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2019

### 2019 Hooding Ceremony Program

FAMU College of Law

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## Alma Mater

College of love and charity  
We gather 'round thy noble shrine;  
We lift our voice in praise to thee,  
And ask a blessing all divine.

### CHORUS

FAM-U! FAM-U! I love thee!  
I'll fight and win whate'er the battle be,  
The Orange and the Green thy sons shall  
e'er defend  
And loyal to thy voice of love attend  
FAM-U! FAM-U! I love thee!

On gridiron, diamond, track and field,  
Thy sons the vict'ry never yield,  
And while they tread a broader life  
Thy love shall stay them in the strife.

(repeat chorus)

God ever keep us true to thee;  
Thy faith that truth shall make men free,  
Shall guide thy loyal sons aright  
And fend them thru the skeptic night.

(repeat chorus)

# Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University College of Law



## Annual Hooding Ceremony Spring 2019

Saturday, May 11, 2019  
10 A.M.

Dr. Phillips Center for the Performing Arts  
Walt Disney Theater  
Orlando, Florida

# Hooding Program

Nicky Boothe Perry, Presiding  
Interim Dean, College of Law

## Processional

Meditation .....	Robert J. Bowen <i>Class of 2019</i>
Welcome .....	Interim Dean Nicky Boothe Perry
Remarks .....	Bettye A. Grable, Ph.D. <i>FAMU Trustee</i>
Remarks .....	Larry Robinson, Ph.D. <i>University President</i>
Remarks .....	Ashley K. Wilson <i>2019 Hooding Student Speaker</i>
Introduction of Speaker .....	Dean Boothe Perry
Featured Speaker .....	The Honorable Val Demings <i>U.S. House of Representatives, Florida's 10th Congressional District</i>
Special Recognitions .....	Dean Boothe Perry
Hooding Ceremony .....	Patricia A. Broussard, <i>Professor of Law</i> Phyllis C. Taite, <i>Interim Associate Dean for Academic Affairs</i> Alicia R. Jackson, <i>Associate Dean for Student Learning and Assessment</i>
Closing Remarks .....	Dean Boothe Perry
Reflections .....	LaTasha D. Green-Cobb <i>Fall 2018 Student Graduation Chair</i>

## Alma Mater

## Recessional

*(The audience will remain seated during the Processional and Recessional.)*

# 2018 - 2019 Candidates for Hooding

Abigail Ethiopia Adkins*	Amanda Lauren Budd	Maria Nichole Green
Ammna Ahmed	Vidya J. Budhan++	Latasha D. Green-Cobb**
Denysha Shanique Archer	Stephanie A. Cager Moore+	Stephanie Esther Griffin^
Islamiyah O. Arogundade*	Ariel Joy Cavazos**	Brian Andrew Hartley
Julia L. Avellaneda+	Michael Joseph Clarke	Samuel W. Herren+
Kayla Danielle Aviles	Taylor O. Connor**	Connor W. Hilgenfeldt++
Brooke-lyn Baird	Zdenka Melissa Contreras	Carol Ryan Humphries
Dyeshia Deanise Baker	Jessica Crownover+	Ciji Lennell Jackson
Victoria Grace Barnes	Jamie A. Cuzmar+	Malik Shabazz Jackson
Ja'Brayla Shanice Bell	Raymond J. Dailey	Martin D. Jackson*+
Faizah Belliot++	Brent Lewis Davenport	Ashley A. Johnson*+
Brittany Carrice Bennett	Amaris Delapeña	Jerica Breon Johnson*
Jacinda Darice Beraud	Eric S. Dolhon++	John Edwin Johnson VI
Frances Maryann Bethel	Ashley C. Dozier*	Joseph Carl Jones*
Darly Bocanegra Biller**	Cyrus E. Ellison+	Jasmyn RaShaun Jordan
Michael Birts, Jr.	Shameeza S. Embrey+	Neel Mukesh Joshi
Tabatha Anne Boltze*	Robert M. Etheredge++	Elizabeth Rose Kirkpatrick
Robert James Bowen	Edrice Fleurimond	Kieffer Bryce Kloko
Justin Antron Brathwaite	Jennifer Garcia-Vincenty	Steven Miles Koshak**
Ashanti Danielle Breeden	Harry Germeus II	David Andrew Krogh
Daniel Anthony Brisbane*	Michael A. Gomez	Clarence C. Lam
Cassandra L. Brown++	Giavonni P. Green	Allison K. Leach++

