

Kimano M. Edwards

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EDUCATION

University of Florida Levin College of Law – Gainesville, Florida Juris Doctor, May 2019 (GPA: 3.22)

Founder and President, Kappa Mu Epsilon Chapter of Alpha Phi Sigma Criminal Justice Honor Society; *Assistant Editor-in-Chief*, Journal of Technology Law and Policy; UF Law’s Dean Leadership Award; Outstanding Pro Bono and Community Service honors.

Law School Book Awards: Criminal Law and Law Practice Management & Technology

University of Florida – Gainesville, Florida

Bachelor of Arts, May 2007

Major: History
Minor: Education

National Dean’s List; Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Recipient.

Northeast Florida Criminal Justice Training and Education Center – Jacksonville, Florida

State of Florida Law Enforcement Certificate, September 2010 - August 2011 (G.P.A: 4.0)

Leadership: *Class Leader* of Basic Law Enforcement Class 05-10 and *Class Leader* of JSO Police Orientation Class 02-13.

LEGAL EXPERIENCE

Morgan & Morgan – Jacksonville, Florida

Trial Attorney, January 2024 – Present

Represent clients in personal injury cases, including car accidents. Conduct thorough case evaluations including legal research, interviewing witnesses, and gathering medical and crash reports. Develop and execute legal strategies to achieve favorable settlements and trial outcomes for clients. Negotiate settlements with insurance companies and opposing counsel, securing compensation for clients’ injuries, medical expenses, lost wages, and pain and suffering. Prepare and file legal documents such as pleadings, motions, and briefs, ensuring adherence to court deadlines and procedural rules. Manage a high-volume caseload—prioritizing tasks to meet tight deadlines and maintain a high standard of client service.

Balch & Bingham LLP – Jacksonville, Florida

Attorney, June 2022 – November 2023

Provided legal counsel to clients on business, commercial, real estate, construction and complex litigation matters in state and federal courts.

Recognition: 2023 Best Lawyers in America: Ones to Watch; 2023 Super Lawyers: Florida Rising Star; National Black Lawyer Top 40 Under 40, 2022-Present.

Taylor, Day, Grimm & Boyd – Jacksonville, Florida

Attorney, December 2020 – May 2022

Provided legal counsel to clients on civil litigation matters including, but not limited to, complex litigation, business, commercial, and construction law.

Recognition: 2022 Best Lawyers in America: Ones to Watch

Office of the State Attorney, 4th Judicial Circuit – Jacksonville, Florida

Assistant State Attorney, September 2019 – December 2020

Represented the state of Florida in the prosecution of criminal offenses. I managed a high volume of diverse cases—litigating them to resolution either by trial or through a negotiated disposition. I also facilitated depositions, investigated complaints, conducted legal research, drafted responses to a variety of motions, handles matters related to discovery, obtained sworn statements of witnesses, and prepared them for trial or courtroom testimony.

United States Attorney’s Office for the Middle District of Florida

Legal Intern, January 2019 – May 2019 (Semester in Practice)

Assisted the AUSAs with the case intake and evaluation process. Worked directly with multiple AUSAs to conduct case reviews. Researched case laws concerning complex legal issues and briefed the supervising AUSA of my findings as well as provided a legal analysis. Synthesized the facts of cases assigned to me and drafted prosecution memos for the files. Listened to recordings from hearings and interviews and transcribed testimony for use in prosecution. Attended court to observe oral arguments on various motions, jury trials, and sentencing hearings.

Office of the State Attorney, 4th Judicial Circuit – Jacksonville, Florida

Certified Legal Intern, Fall 2018 (Previously interned during Fall 2016 and Summer 2018 semesters)

Performed legal research on a variety of cases. Assisted in trial preparation and observed court processes from jury selection to sentencing. Screened jail calls for evidentiary use. Drafted legal memos and disposition statements. Drafted the State’s response to an appeal. Completed multiple highly sensitive special assignments at the request of the County and Circuit Court Directors.

United States District Court for the Middle District of Florida – Jacksonville Division

Judicial Intern (Federal Clerkship) for the Honorable Brian J. Davis, July 2018 – September 2018

Performed research on a range of complex legal issues. Managed cases and conducted case reviews. Observed court processes from jury selection to sentencing. Drafted legal memos, court orders, and opinions for the judge to review and sign.

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Jacksonville Sheriff’s Office – Jacksonville, Florida

Police Auxiliary Officer, June 2019 – June 2024

Assisted the JSO on patrol and on other law enforcement deployments as a sworn officer and volunteer.

Jacksonville Sheriff’s Office – Jacksonville, Florida

Deputy Sheriff / Police Officer, July 2013 – June 2019

Protected and served the city of Jacksonville as patrol and task force officer, as well as a police supervisor (PIC), field training officer, and an I.T. field technician. Drafted detailed police reports, concise probable cause affidavits, attended depositions, and provided courtroom testimony. Received multiple commendations and recognized as Officer of the Month.

