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### Florida A&M University College of Law Announces Faculty Appointments and Transitions

**Orlando, FL** – July 5, 2018 – Florida A&M University (FAMU) College of Law is pleased to announce its new hires and other changes in the faculty ranks. The College is proud to welcome each new addition to its faculty and extends great pride in the accomplishments of faculty who will transition through departure.

Nationally recognized and highly regarded in legal education, FAMU Law faculty has earned distinction in teaching, scholarship and professional service. The faculty appointments and transitions are effective for the 2018-2019 academic year.

“I value a strong commitment to diversity of student enrollment, coupled with great integrity of faculty experience and expertise on our campus,” notes LeRoy Pernell, Interim Dean and Professor of Law. “As we continue to develop and find raw talent, we are also proud to have a strong group of professors from the legal community who contribute to our campus growth,” the Dean states further.

FAMU College of Law Faculty Additions:



**Edward J. Kionka** will be a *Visiting Professor* at the FAMU College of Law for the 2017-2018 academic year. He brings more than 30 years’ experience as Professor of Law at Southern Illinois University School of Law, teaching: Torts, Evidence, Appellate Courts, Civic Procedure, Remedies, Insurance Law, Legal Writing, Advanced Torts, Trial Advocacy, Delivery of Legal Services, Legal Profession, Appellate Advocacy, Legal Process, and Administrative-Legislative Process. Kionka is also former Associate Dean and Acting Dean for Southern Illinois University School of Law and worked in private practice law for the state of Illinois. Kionka received his LL.M. and J.D. from the University of Illinois College of Law and a B.S. in Psychology from the University of Illinois.



**Paige Carlos** will begin this fall as a *Legal Research and Writing Instructor*, after previously serving as Academic Planning for Success Advisor. She graduated Cum Laude with her J.D. from the FAMU College of Law, where she served as Editor-in-Chief of Law Review. She also holds a B.A. from Colgate University, Hamilton, New York. Paige has been admitted to practice law in Florida and Washington, D.C.



**Cynthia Ramkellawan** will begin in the fall as an *Instructor for Academic Support and Bar Preparation*. She formerly served as an adjunct instructor of the Guardian ad Litem Clinic at the College of Law. As the youngest student to receive her J.D. from the FAMU College of Law, *magna cum laude*, she was also a Top Honor Graduate with a B.A. from the University of Central Florida.

PAGE TWO



**Marlese Wells** will begin this fall as an *Instructor for Academic Support and Bar Preparation*, having served the department as an adjunct instructor previously. Wells received her J.D from FAMU College of Law and graduated Cum Laude from Florida Memorial University, Miami, Florida with a B.A. in Political Science and Public Administration. Wells has been admitted to practice law in Florida.

FAMU College of Law Faculty Departures:

**Randall S. Abate**, Professor of Law, joined FAMU Law in 2009. In addition to teaching domestic and international environmental law, constitutional law, and animal law, he also serve as Associate Dean for Academic Affairs. He has taught at six other U.S. law schools and will depart the Orlando area to relocate to New Jersey to start as the inaugural Rechnitz Family Endowed Chair in Marine and Environmental Law and Policy at Monmouth University, in West Long Branch.

**Angela Felecia Epps**, Professor of Law, served as Dean of the FAMU College of Law from January 2016 to May 2017. Prior to joining FAMU Law, Epps was a professor at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock William H. Bowen School of Law. She will be moving to Dallas, Texas to serve as Dean of the University of North Texas Dallas College of Law.

**Cori Harvey**, Associate Professor of Law, joined FAMU College of Law in 2014, after completing the William H. Hastie Law Teaching Fellowship & LLM Program at the University of Wisconsin Law School, where she taught Accounting, Finance, and Economics to law students. At FAMU College of Law, she taught courses in the business and corporate law curriculum, including Property I and Property II.

**John Paul Jones**, a member of the FAMU College of Law inaugural faculty, has retired after serving at the law school since its reestablishment. He has appeared and argued in the Supreme Court of the United States, the United States Courts of Appeal for the 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, and 11th Circuits, and the Florida Supreme Court. He has practiced before United States District Courts in fifteen states, as well as several federal administrative agencies. He is nationally recognized in the field of mediation, having trained more than two thousand judges during fifteen years as a faculty member at the National Judicial College in Reno, Nevada, and as a trainer for several state Supreme Courts.

**Robert Minarcin**, Clinical Instructor, formerly taught Criminal Pretrial Practice and managed the Criminal Defense Legal Clinic. He embarks on a new chapter in his career at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock Bowen School of Law, where he will be an Assistant Professor, overseeing the Lawyering Skills Program.

**Beverly Perry**, Instructor, provided meritorious service on the FAMU Law campus as an Academic Success and Bar Preparation Instructor. Prior to her departure, she was responsible for overseeing a wide range of career enhancement and planning activities through the Office of Career Planning and Placement and developed the Externship Program guide with Academic Affairs.



*PAGE THREE*

**About Florida A&M University College of Law**

The FAMU College of Law is located in the heart of Downtown Orlando, just steps from the George C. Young United States Courthouse and Federal Building; and blocks from governmental offices, major law firms, large corporations and legal service agencies.

The college's prime location provides students with direct access to the area's largest employers of individuals with law degrees, offering our students and graduates ample avenues to gain practical experience in the legal profession. With tuition among the lowest of the 13 law schools in Florida, along with a full-time day program and a part-time evening program, the college is distinctly positioned to offer the traditional student and the working professional a chance to earn a law degree while accruing minimal debt.

The College of Law's student body is diverse – 72 percent minority and 56 percent women – helping to enrich a campus community where intellectual freedom and self-discovery are encouraged. Thanks to its renowned faculty, the college focuses on academic excellence in the classroom; emphasizes practical experience and public service within its clinical programs; and stresses professionalism through its co-curricular activities. For more information about the FAMU College of Law, visit <http://law.famu.edu/>.

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