

J.M.B.A.

JOHN MARSHALL BAR ASSOCIATION

(352) 377-7655

<http://grove.ufl.edu/~jmba/index.php>

Dear Fellow Law Student:

On behalf of the entire law student body, I would like to welcome you to the Levin College of Law at the University of Florida. Whether you are a long-time Gator or a new Gator, I'm confident that you are going to enjoy your time here and gain a great deal from this experience. Although you will do a lot of work on your own, you also need and deserve a student organization that is going to work for you to make your time in law school even more rewarding. The John Marshall Bar Association (J.M.B.A.) has been doing just that for over 50 years at the law school.

As one of the oldest and largest student organizations on campus, J.M.B.A. is able to provide many important student services. Through a raffle system, J.M.B.A. offers many of our members guaranteed parking that is a short walk from the law school. Our members have access to our course outline bank, something that you'll find vital as finals draw near. We publish and distribute *The Docket*, a student newsletter that gives you an opportunity to express your ideas and opinions.

In addition to providing important student services on campus, J.M.B.A. also works to get law students involved in serving our community. For example, in the past we have sponsored the "J.M.B.A. Grand Casino Night," a charity event that raised several thousand dollars for the American Red Cross and the Three Rivers Legal Foundation. To benefit the Make-a-Wish Foundation, we will once again be organizing our annual kickball tournament this spring semester, an event in which students compete against each other for a good cause.

Another J.M.B.A. priority is to improve our own law community by bringing students together outside of the classroom at various social events. J.M.B.A.'s social activities include Gator tailgates, Gator football block, bowling nights, Mucha Mocha Mondays, Thirsty Swamp Thursdays, the "Champagne and Jazz" a semiformal event in the fall, and, "Barrister's Ball" a formal event in the spring among many other events. As a J.M.B.A. member, you always can participate in these events at a discounted rate and often for free. In addition, this year we are adding "Lunch In" networking opportunities with professors and an etiquette dinner.

It's good to know that J.M.B.A. works full-time to provide these services and events. The better news is that J.M.B.A. members can access all these services for the one-time cost of \$80.00, which entitles you to membership benefits for all three years. We will start collecting membership fees when you arrive for Introduction to Law School & the Profession.

In addition to becoming a J.M.B.A. member, I also encourage you to run for one of our six First Semester Representative positions. Serving as a representative is a great opportunity to get involved with other active students and to help make important decisions and changes that affect our campus. Please do not hesitate to contact me at mjknight@ufl.edu if I can answer any questions about either J.M.B.A. or law school in general. All of us in J.M.B.A. look forward to meeting you in August and to working with you for the next three years.

Sincerely,
Melissa Knight
JMBA President