\*\*\* - Summa Cum Laude  
 \*\* - Magna Cum Laude      \* - Cum Laude  
 + - December 2018 (Fall) Candidate      ++ - August 2019 (Summer) Candidate  
 ^ - Veteran

The cumulative grade point average on file at the time of application for graduation (usually the term prior to the term in which the student intends to graduate) will be used to determine eligibility and designate graduation honors in commencement program. However, the student's final cumulative grade point average (usually the last term in which the student graduated) will be used to list the graduation honors on the student's final transcript

# 2018 - 2019 Candidates for Hooding

Megan E. Lopez*	Kristina Carmel Pressa	Pinky Almas Shodhan
Lauren Ashley Lorman	Kavi-Floyd D. Ramocan+	Velicia Deshay Simmons
Clyde E. Mathes+	Lily A. Rappeport+	Nicole C. Soltau-Woods+
Carla Timberly Mattox	Gregory A. Rathbun^	Brianna Carlee Talbert
Amber J. Maynard*+	Alecia Lashawn Reeves	Roderick E. Thomas
Kurt A. McDavid++	Jeré De-Ann Reid	Carlyle A. Thompson
Monir Mehran**	Ramone Adrian Reid	Bettina Thien Tran
Savannah Brooke Mewes	Eric B. Reiner++	Matthew Turner++
Jelena Miokovic	Krystal P. Reyes+	Solange M. Velazquez-Rivera+
Kyra Brianne Murphy	Amaris Elizabeth Ritter	Brittanni Leigh Wade
Alexis Vanessa Nava-Martinez	Shanta Alicia Roberson	Diamond Unique Wade
Ashley Marquita Nelson	Natalie Robinson++	Jeremy Shane Waller***
Arielle Frances Nicholls	Saré Rodriguez	T'Keara Nichelle Watson*
Narmeen K. Nkeiti	Derrick Anthony Rosario	Gary Marvin Wheeler, Jr.*
Valery Noel+	Sidney Sanabria-Robles*	Tiffany A. Whitehouse***
Louis B. Okun*	Kristy A. Sanders-Ebert+	Adam James Wilcox
Samantha Osbourne	Kiara Santos+	Amber G. Williams
Yolanda Ann Owens	Carlos Segovia Perez	Kirsten Julia Amani Williams
Rohan C. Palmer, Jr.*	Jessica C. Sanchez++	Ashley K. Wilson**
Juliana Ramos Palmieri	Morgan Sears++	Shalom Sade Zak*
Darwin Pierre-Louis	Kareme M. Shaia*	Victoria C. Zinn+
Porsha L. Porter	Alexis Miranda Shaw	Marina S. Zorina*

\*\*\* - Summa Cum Laude  
 \*\* - Magna Cum Laude      \* - Cum Laude  
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## Faculty

