as an Associate at Fisher Investments. He is a member of the Black Law Student Association, First-Generation Law Association, and the University of Miami School of Law's Civil Rights Reading Group. He is excited to join CEPS and contribute to various projects and community outreach.





Samantha Viner, *Legal Profession Program*

Samantha is a first-year law student from Miami, Florida. In 2022, she received her B.A. in political science from Florida International University. Samantha has interned with two judges prior to law school and will be completing another judicial internship in the United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida this summer. Samantha's goal is to practice complex

business litigation and plans to focus her coursework on litigation and dispute resolution. She also plans on pursuing a JD/MBA. Samantha is thrilled to be a part of CEPS and is focusing on educating others outside the classroom on the importance of being a legal professional and prioritizing community.

Emma Page, *Health Equity Project*

Emma is a first-year law student from Dayton, Ohio. She graduated from the University of Kentucky in 2021 with a degree in Public Health and minors in Biology, Spanish, and Health Communication. Prior to coming to law school, she gained experience working for a local health department in Lexington, Kentucky. This summer, she will serve as a HOPE Summer Public Interest Fellow. She is looking forward to working with CEPS to improve health equity in Miami-Dade County.



Hannah Smaglia, *Health Equity Project*

Hannah is a first-year law student from Connecticut. She received her BFA in Studio Art from the University of Connecticut in 2020. Through her undergraduate experience, Hannah learned about visual story-telling, which inspired her to come to law school and become an advocate for others. She is excited to be a part of CEPS and contribute to their community-based work.

Niara Ellison Williams, *Health Equity Project*

Niara is a first-year law student from Perrysburg, Ohio. In 2018, she received her B.A. in Political Science from Bowling Green State University. 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. She is currently a member of the Health Law Association, Black Law Student Association and First-Generation Law Association. She is pursuing the health law concentration and hopes to specialize in transactional health care work after graduation.



Olivia Zukowski, *Health Equity Project*

Olivia Zukowski is a first-year law student at the University of Miami School of Law. In May of 2021, she graduated from the University of Miami with a B.A. in Ecosystem Science and Policy and Political Science and a minor in French. She then received her Master of Public Administration from the University of Miami in May 2022. During her graduate studies, Olivia interned at the Human Impacts Institute (HII) based in Brooklyn, NY, focusing on NGO Development. She was able to

meld together her passions for environmental education and nonprofit organizational management as she took on this role. While there, she wrote technical funding proposals in an effort to further HII's mission towards environmental education and stewardship through the arts and social justice. As a law student, Olivia is a Miami Public Interest Scholar and is excited to continue her public interest work. She is looking forward to continuing his work at CEPS working on the Health Equity Project.

Valerie Caso-Veras, Housing and Community Equity Project

Valerie is a first-year law student at the University of Miami. She graduated from Florida International University in 2021 with a B.A. in Psychology and a minor in Criminal Justice. Prior to coming to law school, she advocated for immigrant detention divestment in South Florida with the Florida Immigrant Coalition (FLIC). She also assisted the Balanced Justice Project in the Death Penalty Clinic at FIU in researching and reviewing Florida death penalty cases. Her current work with the Housing and Community Equity Project focuses on preserving the Bahamian diversity in Coconut Grove Village West being eliminated due to displacement.



Taimaisú Ferrer Sin, Housing and Community Equity Project

Taimaisú is a first-year law student at the University of Miami. 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. In addition to being a member of the Black Law Students Association on campus, Taimaisú is a member of the Wilkie D. Ferguson, Jr. Bar Association and the Gwen S. Cherry Black Women Lawyers Association. She is thrilled to join CEPS and participate in the Housing and Community Equity Project.

Kasra Greiner, Housing and Community Equity Project

Kasra Greiner is a first year law student at the University of Miami. He graduated from Florida International University with a B.A. in Political science in 2020. Prior to coming to law school, he was involved with child advocacy through the Florida Statewide Guardian ad Litem Office. His current work with the Housing and Community Equity Project is focused on preserving the Bahamian diversity in Coconut Grove Village West. He is currently a member South/West Asian and North African Law Association.



In the News

Alleged Antisemitic Remarks Target Miami Jewish Judge— Read the Full Letters, Michael A. Mora

The controversy has upset attorneys in South Florida. Ultimately, [Judge] James said the statements raised issues under Rules 4-8.4(d) and 4-8.2(a) of the Florida Rules of Professional Conduct, according to the transcripts. **Anthony V. Alfieri**, the founding director of the Center for Ethics and Public Service and a professor of law at the University of Miami School of Law, pointed to the relevance of Rule 4-8.4(d)'s prohibition of an attorney's conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice, which includes statements that are "not relevant to the proof of any legal or factual issue in dispute." And that Rule 4-8.2(a) prohibits lawyer statements that the attorney "knows to be false or with reckless disregard as to its truth or falsity concerning the qualifications or integrity of a judge," said Alfieri, who is not involved in the matter. "Absent evidence of judicial bias or any showing of relevance," Alfieri said, "discriminatory statements of this kind, even when deliberately calculated to cause judicial recusal and strategically advance the interest of a client, not only subvert the administration of justice and undermine public confidence in the criminal justice system but also corrode core notions of equality in law and society."

[Read the Full Story](#)

Coconut Grove residents outraged after Miami tries to eliminate healthcare from 'Old Smokey' victims



[Watch the Video](#)

Surfside Collapse Judge Honored with Annual Hoeveler Award



Miami Law's [Center for Ethics and Public Service](#) honored Judge Michael Hanzman with the 20th annual William M. Hoeveler award on Tuesday, November 29, 2022.

[Read the Full Story](#)

Honoring Black History Month, Legal Profession Program Students hosted "A Discussion on the Rosewood Massacre."



"I am Black history," said [Lizzie Polly Robinson Brown Jenkins](#), the founder and president of the Real Rosewood Foundation, Inc. The second-generation Rosewood historian opened the conversation for the [Center for Ethics and Public Service's](#) Legal Profession Program panel discussion, "A Discussion on the Rosewood Massacre," centering her remarks on the importance of Black history.

CEPS LPP Presented: 50 YEARS AFTER ROE Honoring Women's History Month



The discussion centered on the intersection of Dobbs, women's reproductive health and domestic violence awareness.

Panelists were:

Dr. Victoria Guerrero Gorman, MD, University of Miami, Assistant Professor, Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology, and Reproductive Sciences

Laura Hernandez, Senior Associate for the State Innovation Exchange's (SiX) Reproductive Rights Team, Former Director of Policy for Planned Parenthood in Florida

Frances R. Hill, University of Miami, Professor of Law and Dean's Distinguished Scholar for the Profession

Tamara R. Lave, University of Miami, Professor of Law



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