

# **THE FLORIDA BAR'S STANDING COMMITTEE ON PROFESSIONALISM**



**2024-2025**







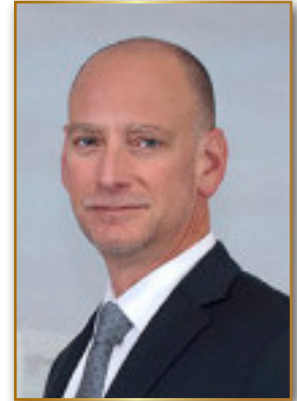




**KURT EDWARD  
ALEXANDER**



**JUDGE MICHAEL ISSA  
BATEH**



**JEFFREY LOREN  
BLOSTEIN**



**KATRINA S. BROWN**



**TIMOTHY CHINARIS**



**KALINTHIA R. DILLARD**



**ELIZABETH ELLIS**



**KRISTINA FEHER**



**JENNIFER FICARROTTA**



**MATTHEW FREY**



**MICHELLE GAVAGNI**



**HAILEY GOLDMAN**



**ROSS GOODMAN**



**THOMAS GRAHAM**



**RICHARD GREENBERG**



**JEFFREY HARVEY**



**CHARDEAN HILL**



**JUDGE CLAUDIA ISOM**



**DORA KAUFMAN**



**BRYAN KESSLER**



**STEVE LESSER**



**KARA LINK**



**JOE LONGFELLOW III**



**JOSH MAGIDSON**



**JUDGE WILLIAM  
MATTHEWMAN**



**LIANA MATTHEWS**



**CHARISE MORGAN**





**JORDAN NADEL**



**SCOTT PERRY**



**JOSH RESNICK**



**BRAULIO RODRIGUEZ**



**MICHAEL SIMON**



**WILLIAM SPICOLOA**



**FRANK TADDEO**



**KIT VAN PELT**



# A W G

Promote nominations for the Hoeveler, Group, and Law Faculty/Administrator awards, which have nomination deadlines of February 7, 2025.

Review application materials for potential revisions by October 4, 2024.

Revise/update the awards marketing plan by October 4, 2024.

Draft marketing materials and articles for The Florida Bar News, The Professional, and the Center's website to promote awards by October 4, 2024.

Review nominations and make recipient recommendations to the full Committee by March 14, 2025.

Work with the Center to plan when the awards will be given out to winners.

Chardean Hill, Working Group Chair

Brandon

[chill@cmhlawadr.com](mailto:chill@cmhlawadr.com)

Abby Spears

Palm Beach Gardens

[aspears@nasonyeager.com](mailto:aspears@nasonyeager.com)

Judge Carolyn Bell

West Palm Beach

[cbell1@pbcgov.org](mailto:cbell1@pbcgov.org)

John Schi no, Board Liaison

Tampa

[jschi\\_no@gunster.com](mailto:jschi_no@gunster.com)

Nikki Lewis Simon, Board Liaison

Miami

[simonn@gtlaw.com](mailto:simonn@gtlaw.com)

## EDUCATION AND RESOURCE WORKING GROUP

- **2024–25 SCOP MISSION: EACH ONE, REACH ONE:** Work with the Center to research, develop, and implement innovative programs to best share the Center’s professionalism resources with all members of TFB.
- Aid in the updates of the 2-hour required professionalism CLE specified by SC2023–0884.
- Help promote [Decorum.law](https://www.floridabar.org/prof/presources/) and recruit and/or write content for the website.
- Help recruit guests for the Center’s podcasts and promote the podcasts with your peers.
- Create and recruit videos for the #ProTipTuesday professionalism campaign: <https://www.floridabar.org/prof/presources/>
- **Recruit submissions and photos for the Center’s newsletter, The Professional.** <https://www.thefloridabarprofessional.com/> (This blog has great potential but has been a bit neglected this past year or so.)
- Collect photos of professionalism events to be used on the Center’s social media and in TFB publications.
- Members should look for ways that SCOP and the Center can join with other organizations for programs to promote professionalism.
- Aid the Center with resources and materials for curriculum with professionalism programs.
- Research law schools, bar associations, and other state bars to identify and implement successful professionalism program trends.