### Robert H. Abrams

*Professor of Law*

### Nicky Boothe Perry

*Interim Dean & Professor of Law*

### Patricia A. Broussard

*Professor of Law*

### Jeffery M. Brown

*Associate Professor of Law*

### Paige Carlos

*Instructor, Legal Research & Writing*

### Rhoda Pierre Cato

*Instructor in Law*

### Eunice Caussade-Garcia

*Instructor, Legal Clinic*

### Ann Marie Cavazos

*Professor of Law*

### Markita D. Cooper

*Professor of Law*

### Kim Crag-Chaderton

*Visiting Instructor, Legal Clinic*

### Caroleen Dineen

*Instructor, Legal Research & Writing*

### John Duncan

*Professor of Law*

### Jonathan W. Fineman

*Associate Professor of Law*

### Joseph Grant

*Professor of Law*

### Ronald C. Griffin

*Professor of Law*

### William D. Henslee

*Interim Director, Legal Research and Writing & Professor of Law*

### Eric Hull

*Visiting Professor of Law*

### Joseph Richard Hurt

*Lecturer in Law*

### Alicia R. Jackson

*Associate Dean for Student Learning and Assessment & Instructor*

### Darryll K. Jones

*Director of Legal Clinics and Field Placement & Professor of Law*

### Yolanda Jones

*Director, Law Library & Associate Professor of Law*

### Edward Kionka

*Visiting Professor of Law*

### Lundy R. Langston

*Professor of Law*

### Jeremy I. Levitt

*Professor of Law*

### Reginald Mitchell, Sr.

*Director, Academic Success and Bar Preparation Program & Instructor*

### Nisé Nekheba

*Associate Professor of Law*

### Rebecca Olavarria

*Instructor, Legal Research & Writing*

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*Professor of Law*

### Shiv N. Persaud

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### Cynthia Ramkellewan

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*Professor of Law*

### Maritza Reyes

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### Omar Saleem

*Professor of Law*

### Jennifer M. Smith

*Professor of Law*

### Phyllis C. Taite

*Interim Associate Dean for Academic Affairs & Professor of Law*

### Tonya Walker

*Instructor, Legal Research & Writing*

### Marlese Wells

*Instructor, Academic Success and Bar Preparation Program*

### Eurilynne A. Williams

*Instructor, Academic Success and Bar Preparation Program*

## Academic Regalia

Patterned from medieval customs, today's academic regalia reflect the status, scholastic achievement and study discipline of its wearer. Colors are associated with different disciplines as seen in the trimmings of doctoral gowns and the edging of their hoods and in the tassels of caps worn by candidates. Distinctions between gowns and hoods indicate the type of degree held by the wearer.

The doctoral gown is faced with a broad strip of velvet and has crossbars of velvet on each sleeve. The bars may be of black velvet or of colored velvet indicative of the degree's discipline and agreeing with the border of the hood. Thus, for law, the border is purple.

Hoods are worn by those holding graduate degrees. The doctoral hood is longer and more elaborate than the master's hood. The lining of the hood is silk in the official colors of the institution conferring the degree. For instance, at Florida A&M University, the lining of the hood is orange and green. However, faculty members who hold a degree from another college or university wear the colors of his or her alma mater. The distinction should be made that the edging of the hood is in colors representing the wearer's discipline, but the lining of the hood is in colors representing the wearer's alma mater.

Members of the law school's faculty hold degrees from several institutions. Some of those institutions and their distinctive hood-linings are represented in the rainbow of colors displayed on the faculty's regalia:

**Baylor University** – Royal Blue, Bright Gold Chevron;  
**Brigham Young University** – Navy, White Chevron;  
**Columbia University** – Light Blue, White Chevron;  
**Creighton University** – White, Royal Blue Chevron;  
**Duke University** – Royal, White Chevron;  
**Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University** – Orange, Green;  
**Florida State University** – Garnet, Gold Chevron;  
**University of Florida** – Orange, Navy Blue Chevron;  
**Harvard University** – Crimson;  
**Howard University** – Blue, White Chevron;  
**Inter-American University** – Green, Gold;  
**University of Miami** – Orange, Forest, White Chevron;  
**University of Michigan** – Maize, Azure Blue Chevron;  
**University of Minnesota** – Antique Gold, Cardinal Chevron;  
**North Carolina Central University** – Cardinal, Gray Chevron;  
**Nova Southeastern University** – Royal Blue, Gray Chevron;  
**The Ohio State University** – Scarlet, Gray Chevron;  
**Pepperdine University** – Royal, Orange Chevron;  
**Rutgers University** – Red;  
**Southern University** – Blue, Gold Chevron;  
**Stanford University** – Cardinal;  
**Temple University** – White, Red Chevron;  
**Texas Southern University** – Maroon, Grey Chevron;  
**University of Toledo** – Royal, B. Gold Chevron;  
**Vanderbilt University** – B. Gold, Black Chevron;  
**Vermont Law School** – Bright Gold, Forest Green Chevron;  
**University of Virginia** – Navy, Orange Chevron;  
**University of Washington** – Purple, Gold;  
**University of Wisconsin** – Cardinal;  
**Yale University** – Royal.



## The Honorable Val Demings



### U.S. House of Representatives, Florida's 10th Congressional District

Congresswoman Val Demings represents Florida's 10th Congressional District in the U.S. House of Representatives. Born in a two-room, wooden framed home in Jacksonville, Val Demings was the youngest of seven children. Her parents, Elouise, a maid, and James, a janitor, did all they could to support their seven children and instill in them the meaning of hard work. Val took these lessons seriously, getting her first job at age 14, and became the first in her family to graduate from college. With her parents proudly at her side, she received a B.S. in Criminology from Florida State University. Val began her career in Jacksonville as a social worker, working with foster children. Despite seeing few women in the ranks of law enforcement in the early 1980's, Val was inspired to move to Orlando to join the police force. She graduated from the police academy as class president, receiving the Board of Trustees' Award for Overall Excellence, and quickly earned the reputation of a tenacious, no-nonsense cop. It was that reputation that helped her work her way up the ranks while raising a family. During her 27-year career she served in virtually every department, including serving as Commander of the Special Operations, where she was responsible for some of Orlando's highest profile tasks, including special events and dignitary protection. In 2007, Val Demings made history when she was appointed to serve as Orlando's first female Chief of Police. Chief Demings was widely praised for her dynamic leadership and a significant drop in crime. She shepherded the department through the financial crisis and despite budgetary constraints kept the same number of officers on the streets. Remarkably, the Orlando Police Department reduced violent crime by more than 40 percent while she was Chief.

