



University of Florida Levin College of Law
30th Annual Public Interest Environmental Conference
February 8–9, 2024

The Florida Bar is granting 7.5 General CLEs for the conference.

February 8, 2024 – Bailey Event Space at UF Law	
6:00 PM – 6:30 PM	Arrival & Registration: Guests can park in any orange or green lot surrounding the law school that has its restrictions lifted at the time. We will set up a table at the Bailey Event Space (Bruton Greer Hall 136) at the UF Levin College of Law campus to check in guests, speakers, and UF students.
6:00 PM – 8:00 PM	Refreshments: We will be serving a variety of hors d’oeuvres and drinks.
7:00 PM	Reception Program: Mary Jane Angelo <i>Mary Jane Angelo is the Emeritus Samuel T. Dell Professor, Professor of Law, and Co-Director of the Environmental and Land Use Law Program at the University of Florida Levin College of Law. She is also an Affiliate Faculty in both the University of Florida School of Natural Resources and Water Institute. Professor Angelo has published extensively on a variety of environmental law topics including pesticide law, endangered species law, water and wetlands law, sustainable agriculture, the regulation of genetically modified organisms, and the relationship between law and science.</i>

February 9, 2024 – Chesterfield Smith Ceremonial Classroom

8:30 AM – 9:00 AM

Arrival & Registration: Guests can park in any green lot surrounding the law school. We will have a table set up outside the Chesterfield Smith Ceremonial Classroom (Holland 180) at the UF Levin College of Law campus to check in guests, speakers, and UF students.

9:00 AM – 9:15 AM

Opening Remarks: PIEC 30 Co-Chair, Devki Pancholi

9:15 AM – 9:30 AM

Dean’s Message: Dean Merritt McAlister

9:30 AM – 10:30 AM

Ocean Waste

- **Jon Paul “J.P.” Brooker**

J.P. Brooker is the Director of Florida Conservation for Ocean Conservancy. J.P. graduated from Dalhousie University with a Bachelor of Arts in Ecology and English and the University of King’s College with a Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy and Ecology. J.P.’s legal education includes a Juris Doctor with a Concentration in Environmental Law from Stetson University College of Law and LLM in Environmental Law, Natural Resources Law, and Energy Law from Lewis and Clark Northwestern School of Law. Trained with a specialization in environmental law, J.P. is admitted to the Florida Bar and the United States District Courts for the Southern and Middle Districts of Florida. He sits on the Executive Council of the Florida Bar’s Environmental and Land Use Law Section and is co-chair of its Public Interest Task Force. J.P. has been appointed by the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council to serve on its Coral Advisory Panel, and by the President of the Florida Bar to serve on its Governmental and Public Policy Advocacy Committee and its Admiralty Law Committee.

- **Holly Parker Curry**

Holly Parker Curry is the Marine Protected Areas Campaign Director at the Antarctic and Southern Ocean Coalition (ASOC). For more than 45 years, ASOC has been the leading voice for responsibly managing human activities that threaten Antarctica and the Southern Ocean. As the only environmental NGO invited to observe Antarctic Treaty System meetings, ASOC works at the highest levels of Antarctic governance to effect change from within. Prior to joining ASOC, Holly clerked for U.S. District Judge Robert L. Hinkle in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Florida and later practiced land use and local government law at Theriaque & Spain Law Firm. Additionally, Holly has worked for the Surfrider Foundation, the Nature Conservancy, the Office of U.S. Senator Bill Nelson, and Leadership Florida. She holds a B.S. in International Affairs, M.S. in Applied American Politics & Policy, and J.D. summa cum laude with a certificate in Environmental and Land Use Law. Holly is a policy wonk, outdoor enthusiast, and nature nerd and can frequently be found hiking the Florida Trail.

- **David Tomasko**

Dr. Dave Tomasko has more than 30 years of experience in water quality assessments and the development of science-based natural resource plans in the Gulf of Mexico and international locations. He holds a Ph.D. in biology from the University of South Florida, a Master of Science in marine biology from the Florida Institute of Technology, and a Bachelor of Science in biology from Old Dominion University. Dr. Tomasko was also the first-ever Sarasota Bay Estuary Program Scientist.

Moderated by Hallie Young, 2L and Noelle Mercer, 1L

10:45 AM – 11:45 AM

Curbing Crypto Energy Waste

- **David Yermack**

David L. Yermack is the Albert Fingerhut Professor of Finance and Business Transformation at New York University Stern School of Business. He serves as Director of the NYU Pollack Center for Law and Business. Professor Yermack teaches joint MBA - Law School courses in Restructuring Firms & Industries and Bitcoin & Cryptocurrencies, as well as PhD research courses in corporate governance, executive compensation, and distress and restructuring. His primary research areas include boards of directors, executive compensation, and corporate finance. Professor Yermack has published more than 25 articles in leading academic journals in Finance, Accounting, Economics, and Law. He is a Faculty Research Associate of the National Bureau of Economic Research and has been a Visiting Scholar at the U.S. Federal Reserve Bank. Professor Yermack received his Bachelor of Arts in Economics (1985), Master of Business Administration (1991), Juris Doctor (1991), Master of Arts in Business Economics (1993), and Doctor of Philosophy in Business Economics (1994) from Harvard University.

