

The American Bar Association and the Florida State University Center for the Advancement of Human Rights invite you to attend a forum on

**The Florida Death Penalty:
A Retrospective on the ABA Assessment on Capital Punishment in Florida –
What Has Changed and What Remains the Same?**

Florida State University, College of Law Rotunda
Sept 16, 2009 - Noon – 3 p.m.
Tallahassee, Florida
Free of Charge and Light Refreshments will be Served

*In 2006, the ABA completed one of the most comprehensive studies to date on the fairness and accuracy of the death penalty in Florida. On the three-year anniversary of the release of the report, join us for a lively, dynamic forum on the ABA's findings and what, if anything, has changed in the administration of capital punishment in the state. We'll examine a range of problems identified in the ABA report, including **ineffective defense counsel, prosecutorial issues, juror confusion and Florida's majority jury requirements, clemency, and wrongful conviction.** Participants will also discuss the cost of pursuing the death penalty, the propriety of alternatives to capital punishment in murder cases, and will answer your questions on Florida's death penalty.*

Report Card on Florida's Death Penalty

12-1pm*

Findings and Recommendations of the ABA's Florida Death Penalty Assessment Team & Perspectives from a Former President of The Florida Bar.

***Moderator:** Chris Slobogin, Assessment Team Chair & Professor, Vanderbilt School of Law*

***Panelists:** Hon. O.H. Eaton, Circuit Judge, 18th Judicial Circuit; Hon. Lynn Tepper, Circuit Judge, 6th Judicial Circuit; Mark Schlakman, Clemency Counsel to Gov. Lawton M. Chiles, Jr.; and Harry K. Singletary, Jr., former Secretary, Florida Department of Corrections who served on Gov. Crist's Commission on Administration of Lethal Injection.*

Equal Justice Under Law?

1-2pm

The inadequacy of counsel assigned to represent Florida's capital defendants and death row inmates and the effect of prosecutorial decision making on capital cases.

***Moderator:** Mark Olive, Defense Attorney and Petitioner in Olive v. Maas I-III*

***Panelists:** Michael Minerva, Public Defender, 2nd Judicial Circuit (Ret.) & fmr. Dir., statewide Office of the Capital Collateral Representative; Stephen Hanlon, Senior Partner, Holland & Knight, and Principal Attorney in Olive v. Maas I-III; and Harry Shorstein, Fmr. State Attorney for the 4th Judicial Circuit*

The Way Forward – Are the Costs of Capital Punishment Justifiable?

2-3pm

The human and financial costs of the death penalty; the benefits and costs of alternatives to capital punishment.

***Moderator:** Sandy D'Alemberte, Fmr. ABA President & President Emeritus of Florida State University*

***Panelists:** Juan Melendez, Exonerated after spending 17 years on Florida's death row; Seth Miller, Executive Director, Innocence Project of Florida; David Rasmussen, Dean, Florida State University College of Social Sciences and Public Policy; and Ashley Nellis, Research Analyst, The Sentencing Project*

*Times are approximate. Questions may be directed to Mark Schlakman: mschlakman@admin.fsu.edu / (850) 644-4614 or Sarah Turberville: turbervs@staff.abanet.org / (202) 662-1595.

<http://campus.fsu.edu/ABA>

3 Hours Ethics CLE Approved for Attorneys Licensed in Florida