Gainesville Police Department – Gainesville, Florida

Police Officer, June 2011 – July 2013

Protected and served the city of Gainesville and Alachua County as a narcotics detective and patrol officer. Managed confidential informants and conducted clandestine investigations that culminated in

the serving of search warrants and the arrests of high-value targets. Received multiple commendations and recognized as Officer of the Month.

S E R V I C E

Awards: U.S President's Student Service Award (Recognized by President G.W. Bush) for extensive community service.

Trustee, City of Jacksonville's Board of Library Trustees, July 2021 – Present
Jacksonville, Florida

Committee Member, Jacksonville Small & Emerging Business (JSEB) Monitoring Committee, October 2022 – May 2024
Jacksonville, Florida

Vice President of the Board of Directors, Gator Club of Jacksonville

Mentor, Raines Future Lawyers and Leaders Program, October 2020 – Present
Jacksonville, Florida

Guest Lecturer, UF Levin College of Law, Fall 2020
Gainesville, Florida

Police Reservist, Jacksonville Sheriff's Office, June 2019 – June 2024
Jacksonville, Florida

Ambassador & Logistics Coordinator, UF Law Student Ambassador Program, February 2018 – May 2019
Gainesville, Florida

GatorLaw Mentor, University of Florida Levin College of Law, October 2017 – May 2019
Gainesville, Florida

Student Recruitment Team Member, University of Florida Levin College of Law, October 2017 – May 2019
Gainesville, Florida

Teacher's Assistant, Gainesville High School, September 2006 - December 2006
Gainesville, Florida

Mentor, CHAMPS, September 2003- December 2003
Gainesville, Florida

Teacher's Assistant, Parkway Middle School, January 1999 - June 2002
Ft. Lauderdale, Florida

Librarian, Lauderhill City Hall Library, January 1999 - May 1999
Lauderhill, Florida

Teacher's Assistant, Dillard Elementary School, August 1998 - January 1999
Ft. Lauderdale, Florida

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

Leadership Florida

Leadership Jacksonville

Rotary Club of Jacksonville

The Chester Bedell American Inn of Court (Pupil: 2017-2018; Associate: 2020 - 2022)

JAX Chamber Downtown Council, Member
The Federalist Society
Robert M. Foster American Inn of Court, Pupil, 2018 - 2019
Jacksonville Bar Association (JBA), Construction Law Committee Chair
Jacksonville Chapter of the Federal Bar Association, Member
American Bar Association (ABA), Member
Fraternal Order of Police, Member, 2011-2019
Phi Delta Phi International Honor Society
Phi Alpha Delta Law Fraternity
Alpha Phi Sigma Criminal Justice Honor Society
National Honor Society, Alumnus
Thurgood Marshall Achievers Society, Alumnus
Gator Club of Jacksonville, V.P. of the Board of Directors
FBI Citizen Academy (Jacksonville Division), Alumnus

LICENSES/CERTIFICATIONS/TRAINING

Florida Bar Licensed Attorney

Admitted to practice law in the Supreme Court of the United States, Florida's state courts, and in the Middle District of Florida.

State of Florida Law Enforcement Certificate

FDLE, Tallahassee, Florida

Real Estate Sales Agent

State of Florida, Tallahassee, Florida

Athlete Agent

State of Florida, Tallahassee, Florida

Notary

State of Florida, Tallahassee, Florida

NOTABLE SPECIAL TRAINING

- FEMA ICS-100 For Law Enforcement
- FEMA ICS-200 For Law Enforcement
- FEMA ICS 700 For Law Enforcement
- Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) Criminal Intelligence Systems Operating Policies
- Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) Executive Leadership
- Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) Task Force Commander Leadership and Management
- Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) Safeguarding Privacy, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties in Task Force Operations
- Multijurisdictional Counterdrug Task Force Training: Police Intelligence
- Multijurisdictional Counterdrug Task Force Training: Ethical Issues and Decisions in Law Enforcement
- National Terrorism Preparedness Institute School Terrorism: Planning and Preparedness
- National Terrorism Preparedness Institute Force Protection
- National Terrorism Preparedness Institute Introduction to Anti-Terrorism
- National Terrorism Preparedness Institute General Aviation Security
- National Terrorism Preparedness Institute Access Control for Ports

- National Terrorism Preparedness Institute Basic Port Security
- National Terrorism Preparedness Institute Advanced Port Security
- National Terrorism Preparedness Institute Terrorism Awareness for Law Enforcement
- National Terrorism Preparedness Institute Intermodal Supply Chain Security
- National Terrorism Preparedness Institute Planning Considerations for WMD Incidents
- National Terrorism Preparedness Institute Live Response online training
- FEMA and DHS Inclusion in the Disaster Preparedness Cycle
- Crisis Intervention Training
- Active Shooter I & II Training