

Mentor—Mentee Breakfast

Guest Panelists:

The Honorable Giuseppina Miranda

17th Judicial Circuit Court of Florida

Michelle K. Suarez Odronic Suarez, P.A.

Natalie Giachos Boyar & Freeman, P.A.

Friday, January 27, 2017

7:15 AM - 9:00 AM

NSU Shepard Broad College of Law

Panza Maurer Law Library 3rd Floor

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The NSU Law Mentoring Program (“Program”) includes the following:

- A group mentoring model and not the traditional 1:1 pairing of Mentor to Mentee.
- In-person meetings at NSU during the academic year bring all Mentors and Mentees together.
- A list of suggested activities organized by group to help Mentors discover opportunities to help Mentees achieve the learning outcomes for the Program.

The Mentoring Program Learning Outcomes By the end of the academic year, the Mentees should:

1. Plan for the transition from law student to lawyer, including time management skills and goal-setting;
2. Create and maintain a mentoring relationship with a colleague;
3. Understand strategies to manage: clients, cases, projects, and employees;
4. Practice preparation techniques in professional settings, such as meetings, hearings, depositions, trials, business transactions;
5. Prepare strategies to address novel situations as they arise in the business and practice of law.

Mentor/Mentee Practice Groups

On the Information & Group Registration Form, Mentors will select one Practice Group to join that is the most relevant group to their area of practice. Likewise, Mentees will select one Practice Group to join that best aligns with their area of interest.

At the scheduled in-person meetings at NSU, Mentors and Mentees will meet in their respective groups for the program event. This will enable group members to get to know one another better and plan for additional meetings.

The Program Director will maintain a spreadsheet by group listing the Mentors and Mentees names and contact information. Messages may be sent occasionally to Mentors and Mentees, keeping them informed about Program events and opportunities of interest to one or more Groups. Explanations of each Group are included on the Registration form.

The Groups are as follows:

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| 1) Civil Litigation Practice Group | 6) Family Law Practice Group |
| 2) Transactional Practice Group | 7) International Law Group |
| 3) Criminal Practice Group | 8) Real Property, Probate, Trust, Estates, and Tax Practice Group |
| 4) Health Law Practice Group | 9) Undecided |
| 5) Intellectual Property Law Group | |

Breakfast Meeting Dates for 2016-2017 Academic Year Please save these dates on your calendar:

Friday, September 23, 2016:

Location: Shepard Broad College of Law
Check-in & breakfast networking: 7:15 to 8:00 am
Program: 8:00 am to 9:00 am

Friday, January 27, 2017:

Location: Shepard Broad College of Law
Check-in & breakfast networking: 7:15 to 8:00 am
Program: 8:00 am to 9:00 am

Friday, November 4, 2016:

Location: Shepard Broad College of Law
Check-in & breakfast networking: 7:15 to 8:00 am
Location: Shepard Broad College of Law

Friday, February 24, 2017: (Special Program for Mentors and current 1Ls)

Location: Shepard Broad College of Law
Check-in & breakfast networking: 7:15 to 8:00 am
Program: 8:00 am to 9:00 am

NSU Law Mentoring Program Agenda

January 27, 2017

7:15 – 7:55 a.m.: Check-in and Breakfast Networking

7:55 – 8:00 a.m.: Welcome and Introductions

8:00 a.m.: **Program: “Work Life Balance: Keeping it in Perspective”**

Panelists:

The Honorable Giuseppina Miranda, 17th Judicial Circuit Court of Florida

Michelle K. Suarez, Odronec Suarez, P.A.

Natalie Giachos, Boyar & Freeman, P.A.

Discussion Outline:

1. What I thought practicing Law/being a Judge would be like versus what it’s really like.
2. Life in Balance: What it means to different people and what it means to me.
3. How to deal with the pressures of a demanding career while at the same time living and enjoying your life.
4. Tips for better work/life balance.

8:30 a.m.: Networking and Wrap-Up

9:00 a.m.: Adjourn

The Honorable Giuseppina Miranda was appointed as judge to the county bench in November 2013. She is currently assigned to the civil division. Prior to her appointment as judge, she was a General Magistrate for the 17th Judicial Circuit Family Division. Before becoming a magistrate, she managed her own law firm as a sole practitioner. Prior to that, Judge Miranda was an Assistant State Attorney for five years. Judge Miranda received her law degree in 1999 from Nova Southeastern University Shepard Board College of Law and graduated magna cum laude. She received her undergraduate degree from the University of Florida in 1993. Judge Miranda has been a board member of the Broward County Women Lawyers’ Association since 2009. She has served on the Broward Human Trafficking Coalition as a sub-committee member of STARS (Stop Trafficking and Rescue the Survivors) and also served as a committee member on the statewide Model Courts initiative for Florida’s Dependency Judges/Magistrates. Her volunteer work includes mentoring young adults aging out of the foster care system and the Books and Breakfast program at PACE Center for Girls. Judge Miranda is currently a PACE board member.



Michelle Karinne Suarez is an Attorney practicing in Fort Lauderdale and focusing her practice on Business & Commercial Litigation. She works with small business and entrepreneurs. Michelle earned her Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice from Florida International University and went on to earn her Juris Doctor degree from Nova Southeastern University, Shepard Broad College of Law. While attending law school, Michelle was the Editor in Chief for the International Citator & Research Project, was the Public Relations Chair for the Inter-American Center for Human Rights, and was awarded the First Alumni Scholarship Award and was also awarded the Slutskin Scholarship and Rebecca Knox Fellowship Award. Between undergrad and law school, Michelle lived in Puerto Rico for four years before coming back to Fort Lauderdale to attend law school. She was also a personal trainer for six years and competes in fitness.



Michelle is Florida Bar Business Law Section Fellow, serves on the Florida Bar Member Benefits Standing Committee, is on the Publications Committee for the Broward County Bar Association, and is on the Public Relations Committee for the NSU Law Alumni Broward Chapter. She also serves as a Mentor for the NSU Law Mentorship Program. She has been published in the Miami Herald, the Daily Business Review, online magazines, and the Broward Barrister. She is passionate about health and fitness and uses it daily to help her manage stress and accomplish her goals.

Natalie Giachos practices civil litigation, including personal injury and PIP in South Florida. Natalie began her legal career in 1993 as a paralegal and then went on to earn a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political Science from Florida Atlantic University and a Juris Doctor degree from Nova Southeastern University's Shepard Broad College of Law in 2006. She is admitted to practice before the U.S. District Court, Southern District of Florida and The United States Supreme Court. During law school, Natalie had the honor of making the Dean's List various semesters, served as an editor of the Nova Law Review and as Vice President and a mock trial team competitor for the American Association for Justice. She also participated in the Personal Injury Clinic and was a member of various other student organizations. Since graduating, Natalie has continued to stay involved by serving on the NSU Law Alumni Association and is currently Vice Chair of the Public Relations Committee. She has also coached and judged NSU Law Students in mock trial competitions and has been featured as part of the NSU Law Center Plus program providing continuing legal education to other attorneys. Natalie also serves on the Public Relations Committee for the Broward County Bar Association and on the Animal Law Section of the Florida Bar.