- **William Lear**

Dr. William. E. Lear is an Associate Professor Emeritus at the University of Florida. Lear is an Associate Fellow of AIAA, recipient of the 2014 Energy Systems Award from AIAA, former Chair of the Terrestrial Energy Systems technical committee, and has served in multiple roles with the International Energy Conversion Engineering Conference, including Technical Program Chair. His areas of research are novel distributed generation systems, advanced turbomachinery, and low temperature fuel cells. He is co-inventor of the Power, Water Extraction, and Refrigeration system, a novel gas turbine-absorption refrigeration combined cycle, as well as several inventions in the area of direct methanol fuel cells. Lear holds a Ph.D. from Stanford University in Mechanical Engineering.

- **Nizan Geslevich Packin**

Professor Packin earned her law degrees from Columbia Law School, the University of Pennsylvania Law School, and Haifa University. She has externed for Judge Jack B. Weinstein in the Eastern District Federal Court of New York. Nizan Geslevich Packin joined the Law Department at the Zicklin School of Business in 2013. She researches and writes about FinTech, Ethical Implications of Digital Technologies, Business Law, Consumer Protection Law, Privacy and Information Law, including cybersecurity. Before

joining Zicklin, she practiced law in the New York office of Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP, in the Banking and Corporate Restructuring groups for six years.

Moderated by Luke Haber, 3L

Lunch with Public Interest Practitioners

Introduction from panel sponsor, Florida Bar Environmental and Land Use Law Section

- **Haley Busch**

Haley Busch is Outreach Director of 1000 Friends of Florida, the state's leading advocate for planning in the public interest. Prior to working for 1000 Friends, Haley was the Administrator for the Florida Conservation Coalition where she helped conservation leaders build consensus on policy solutions to Florida's pressing environmental challenges. She is a founding board member of the Florida Futures Project, a statewide scholarship competition for high school seniors to craft solutions to large-scale challenges facing the Sunshine State. A Gainesville native, Haley graduated from Eckerd College, Phi Beta Kappa (St. Petersburg, Florida), obtained her master's degree of Public and Urban Policy from the University of Glasgow (United Kingdom), and her Master of Urban and Regional Planning from the University of Florida.

- **Dennis Bayer**

Dennis Bayer is the managing partner of Bayer Legal in Flagler Beach Florida. Dennis holds an undergraduate degree in marine biology and a juris doctor from the University of Florida. Dennis has prosecuted environmental crimes in the Seventh Judicial Circuit, has been active in public interest law, and has pursued land conservation since admission to the Florida Bar in 1985. Dennis is a third-generation Floridian.

- **Richard Grosso**

Richard Grosso has 35 years of experience as a public interest litigator, appellate lawyer, advocate and counselor in the areas of federal and Florida environmental, land use, constitutional, property rights, and related governmental and administrative law. Richard is a former Law Professor at the Shepard Broad College of Law at Nova Southeastern University in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, where he taught in the areas of environmental, energy, land use, administrative, appellate practice and federal and state constitutional law. He is the former Executive Director and General Counsel of the Everglades Law Center, Inc., a public interest law firm which represents citizens and environmental interests in environmental and land use matters concerning the Florida Everglades, Florida Keys and the south Florida ecosystem in general. He is also a former Legal Director for 1000 Friends of Florida, and attorney for the Florida departments of Community Affairs and Environmental Regulation. Numerous publications have quoted Richard or referenced his work including the New York Times, the Washington Post, Forbes, Politico, and both National and Florida Public Radio. Richard has earned numerous accolades including the 2021 Everglades Champion Award from Audubon Florida and the Florida Bar Environmental and Land Use Law Section's Lifetime Achievement Award. Richard holds a Juris Doctor from the Florida State University

College of Law.

- **Jen Lomberk**

Jen Lomberk is the Matanzas Riverkeeper. Jen holds a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Central Florida as well as a Juris Doctor degree from the University of Florida Levin College of Law with a certificate in Environmental & Land Use Law and Policy. As a Student Associate in the Conservation Clinic at UF Law, Lomberk worked on projects spanning a broad spectrum of environmental issues ranging from municipal beach regulation in the state of Florida to national park management in The Bahamas. After becoming a licensed attorney, Lomberk served as the Staff Attorney for Alachua Conservation Trust and the Director of Special Projects for the University of Florida Levin College of Law Conservation Clinic, focusing on the use of conservation easements to protect sea turtle nesting habitat. Lomberk took the helm as the Matanzas Riverkeeper in December of 2017 and currently serves as the Chair of the Waterkeepers Florida regional entity.

