



The Florida Bar Out-of-State Division

State-to-State

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Winter 2025

- OOSD members connect in New York City
- Florida Continuing Legal Education Requirements (CLER)
- How legal aid and amended Rule 6-10.3 can help you help others
- Title IX risk and legal update

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IN THIS ISSUE:

President's message: Celebrating a successful 2024 and the OOSD's exciting plans for 2025	3
OOSD members connect in New York City	4
President-elect's message: Florida Continuing Legal Education Requirements (CLER).....	6
Join a committee!	7
Mission of the Out-of-State Division	7
Amended Rule 6-10.3 and legal aid: How legal aid and the new rule can help you help others	8
Title IX risk and legal update	9
Out-of-State Pro Bono Service Award winner advocates for at-risk children	10
Mark your calendar	10
The evolving esquire: Beyond the calendar	11
Florida real property and business litigation report.....	12
Board of Governors' update	15
Editor's corner: Welcome to the new year!	17
Author! Author!.....	17
Contributing authors	19
Out-of-State Executive Council	21
Join us!	23

Appellate Division of the Supreme Court Manhattan, New York City



The Appellate Division Courthouse of New York State, First Department (also known as Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of the State of New York) is a historic court house located at 35 East 25th Street in Manhattan, New York City.

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Beyond the calendar

by G. C. Murray II, Dulles, Va.



G. C. MURRAY II

Welcome to 2025 and the opening column of *The Evolving Esquire*! As we embark on a new year, it's the perfect time to reflect on growth—not just as individuals but as mem-

bers of a dynamic and ever-changing profession. This column has always been about navigating the unique challenges and opportunities lawyers face, and there's no better theme to start the year than resolutions.

But let's break free from the January-only mindset. Resolutions aren't confined to the first of the year; they're about continuous improvement, a concept lawyers know well. Whether it's mastering time management, embracing new technology, or finding ways to sustain well-being in a high-pressure field, every step forward strengthens not just your practice but also the people you serve.

Let's use this inaugural column of *The Evolving Esquire* in 2025 as a reminder that growth doesn't have a deadline. Together, we'll explore strategies, insights, and ideas that will keep us all moving forward—one resolution at a time.

As February dawns, many of us have already set aside our New Year's resolutions, either abandoned in the whirlwind of busy days or quietly postponed for another time. But here's a little secret: resolutions are not confined to January. In fact, for lawyers, every day can be an opportunity to reassess, refocus, and recommit to personal and professional growth. February—nestled in the post-holiday calm—is a perfect moment to revisit the goals that align with your values and your career.

Become the ever-evolving lawyer

Lawyers, especially those practicing in the ever-demanding fields of law, often find themselves so absorbed in the needs of their clients that personal aspirations can take a back seat. However, approaching resolutions with a mindset of continuous growth rather than seasonal pressure can redefine how we view progress. Every case, every client meeting, and every challenge presents an opportunity to realign priorities and embrace habits that enhance your practice and personal well-being.

A fresh framework for lawyer resolutions

Here are some practical, mid-year resolutions for lawyers looking to refresh their routines and revitalize their practice:

- 1. Prioritize time management:** Lawyers live by deadlines, but effective time management goes beyond calendaring. Reassess how you allocate your time. Could streamlining client intake or using legal project management tools like Clio or Trello help you regain precious hours? Focus on carving out uninterrupted time for both deep work and self-care.
- 2. Focus on professional development:** Whether it's attending CLEs, joining bar association committees, or learning about new areas of law, there's always room to grow. Challenge yourself to explore something outside your comfort zone—perhaps a trend like AI in the legal profession or sustainability in law practice management.
- 3. Reconnect with your network:** Set a goal to reach out to a few colleagues, mentors, or clients each month. This isn't just good for business; it's good for your mental health. Building

genuine connections can inspire you, create referral opportunities, and provide fresh perspectives on common challenges.

- 4. Commit to well-being:** Lawyer burnout is real. Use this time to implement small changes, like a lunchtime walk, mindfulness practices, or ensuring you leave your desk at a reasonable hour. Your mental health and physical health are vital for sustaining a thriving career.
- 5. Review your practice's processes:** Consider conducting an audit of your workflows. Are there outdated methods slowing you down? Embracing legal tech solutions or reevaluating your fee structures can create efficiencies and enhance client satisfaction.

Resolutions are about momentum, not perfection

The beauty of resolutions is that they don't demand perfection—they require progress. In a profession that prizes precision and rigor, it can be liberating to approach your personal goals with a bit more flexibility and grace.

As we move through February and beyond, remember: you don't need the promise of a new year to redefine your priorities. Every day brings with it the possibility of a fresh start. So, why wait until next January to implement the resolutions that could improve your practice and your life? Start today—your future self will thank you.



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NEW!

CLE 8647 True Crime in the Courtroom: The Shocking Case of an FSU Law Professor Gunned Down by Hitmen

Steve Epstein, author of *Extreme Punishment: The Shocking True Story of Acclaimed Law Professor Dan Markel's Murder*, will provide an overview of the case, including the July 2014 murder, the joint police-FBI investigation, and four trials that ensued in a Tallahassee courtroom to hold every member of the conspiracy accountable. He will also discuss the underlying dynamics of the divorce case between Prof. Markel and his wife Wendi—also an FSU law professor—that led inexorably to the tragic events whose aftermath is still playing out in legal proceedings 10 years later.

ON-Demand

On-demand:

CLE 7560

Ethical Issues Regarding Data Security and Use of Technology
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CLE 7802

The Particular Importance of Advance Directives to Out-of-State Attorneys
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CLE 7808

AI & Legal Ethics: A Risk-Benefit Analysis
[CD & DVD On-Demand](#)

CLE 7811

Beyond the Breach: Ethical Cybersecurity Considerations for Lawyers and Law Firms
[CD & DVD On-Demand](#)

CLE 8467

Mastering Title Work Across State Lines
[CD & DVD On-Demand](#)

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Interstate Guardianships: Ethical and Practical Considerations
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New to the Niche – Estate Planning
[CD & DVD On-Demand](#)

CLE 8470

Navigating Multistate ADR: Ethical Considerations and Initial Phases
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CLE Resources

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