ALL APPLICATIONS NEED TO BE ACCURATE AND CONSISTENT

When you apply to a state bar, the bar examiners will acquire a copy of your law school application and your clinical application (if applicable). The bar staff will then compare the content of your bar application with the information on your law school application and clinical application. It is very important that all of the information on all three applications be accurate and consistent. Minor discrepancies or inconsistencies can trigger an inquiry, and cause significant delay. Omissions of incidents or events from your law school application that are disclosed to, or discovered by, the bar examiners will cause you to have to subsequently provide such information to the law school, and to obtain from the school a response to the newly disclosed information. Failing to make corrections until after you graduate calls into question your honesty and candor. Disclosure on one application does not cure omission on another. Disclosure on a clinical application is not the same as amending and correcting your law school application. Subsequent criminal incidents that occur while you are in law school must still be disclosed on your law school application. The applications do not necessarily seek the exact same information. You may be required to provide some information on one application that is not requested on another. You need to read the questions carefully.

If you think you need to make an amendment to your law school application, get a copy of your law school application and read the questions carefully. If you did not retain a copy of your law school application, you can get a copy from the Law School Registrar. If you have not disclosed something that should be disclosed, then file an amendment. You can get the form to amend your law school application online from the Law School website. Common exclusions include: prior criminal offenses (no matter the disposition), prior academic or behavior-based discipline from an academic institution, prior universities attended, and prior employment.

You should “amend” your application once, so if you need any information to make that amendment, go about getting all of that information. If you have any question, about whether you should amend your law school application, see the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs, John F. Hernandez.

HOW TO GET A JOB AND KEEP IT:
PROFESSIONALISM IN THE WORKPLACE

Judge David Levy, Director of Professionalism at St. Thomas Law, in cooperation with the Career Services Office, is hosting Professionalism in the Workplace on Thursday, September 27, 2012, at 12:00 p.m. in Room A111. All law students are invited to attend. Judge Levy has invited several prominent practitioners (including a past President of the Florida Bar) to discuss how being professional can help you
Mt. Zion A.M.E. Church and the Wilkie D. Ferguson, Jr. Bar Association will host a Miami Gardens Legal Clinic on Saturday, October 6, 2012 from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m., at the Betty T. Ferguson Recreational Complex located at 3000 NW 199 Street, Miami Gardens.

This free legal clinic is set up to educate neighborhood residents about various legal matters. The State Attorney’s Office will be present to discuss child support, domestic violence, and registration for the State Attorney’s Office next Seal and Expunge Clinic and Child ID Program. Legal Services of Greater Miami, Inc. will be present to educate attendees on matters such as housing, foreclosures, and taxes. Private attorneys will be on hand to give information on probate, criminal, code enforcement, and family law matters. The Miami-Dade County Elections Department will be onsite for voter registration and to provide education on poll rights and issues on the November ballot. Representatives from Congresswoman Frederica Wilson and Senator Oscar Braynon II’s offices will be present. The format will be mini-presentations and questions and answers.

For more information about assisting with this event, and to sign up, e-mail Desiree Staeffler-Marchbanks (desireestaefflerm@gmail).


Professor Michael Vastine presented a CLE at the Florida Bar Convention regarding juvenile crimes and immigration. In July, he presented two CLE trainings, to the Offices of the State Attorney in Viera, Florida and Sanford, Florida, on the subject of immigration benefits available to victims of crimes. Also, he presented a CLE hosted by the Miami office of the international law firm of Shook, Hardy, and Bacon, regarding procedure in removal proceedings and representation of juveniles seeking asylum in the U.S.