



CENTER FOR ETHICS & PUBLIC SERVICE

MIAMILAW
UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI SCHOOL OF LAW

DEVOTED TO THE VALUES OF
ETHICAL JUDGMENT
PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
AND PUBLIC SERVICE IN LAW AND
SOCIETY

Volume 20: Spring 2022

OUR TWENTY-SIXTH YEAR

This newsletter highlights the work of more than a dozen law student fellows and interns who led the Center's ethics and experiential learning programs and projects throughout the spring semester, steering our long-standing Historic Black Church Program and Legal Profession Program as well as our more recent Community Equity Lab projects on fair housing, community economic development, and health equity.

During the summer the Center will house another dozen graduate and undergraduate students staffing our community-based work on rights education, interdisciplinary research, and law and policy reform in the fields of civil rights, poverty law, and public health.

We are grateful for your continuing support of the Center and our terrific fellows and interns.

Hope to see you on campus next fall in our upcoming 27th year!

Voting Rights in Miami

On Tuesday, April 5th, Miami Law's Center for Ethics and Public Service Legal Profession Program presented a panel on Zoom that explored the impact of municipal redistricting on voters' voices and rights - specifically in low-income, communities of color. The distinguished panelists included Ellen Freidin, Marisol Zenteno, and Reverend Nathaniel Robinson III, all of whom are voting rights advocates and activists in the South Florida area. The event was attended by over 60 students, professionals, and many of our community partners.



Miami is the new New York

The Center's Legal Profession Program presented five Miami trailblazers to discuss the growing Miami legal and tech markets on Tuesday, April 19th. The event featured (L to R below) Evan Leaphart of Kiddie Kredit, John O'Sullivan of Quinn Emanuel, Bibiana Pesant of Lalchandani Simon, Aida Rodriguez of Ascension Global Staffing and Executive Search, and Tanya Smith of Goldman Sachs. Discussion topics ranged from the panelists' unique and diverse experiences working in the Miami market to their predictions of where the Miami market is headed. Each panelist explained how the Miami tech market is exploding and emphasized the many opportunities arising from this expansion for both practitioners and students. Over 50 students and professionals attended the event.





Old Smokey Incinerator in State Court

The state court litigation arising from the construction of “Old Smokey,” the controversial garbage incinerator built at 3245 Jefferson St. in the Coconut Grove Village West in 1926 and finally shut down in 1970, drew more than 80 community residents and law students to a hearing on April 21st.

CEPS Grads Join Professor Alfieri on Miami-Dade Bar Association Panel

On April 22nd, the Miami-Dade Bar Association hosted the Miami Law Con - Panel: “Affordable Housing, Gentrification and Community Benefits Agreements in South Florida.” Professor Tony Alfieri moderated the panel along side two former Miami Law students, Shahrzad Emami Shaw and Daniela Cimo a former CEPS Fellow, and Assistant County Attorney, Terrence A. Smith.



Kristen Dagher and Lauren Jones

Health Disparities Project Team Presents to Community Groups

Focusing on community outreach and education this spring, our HDP team made several health equity presentations to local community groups, including to the Coconut Grove Ministerial Alliance and the Coconut Grove Homeowners and Tenants Association covering topics ranging from the effects of mold in Florida housing to Black maternal health. The Health Disparities Team includes fellows, Kristen Dagher and Lauren Jones, and interns, Ashley Calcagno, Maggie Walsh, and Nalani Wilson.

CEPS Hires New Program Coordinator, Galen Daniels

Galen previously worked as a Program Specialist with Big Brothers Big Sisters of Miami when he arrived from Indianapolis, Indiana in August of 2017. Most recently, Galen served as Program Coordinator/Job Coach for FIU Embrace. Galen received his Bachelor of Science in Physical Education from Indiana University (IUPUI). He has years of experience in working with nonprofits, social service organizations, and city government.



UPCOMING EVENTS

**CEPS Annual Lawyers
in Leadership Award
Luncheon**

***Civil Rights
Collective***

**Thursday, September
8, 2022
12:30 PM - 2:00 PM
Student Lounge**



Matt Manning
Web, Cason & Manning



Jeremy McLymont
Asilia Law Firm



Ariel Lett
Lett Law



Chris Lomax
Lomax Legal



Faudlin Pierre
FP Law

The Civil Rights Collective (“CRC”) is composed of lawyers in private practice, largely based in South Florida, who focus some or all of their attention on social justice and civil rights matters. We started the group in 2021. It is not a formal organization or entity, but its members work collaboratively in a number of ways. For example, CRC members often share information with respect to best practices, specific experiences with certain types of cases or judges, and other related issues. CRC members also regularly work together as co-counsel in civil rights litigation (typically not the entire CRC but, instead, two or three lawyers join forces to handle a certain case). Most recently, CRC members co-counseled in a Section 1983 trial in the SDFL. Others are working together on racial discrimination cases. All CRC members have law enforcement misconduct cases on their dockets. And, as you know, we are all involved in the impending redistricting issue in Miami.

Breaking News!

Please congratulate our colleagues **Lauren Madigan**, Senior Program Manager, and **Galen Daniels**, Program Coordinator, at the Center for Ethics and Public Service for winning project grant funding recently from the University of Miami’s Racial Justice Grant Program in support of Voting Rights outreach and education in cooperation with our local community partners.

This grant program aims to support the development of UM’s diverse faculty, students and staff while fostering a culture of diversity, equity, and inclusion. The grant also supports community-based scholarship and activities that promote impactful and lasting change related to social justice among Black communities in the local South Florida community and/or the University.



OUR 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.

To advance our mission, for 26 years the Center has served as an incubator and an accelerator for numerous public service initiatives, including the current Community Equity Lab, Historic Black Church Program, and Legal Profession Program. Additional initiatives encompass clinics (Children and Youth Law Clinic, Community Economic Development & 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 Joint College of Arts and Sciences Program on Law, Public Policy, and Ethics), summer colloquia (UM Environmental Justice, Policy, & Science), and oral histories and documentary films (Oral History & Documentary Film Project).

Since 1996, Center faculty and staff have trained more than 1,360 graduate and undergraduate fellows and interns, and collaborated with more than 47,672 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.

CEPS

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