

# MICHAEL CHANCE MEYER

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## EXPERIENCE

### **Shepard Broad College of Law, Nova Southeastern University**, Fort Lauderdale, Florida

Instructor (2016-present), Adjunct Professor (2013-present)

- Courses: Criminal Law (Fall 2017), Death Penalty Workshop, Sentencing Workshop, Elements of Legal Analysis, Legal Study Skills, Multi-State Bar Exam Lab (Criminal Law and Real Property)
- Instructor in Critical Skills Program, training students in logical analysis, critical reading, and professional identity
- Activities and Service: coach in the Nova Bar Success Program; present at Orientation on professional identity and metacognitive strategies for self-directed learning; edit copy for Director of Recruitment Marketing, Communications, and Publications

### **Capital Collateral Regional Counsel-South**, Fort Lauderdale, Florida

Assistant Counsel (2008-2016)

- Represented death-sentenced defendants in postconviction proceedings in trial and appellate courts in state and federal jurisdictions
- Presented oral argument in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit
- Developed constitutional strategies for challenging Florida's death penalty regime in U.S. Supreme Court and Florida Supreme Court
- Litigated death warrants

### **United States District Court for the Western District of Arkansas**, Fort Smith, Arkansas

Law Clerk to Hon. Robert T. Dawson (2007-2008)

- Advised judge in all aspects of criminal and civil trials
- Drafted post-*Booker* decisions analyzing sentencing discretion under the newly advisory U.S. Sentencing Guidelines, such as *United States v. Coughlin*, 20 Fed. Sent. R. 215 (W.D. Ark. 2008)
- Travelled with court to assist Southern District of Texas "border court" in adjudicating immigration matters

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## PUBLICATIONS

*Twos the Devil: Hearing the Constitutional Infirmity of the Modern American Death Penalty in the Bygone Songs of Ozark Folklore*, \_\_ Miss. L.J. \_\_ (2017) (forthcoming)

*Sleight of Hand in Florida's New Death Penalty: Requiring, But Not Requiring, Jury Unanimity*, JURIST - Academic Commentary, Mar. 21, 2017

*Hurst v. Florida's Ha'p'orth of Tar: The Need To Revisit Caldwell, Clemons, and Proffitt*, 70 U. Miami L. Rev. 1118 (2016) (co-authored with Craig Trocino, Director, Miami Law Innocence Clinic)

*The Newly Informed Decency of Death: Hall v. Florida Endorses the Marshall Hypothesis in Eighth Amendment Review of the Death Penalty*, 45 Stetson L. Rev. 153 (2016)

*Mitigation Paradigms: What Reduces Criminal Sentences, Explanation or Excuse?*, 89-OCT Fla. B.J. 18 (2015) (feature article)

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## **SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS**

*Evil or Broken: How to Better Understand Mental Illness in Murder and Sentencing*, speaker, Empire State College, New York, NY (April 21, 2016)

*How Proceduralism Kills Equity in Federal Habeas*, guest speaker, Innocence Clinic of the University of Miami School of Law, Miami, FL (March 3, 2016)

*Cruel and Unusual: Abolition by way of the Eighth Amendment*, presenter, Death Penalty Abolition Conference, Consortium for Restorative Justice in Florida, Barry University, Miami, FL (April 10, 2015)

*The Pitfalls of Legislative Attempts to Streamline Capital Punishment*, co-presenter, Death Penalty Symposium, Inter-American Center on Human Rights, Nova Southeastern University, Fort Lauderdale, FL (October 7, 2014)

*Westlaw National Conference*, panelist, Miami, FL (2012) (discussing virtues and drawbacks of the WestlawNext platform for attorneys engaged in heavy research; selected for panel based on logging extraordinary research hours among Florida attorneys and diversely utilizing Westlaw features)

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## **INTERVIEWS AND COMMENTARY**

*Death row or not, Mesac Damas will not leave Florida prison alive*, quoted, Naples Daily News, Naples, FL (Oct. 26, 2017)

*Death Row Inmates Sue To Block Florida Timely Justice Act*, interview, WFSU, Florida Public Radio, Tallahassee, FL (June 27, 2013)

*Attorneys Challenge Timely Justice Act*, quoted, WXTL, ABC News 27, Tallahassee, FL (aired June 28-29, 2013)

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## **EDUCATION**

**Tulane Law School**, New Orleans, Louisiana  
J.D., 2007, magna cum laude

**Vanderbilt Law School**, Nashville, Tennessee  
Visiting student during Hurricane Katrina evacuation, Fall 2005

**Middle Tennessee State University**, Murfreesboro, Tennessee  
B.S., Recording Industry, Minor in Mass Communication, 2003, summa cum laude, 1st percentile

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## NOTEWORTHY CASES

### ***Lambrix v. Jones*, Florida Supreme Court Case No. SC16-56**

Challenged execution of defendant sentenced under death penalty statute declared unconstitutional in *Hurst v. Florida*, 136 S. Ct. 616 (2016)

### ***Abdool v. Bondi*, 39 Fla. L. Weekly S421 (Fla. June 12, 2014)**

Drafted petition to Florida Supreme Court on behalf of 167 death-row inmates and four capital postconviction law firms challenging the constitutionality of Florida's Timely Justice Act

### ***In re . . . Capital Postconviction Rules*, SC13-2381, 2014 WL 3555967 (Fla. July 3, 2014)**

Drafted comments successfully challenging rule committee's proposal to reduce time limitations for capital defendants to bring claims based on newly discovered evidence and new rules of law

### ***Valle v. Florida*, 132 S. Ct. 1 (2011)**

Drafted cert petition to U.S Supreme Court challenging the constitutionality of execution following a prolonged period of incarceration, prompting a dissent from Justice Breyer, who would have granted a stay of execution to consider the case

### ***State v. William Thompson* (Case No. 76-3350B), *State v. Harry Phillips* (Case No. 83-435), *State v. Richard Randolph* (Case No. 88-1357)**

Presented oral arguments in consolidated hearings before Florida circuit court judges on the issue of whether *Porter v. McCollum*, 558 U.S. 30 (2009), represented a retroactive rule of constitutional law permitting capital defendants to receive reconsideration of their claims of ineffective assistance of counsel

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## BAR MEMBERSHIPS

State of Florida

State of Arkansas

U.S. Supreme Court

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit

U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Florida

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## HONORS, AWARDS, ACTIVITIES

Extern to Hon. Carl J. Barbier, U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana (August 2006-May 2007); TLS Moot Court Board; Phi Delta Phi of TLS; American Constitution Society; TLS Academic scholarship; honorable recognition from TLS Community Service Program for 165 service hours; Dean's List of MTSU; Phi Kappa Phi of MTSU; Phi Sigma Pi Honors Society of MTSU