

NEWS RELEASES

THE FLORIDA BAR TO HOLD 2020 ANNUAL CONVENTION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CONTACT: Francine Walker, APR, CPRC. fwalker@floridabar.org

The Florida Bar

TELEPHONE: 850-561-5666

TALLAHASSEE, FLA – Miami attorney Dori Foster-Morales will be sworn in as The Florida Bar's 72nd president and Jacksonville attorney Michael G. Tanner becomes president-elect during the virtual 2020 Annual Florida Bar Convention, to be held June 15-19.

"Looking Back, Moving Forward," is the theme of this year's convention, in recognition of the Bar's 70th anniversary. The virtual convention promises a unique, innovative experience for attendees with 18 continuing legal education (CLE) seminars, committee meetings, events, President's Showcase seminars, and online broadcast of the installation of the new officers. It also includes a virtual charitable event, "Helping Get Florida Back on Its Feet" to donate socks to homeless and veterans' help centers across Florida.

"At the same time we're celebrating The Florida Bar's 70th Anniversary, we transitioned to our first-ever entirely virtual Annual Convention to assure the safety of our members and staff during the pandemic," said Florida Bar President John M. Stewart. "I'm very excited that we already have over 4,000 registrants for the 18 continuing education seminars. Not only are we reaching more of our members, but I suspect we are reaching members who may not have traditionally participated in the Annual Convention."

Convention highlights include:

General Assembly: This centerpiece event, held on June 19 at 9:30 a.m., will feature a State of the Bar address by outgoing president John M. Stewart and a State of the Judiciary address by Chief Justice Charles Canady. Stewart will also give president's awards and the event will close with a speech by the new president. Visit The Florida Bar's **Facebook page** or **YouTube channel** to watch.



Presidential Showcase Seminars: *Learning From the Past to Support Emerging Issues in Military Law* presented by the Military Affairs Committee on June 17; and *Consumer Law Meets Cyberlaw: Emerging Consumer Protection Issues in Light of Digital Innovation and Technology Advancement* presented by the Consumer Protection Law Committee on June 19.

The Florida Bar: Looking Back, Moving Forward: Conversations with past and present leaders of The Florida Bar and its Young Lawyers Division in honor of the Bar's 70 years.

Sock Drive: Donors can ship socks directly to the agencies, one of which is in the jurisdiction of each of the state's five District Courts of Appeal, or buy socks online and have them delivered. The committee has set up an Amazon shopping list page where socks can be ordered and the shipping address supplied for one of the five centers.

Unlike past in-person conventions, there will be no physical sign-in process or convention registration fee. However, there will be fees for some CLEs. Meetings and seminars will be held on the Zoom Webinar platform, via the InReach platform, or by teleconference.

The **convention web page** details the schedule of meetings and events, all CLE programs, and other important information. The Annual Florida Bar Virtual Convention mobile app can help attendees:

- Get up-to-date schedules
- Receive important notices
- Create a personal schedule
- View sponsors
- Follow and use the #MyFloridaBar hashtag

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About The Florida Bar

Founded in 1949, The Florida Bar serves the legal profession for the protection and benefit of both the public and all Florida lawyers. As one of the nation's largest mandatory bars, The Florida Bar fosters and upholds a high standard of integrity and competence within Florida's legal profession as an official arm of the Florida Supreme Court. To learn more, visit **FloridaBar.org**.

