

MENTORING PROGRAM

Shepard Broad College of Law

Mentoring Breakfast
Friday, January 25, 2019
7:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.
Faculty Study - Room 236

Starting Your Own Law Firm: Lessons from Alumni

Panelists:

Carlos Carmona, Jr. (JD 2006), Partner, Bronstein & Carmona
Michelle Suarez (JD 2013), Partner & CEO, Florida Entrepreneur Law
Carlos Prieto (JD 2014), Prieto Law Group, PLLC

NSU Law Mentoring Program Agenda

- 7:30 – 7:50 a.m. : Check-in and Breakfast Networking
- 7:50 – 8:00 a.m. : Welcome, Introductions and Overview
Janice Shaw, Assistant Dean, NSU Law Office of Career Services and Professional Development
- 8:00 a.m. : Program: **“Starting Your Own Law Firm: Lessons from Alumni”**
- Panelists:
- Carlos Carmona, Jr. (JD 2006), Partner, Bronstein & Carmona
Michelle Suarez (JD 2013), Partner & CEO, Florida Entrepreneur Law
Carlos Prieto (JD 2014), Prieto Law Group, PLLC
- Moderator
Janice Shaw, Assistant Dean, NSU Law Office of Career Services and Professional Development
- 8:35 a.m. : Networking

Our distinguished alumni panelists will give advice and tips learned while navigating the process of starting their own law firms. They will share insights on the importance of developing expertise as an attorney and as a business owner. You can also learn about the NSU Law Launchpad, a resource designed to help graduates successfully launch their own law firms.

PANELISTS

Carlos Carmona Jr. (JD 2006), Founding Partner and Trial Attorney, Carlos Carmona, Jr., was born in Cuba and came to the United States as a toddler. He is a graduate of Miami American Senior High School and Florida State University.



Carlos graduated cum laude in 2006 from the Shepard Broad College of Law at Nova Southeastern University. In addition to being a member of the Moot Court Honor Society, Carlos was a member of the Nova Law Review's Executive Board. He was also on the law school's National Trial Competition Mock Trial Team and was recognized by his professors for his advocacy when they named him to the Order of Barristers, a national organization recognizing excellence and honor in all aspects of advocacy and courtroom presentation.

Carlos started his legal career as an Assistant State Attorney in Broward County. As a prosecutor, Mr. Carmona prosecuted a wide array of criminal cases, quickly advancing to the Felony Trial Division. By the end of his time at the Broward SAO, he had prosecuted dangerous and violent felons for crimes including attempted murder, attempted sexual battery, armed robbery and firearm charges, as well as drug crimes and property offenses; and had garnered the praise of members of both the Hollywood Police Department and Broward Sheriff's Office Crime Lab for his trial work.

Michelle Suarez (JD 2013) was born in Miami, Florida to Cuban American parents who taught her the value of hard work, passion, and honesty. She graduated from Florida International University with her Bachelor of Science and earned her Juris Doctor from Nova Southeastern University Shepard Broad College of Law. While in law school Michelle earned a fellowship to clerk at Legal Aid Services of Broward County. She also clerked for Judge Marina Garcia-Wood of the 17th Judicial Circuit, was the Editor in Chief of the International Citation Research Guide, and was actively involved in several other organizations.



Michelle has several years of experience in business and commercial litigation. While practicing, she has continued to be actively involved in her community and several voluntary bar associations. She has been published in several media outlets including the Daily Business Review, the Miami Herald, Construction Online Magazine, and the Broward County Barrister. She has also been invited to speak on topics regarding business start ups, and health and wellness.

Carlos Prieto (JD 2014) is the founder of Prieto Law Group and is proud to call Florida his home. He became a lawyer to help others navigate through their legal issues.

Prior to establishing the Prieto Law Group, Carlos worked as an attorney for defense law firms, where he defended major insurance companies in homeowners and automobile insurance litigation. While at these insurance defense firms, he gained experience in litigation, negotiations, and settlements.

After earning his bachelor degree, Carlos earned a Master of Science in Psychology, and a Master of Business Administration. After running a real estate investment business as a managing partner, Carlos earned his law degree from Nova Southeastern University, Shepard Broad College of Law.

During law school, Carlos served as a legal intern for the Consumer Protection Division of the Florida Office of the Attorney General, and at the Department of Homeland Security – Immigration and Customs Enforcement.



PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The NSU Law Mentoring 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:

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

Upcoming Mentoring Programs

Tuesday, February 19, 2019: Mentoring Dinner

The Florida Pro Bono Law School Challenge - floralawschoolchallenge.org on going through May 10, 2019
NSU Law continues to dominate the field but we need more alumni to participate.

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