**Dora Kaufman, Working Group Chair**  
Miami  
[dfk@lgplaw.com](mailto:dfk@lgplaw.com)

**Michele Gavagni**  
Tallahassee  
[gavagnim@flcourts.org](mailto:gavagnim@flcourts.org)

**Kurt Alexander**  
Merritt Island  
[kurtalexander@rigdonalexander.com](mailto:kurtalexander@rigdonalexander.com)

**Ross Goodman**  
Pensacola  
[rgoodman@levinlaw.com](mailto:rgoodman@levinlaw.com)

**Katrina Brown**  
Tampa  
[kbrown@bushross.com](mailto:kbrown@bushross.com)

**Richard Greenberg**  
Tallahassee  
[rgreenberg@rumberger.com](mailto:rgreenberg@rumberger.com)

**Tim Chinaris**  
Rockledge  
[tchinaris@chinarislaw.com](mailto:tchinaris@chinarislaw.com)

**Joshua Resnick**  
West Palm Beach  
[jresnick@mcdonaldhopkins.com](mailto:jresnick@mcdonaldhopkins.com)

**Kalinthia Dillard**  
West Palm Beach  
[kdillard1@pbcgov.org](mailto:kdillard1@pbcgov.org)

## LOCAL PROFESSIONALISM PANELS (LPP) WORKING GROUP

- Review SC2023-0884.
- Host an LPP Summit by November 2024 in compliance with the Order (p. 10) and compile minutes, data, and forms following the Summit.
- Review LPP training materials and provide feedback and additional ideas and content to Bar staff: <https://www.floridabar.org/prof/local/>
- Help ensure that the Center's contact list for LPPs and Chief Judges are updated.
- Help collect Local Professionalism Panel reporting forms in compliance with the Order.

**Kara Link, Working Group Chair**

West Palm Beach  
[kara@linkrocklaw.com](mailto:kara@linkrocklaw.com)

**Judge Carolyn Bell**

West Palm Beach  
[cbell1@pbcgov.org](mailto:cbell1@pbcgov.org)

**Jeffrey Blostein**

Miami  
[jblostein@jaycohenlaw.com](mailto:jblostein@jaycohenlaw.com)

**Thomas Graham**

Miami  
[tom@mginjuryfirm.com](mailto:tom@mginjuryfirm.com)

**Josh Magidson**

Clearwater  
[jm@macfar.com](mailto:jm@macfar.com)

**Charise Morgan**

Miami  
[charise.a.morgan@zurichna.com](mailto:charise.a.morgan@zurichna.com)

**Scott Perry**

West Palm Beach  
[sperry@murrayguari.com](mailto:sperry@murrayguari.com)

# MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLNESS WORKING GROUP

- **Research, review, and disseminate the latest post-pandemic research on health and wellness through the Center's website and social media.**
- **Aid in the development and production of a CLE on health and wellness-related issues, such as fitness, mental health, suicide awareness, loneliness, mindfulness, emotional intelligence, nutrition, social well-being, travel, parenting, aging, and coping with life-changing events.**
- Disseminate #mentalhealthandwellness #welllawyer social media information from The Florida Bar and Young Lawyers Division (YLD) during May's Mental Health and Wellness Week/Month.
- Share important facts and statistics at law schools, local bar associations, and places of employment. TFB's Mental Health and Wellness Center's website can be found here: <https://www.floridabar.org/member/healthandwellnesscenter/>.
- Provide articles, videos, podcasts, and other media to share on the Center's website and on the Center's social media.
- Contribute one health and wellness-related article per working group member to be published in *The Professional*.
- Collaborate with The Bar's Mental Health and Wellness of Florida Lawyers Committee to disseminate information.