The conference chairs thank the Environmental and Land Use Law Section of the Florida Bar for sponsoring our lunchtime panel.

1:45 PM – 2:45 PM

Sustainably Solid: Reducing Waste and Reviewing Waste to Energy

- **Karen Deeter**

Karen Deeter is a Senior Consultant with MSW Consultants, a solid waste consulting firm based in Orlando, FL. Ms. Deeter served on the Board of the Florida Chapter of SWANA for many years, including a term as Chapter President. She was previously the Waste Collection Manager and then Solid Waste Director here in Alachua County, FL. In addition to managing Alachua County's solid waste system, she has worked on solid waste management planning, procurement, research projects, and she is certified by Lund University and Coursera in the area of sustainable materials management and the circular economy. She is a proud member of the Zero Waste International Alliance, SWANA, and Recycle Florida Today.

- **Carmen Bruno**

Carmen Bruno has over 20 years working in Solid Waste Management, including scale house operations, recycling, site utilization, customer service, and training. Carmen is the Chairman of the State's premier recycling organization Recycle Florida Today, and he is also the Operations Manager for the Recycling & Solid Waste Management department here at the University of Florida. Before finding his way into the solid waste industry, Carmen worked as an Industrial Engineer in the contract manufacturing sector. He is certified through SWANA as a Recycling Systems and Composting Manager and holds numerous Florida Department of Environmental Protections certifications in solid waste. He is an expert on waste prevention and uses his expertise to work with corporations, state and local officials, and the public to inform them of the economic and environmental significance of recycling, promote beneficial laws and regulations, and help Florida reach its environmental conservation and stewardship goals.

- **Joe Kilsheimer**

Joe Kilsheimer is the former mayor of Apopka, and has an extensive history as a public relations and involvement strategist. After graduating from the University of Central Florida, he was a reporter for twenty years for the Orlando Sentinel where he developed his interest in public outreach and relations. He has now turned his focus to water and waste management, as the Executive Director of the Florida Waste to Energy Coalition. As Director, Kilsheimer champions the waste to energy movement in Florida, where we have the nation's largest number of waste to energy plants. The Coalition works to reduce waste and minimize the statewide footprint of landfills by diverting waste from landfills to create energy from biofuels, maintaining existing waste to energy power plants, and implementing modern waste to energy facilities. The Coalition boasts dozens of members including municipalities such as the City of Tampa and Miami-Dade County, and corporations such as Covanta Energy.

- **Alisa Coe**

Alisa Coe is an attorney for Earthjustice and serves as the Deputy Managing Attorney at their Tallahassee office. Coe received her law degree with honors in 2002 from Tulane University Law School. She also earned a Master of Studies in Environmental Law with

highest honors from Vermont Law School. She serves as lead counsel for the conservation groups in the two decades-old Everglades water pollution litigation, and she has done extensive work on tort cases, cases to stop sewage and pollution, and coal plant challenges.

Moderated by Erica Clements, 2L

3:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Pigs, Pollution, and Proposition 12: Preserving Florida's Ecosystem

- **West Gregory**

West Gregory is the Director of the FDACS Office of Agricultural Water Policy. OAWP works with agricultural producers, industry groups, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, the university system, and the Florida water management districts to develop and implement agricultural BMPs addressing both water quality and water conservation issues. Agricultural BMPs are practical, cost-effective actions that agricultural producers can take to conserve water and reduce the amount of pesticides, fertilizers, animal waste, and other pollutants entering our water resources.

As the director of OAWP, Mr. Gregory assists in the development of and is responsible for implementing statewide agricultural water policy. This includes implementing legislative direction and developing and implementing rules for agricultural non-point source Best Management Practices (BMP) to meet the requirements of the Federal Clean Water Act Total Maximum Daily Load program and Florida adopted surface and ground water quality criteria.

Mr. Gregory received his law degree from the University of Florida where he also served as coordinator for PIEC. Previously, Mr. Gregory practiced environmental law for the last 17 years at DEP rising to be a Deputy General Counsel and prior to that had a four-year stint as senior lawyer for the House Agriculture and Natural Resources Subcommittee. He lives in Tallahassee with his wife and son where he enjoys mountain biking and Cub Scouting.

- **Chad Marzen**

Mr. Chad Marzen is a Professor of Business Law at the Smeal College of Business at The Pennsylvania State University. He grew up on a farm in north central Iowa and is a proud first-generation undergraduate as well as law school alumnus. He received a B.A. from Grinnell College in 2005 and a J.D. from Saint Louis University in 2008. He practiced in an insurance defense law firm in Omaha, Nebraska prior to embarking on an academic career. Professor Marzen has published law review articles on topics as diverse as crop insurance, insurance regulation, agricultural law, and general liability matters.

Moderated by Devki Pancholi, 2L

4:15 PM – 4:30 PM

Closing Remarks: Associate Professor of Law, Annie Brett