Chief Demings founded innovative programs like Operation Positive Direction, a mentoring program that empowers at-risk students through tutoring, community service, and positive incentives. She also launched Operation Free Palms, a project focusing on rejuvenating Orlando's most crime-ridden housing complex, the Palms Apartments. Collaborating with city officials and faith leaders, this initiative included increasing access to childcare, building playgrounds, a GED program, and job skills training to improve the quality of life in Orlando's most distressed community.

Rep. Demings is eager to continue her record of public service as the congresswoman representing the people of the 10th District of Florida. Rep. Demings is married to Orange County Mayor Jerry Demings, is a proud mother to three sons, and proud grandmother to five. Rep. Demings holds an honorary doctorate of laws from Bethune-Cookman University. Rep. Demings is an active member of St. Mark A.M.E., Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Orlando Chapter of the Links, Inc., NAACP Silver Life Member, Florida Bar Citizens Advisory Committee, Florida Police Chiefs, National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives, National Association of Women Law Enforcement Executives, National Congress of Black Women, and numerous other affiliations. Rep. Demings enjoys spending her very limited free time riding her Harley-Davidson Road King Classic motorcycle. She has completed the O.U.C. half marathon as well as the Walt Disney marathon. Rep. Demings sits on the Judiciary Committee and the Committee on Homeland Security.

## History of the FAMU College of Law

The College of Law's rich tradition of excellence dates back to its original founding. On December 21, 1949, a division of law was established at the then Florida A&M College, and the first class was admitted in 1951. In 1966 the Florida Board of Control (later known as the Board of Regents) withdrew its permission for the institution to admit law students, and two years later, the law school graduated its last class and closed its doors. Between 1954 and 1968, the law school graduated 57 students -- men and women who have gone on to make significant contributions to the legal profession both within the state and throughout the nation.

The 2000 Florida Legislature unanimously passed legislation establishing a law school at Florida A&M University and on June 14, 2000, Governor Jeb Bush signed the bill into law. The College of Law admitted its first class in fall 2002. The degree of Juris Doctor was conferred upon members of the first class of the reestablished law school on April 30, 2005 in Tallahassee, Florida.

The College of Law opened at its permanent location in January 2006. The \$30 million building was designed by Rhodes + Brito Architects, where partners Max Brito and Ruffin Rhodes are FAMU alumni. The four-story building includes 160,000 gross square feet, has 20 classrooms and 50 faculty offices, and an elaborate Moot Court Room used for mock trials, competitions and special events. The Law Library occupies half of the space and features over 300,000 volumes, one of the largest civil rights collections in the Southeast, and volumes from the original College of Law that were given to Florida State University in the late 1960's.

The FAMU College of Law received full accreditation from the American Bar Association in July 2009 and was re-accredited in 2014. During the 2018-2019 academic year, the College of Law had an enrollment of 523 students in its day and evening programs.



# Acknowledgements

## 2019 Hooding Ceremony Committee

Gloria Baskerville-Johnson

Claudine Beale

Mildred Graham

Gwen Hayslip

Robin Holmes

Pamela Leonard

Stephanie Strong

LaTasha Green-Cobb ('18), Fall Student Graduation Chair

Jerica Johnson ('19), Student Graduation Co-Chair

Jeré Reid ('19), Spring Student Graduation Chair

## College of Law Alumni, Staff and Community Volunteers

Phyllis Allen

Lorelle Anderson

Yannick Brookes

Luis Burgos-Martinez

Chontay Clark

Evelt Collins

Sharron Cunningham

Aubrey Hayslip

Ericka Hill

Deborah Holmes

Margot Jones

Paul McLaughlin

Sopi Mitil

Erica Polite

Sharon Shelton

Achara Stone

Celia Westbrook

Thank You

## College of Law Student Volunteers

A special thank you is extended to members of the Hooding Ceremony Committee and subcommittees, to students who served as ushers, and others who assisted in making this event a success.

The FAMU College of Law also thanks the following individuals and organizations for their contributions to this event:

Angela Williams, FAMU Barnes & Noble Bookstore

Donna Dopson, FAMU Barnes & Noble Bookstore

Grad Images

FAMU Law Student Bar Association