**Jeffrey Harvey. Working Group Chair**

Orlando  
[jeffh@clsmf.org](mailto:jeffh@clsmf.org)

**Jennifer Ficarrota**

Tampa  
[jennifer@sessumsblack.com](mailto:jennifer@sessumsblack.com)

**Hailey Goldman**

Plantation  
[hgoldman@klauberggoldman.com](mailto:hgoldman@klauberggoldman.com)

**Bryan Kessler**

Venice  
[bryan@bergandkessler.com](mailto:bryan@bergandkessler.com)

**Liana Matthews**

Miami  
[lmattthews@pdmiami.com](mailto:lmattthews@pdmiami.com)

**Braulio Rodriguez**

Orlando  
[brodriguez@cmlawfirm.com](mailto:brodriguez@cmlawfirm.com)

**Frank Taddeo**

Plantation  
[fjtaddeolaw@gmail.com](mailto:fjtaddeolaw@gmail.com)

## MENTORING INITIATIVES WORKING GROUP

- Using available data regarding mentoring initiatives from other state bars, review, revise, and modernize the Center's mentoring toolbox, even if this means starting from scratch: <https://www.floridabar.org/prof/pmentor/>
- Create and include at least one version of a Mentoring Contract that can be included in the Mentoring Toolbox (see above).
- Work with Center staff to create a list of monthly conversation starters for the mentor/mentee that can be shared on social media.
- Produce CLEs which focus on types of mentoring, gives examples of successful mentoring programs, discusses the benefits of reverse mentoring, and explores ways in which mentoring can be used to promote professionalism, civility, and diversity.
- Continue with the production of the #MentoringMatters CLE series.
- Each member will provide a blog post for *The Professional* highlighting their own personal stories involving mentoring, including photos, for a social media series.
- Provide articles, videos, podcasts, and other media pertaining to mentoring that can be placed on the Center's website and shared on social media.

**Joe Longfellow, III, Working Group Chair**

Tallahassee  
[jlongfellow@andrewscrabtree.com](mailto:jlongfellow@andrewscrabtree.com)

**The Honorable Michael Bateh**

Jacksonville  
[mbateh@coj.net](mailto:mbateh@coj.net)

**Matthew Frey**

Tavares  
[mfrey@campionehackney.com](mailto:mfrey@campionehackney.com)

**The Honorable Claudia Isom**

Tampa  
[claudia.isom.law@gmail.com](mailto:claudia.isom.law@gmail.com)

**The Honorable William Matthewman**

West Palm Beach  
[william.matthewman@flsd.uscourts.gov](mailto:william.matthewman@flsd.uscourts.gov)

**Michael Simon**

Boca Raton  
[msimon@simonsigalos.com](mailto:msimon@simonsigalos.com)

**William Spicola**

Tallahassee  
[william@komisarspicola.com](mailto:william@komisarspicola.com)



## **ABOUT THE HENRY LATIMER CENTER FOR PROFESSIONALISM**

The creation of The Florida Bar Center for Professionalism was approved by The Florida Bar Board of Governors on May 17, 1996. This move was in response to a perceived national decline in lawyers' professionalism, and it was an effort to raise the aspirational goals of all lawyers within Florida by defining a professionalism program and dedicating resources. Subsequently, the Center for Professionalism and the Florida Supreme Court's Commission on Professionalism were created by Administrative Order AOSC1-50 on July 19, 1996 as a joint project of the Supreme Court, The Florida Bar, and the Committee on Professionalism.

On September 24, 1998, The Rules Regulating The Florida Bar were amended to enact Chapter 19, putting into effect the Center for Professionalism on October 1, 1998. This chapter defines the Center's purpose, responsibility, authority, staffing, operation, and relationship to the Florida Supreme Court Commission on Professionalism.

In 2005, the Center was renamed, "The Henry Latimer Center for Professionalism," in honor of the late Honorable Henry Latimer. Judge Latimer – one of the first African-American judges in Florida – enjoyed a 30-year career as a lawyer and jurist. He exemplified passion for equality, excellence, respect, and dignity.

The Florida Bar's Standing Committee on Professionalism worked with the Commission and the Center to craft the guiding principles in the following joint mission and vision statements:

### **THE MISSION:**

To promote the fundamental ideals and values of the justice system within the legal system, and to instill those ideals of character, competence, commitment and civility in all those persons serving therein.

### **THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON PROFESSIONALISM'S WORKING DEFINITION OF PROFESSIONALISM:**

Professionalism is the pursuit and practice of the highest ideals and tenets of the legal profession. It embraces far more than simply complying with the minimal standards of professional conduct. The essential ingredients of professionalism are character, competence, commitment, and civility.

