POLITICAL CAMPAIGN ETHICS CONFERENCE:
Toward A More Perfect Union
St. Thomas University Law School
May 16, 2014

SPONSORS: Miami-Dade Commission on Ethics and Public Trust
St. Thomas University Center for Ethics

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

7:45 – 8:15 AM BREAKFAST

8:15 – 8:30 AM WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

8:30 – 9:25 AM **Voting Rights: Foiling Fraud, Protecting Access, Finding Common Ground**

Moderator: **Charlton Copeland**, Professor, University of Miami Law School; former Chairman, Miami-Dade Commission on Ethics and Public Trust

Panelists:

Dan Gelber, Esq., Gelber, Schacter, Greenberg, P.A.; former Florida State Senator and State Representative (Democratic House Minority Leader, 2006), former Assistant U.S. Attorney, Southern District of Florida

Roberto Martinez, Esq., Colson Hicks Eidson; former U.S. Attorney, Southern District of Florida; former General Counsel, Dade County Republican Party

Charles Zelden, Ph.D., Professor of History, Nova Southeastern University; Author, *Battle for the Black Ballot; Bush v. Gore: Exposing the Hidden Crisis in American Democracy; The Supreme Court and Elections…Into the Political Thicket; Voting Rights on Trial: A Sourcebook with Cases, Laws, and Documents*

9:30 – 10:20 AM **Absentee Ballot Fraud: What happened in the1997 Miami Mayoral election and what lessons have we learned since?**

Moderator: Joseph Centorino, **Esq.,** Executive Director and General Counsel, Miami-Dade Commission on Ethics and Public Trust; former Chief, Public Corruption Unit, Miami-Dade State Attorney's Office

Panelists:
Kendall Coffey, **Esq**, Coffey Burlington, Attorneys at Law; former U.S. Attorney, Southern District of Florida;
Xavier Suarez, **Esq.,** Miami-Dade County Commissioner; former Mayor, City of Miami
Patricia Mazzei, Government and Political Reporter, *Miami Herald*

10:20 – 10:30 AM BREAK

10:30 – 11:20 AM **The Third Rail: Ethnic and Racial Innuendo in Political Campaigns**
Moderator: Helen Ferre, Political Analyst, Univision Network "Destino 2012"; Moderator, WPBT2 Public Affairs Series "Issues"; Opinion Editor, *Diario Las Americas;* Columnist, *Miami Herald*
Panelists:
Lincoln Diaz-Balart, Esq., Attorney, Diaz-Balart, PLLC; former U.S. Congressman
George Knox, Esq., Visiting Professor of Law, Florida International University Law School; Director of Non-Litigation Advocacy Programs, FIU Center for Professionalism and Ethics; former City Attorney, City of Miami
Jimmy Morales, Esq. City Manager, City of Miami Beach; former Miami-Dade County Commissioner

11:20 – 11:40 **Legislative Update: 2014 Florida Legislative Session**
Sen. Jeff Clemens (D-Lake Worth), Member, Senate Committee on Ethics and Elections

11:45 AM – 12:25 PM BOX LUNCH – Law School Breezeway

12:30 – 1:00 PM LUNCHEON SPEAKER: **Chuck Malkus,** President, Malkus Communications Group; Author: *The Ultimate Ponzi: The Scott Rothstein Story*

1:05 – 1:55 PM **Campaign Cash and the *Citizens United* Debate: Free Speech or Corrupt Influence?**
Moderator: Robert Meyers, Director, St. Thomas University Center for Ethics; Of Counsel, Weiss Serota Helfman; former Executive Director, Miami-Dade Commission on Ethics and Public Trust

Presenters:

John Bonifaz, Esq., Co-founder and President, Free Speech for People*;* former Legal Director, Voter Action; founder, former General Counsel and Executive Director, National Voting Rights Institute

James Bopp, Esq., The Bopp Law Firm, P.C.; legal advisor for Citizens United; General Counsel, Republicans Overseas; former Republican National Committeeman for State of Indiana; General Counsel, James Madison Center for Free Speech

2:00 – 2:45 PM

BREAKOUT SESSIONS:

A. Campaign Consultants: Value or Voodoo

Moderator: Katy Sorenson, President and CEO, The Good Government Initiative; former Miami-Dade County Commissioner

Panelists:

Vanessa Brito, owner and director of MYami Marketing; President, Miami Voice PAC

Daryl Glenney, Political Consultant, Palm Beach County; former Senior Associate, Matt Reese & Associates (Washington, D.C.); former Deputy Director, Democratic National Committee; former Chief of Projects, Federal Election Commission

Robert Levy, Political Consultant, Robert M. Levy & Associates

B. Handling Election Media: Sparks, Snarks & Sharks

Moderator: Robert Steinback, Investigator, Miami-Dade Commission on Ethics and Public Trust; former *Miami Herald* columnist

Panelists:

Marc Caputo, Political Writer and Columnist, *Miami Herald*

Buddy Nevins, Website editor, Browardbeat.com; former *Sun-Sentinel* Political Columnist

Irene Secada, Political Campaign Consultant and Media Advisor

C. The Florida Elections Commission: Investigations and Enforcement Procedures

Moderator: Norman Ostrau, Esq., Former Chair, Florida Elections Commission

Presenters:
David Flagg, Investigative Manager, Florida Elections Commission
Eric Lipman,**Esq.,** General Counsel, Florida Elections Commission

2:45 – 3:00 PM BREAK

3:05 – 3:50 BREAKOUT SESSIONS

A. The Election Supervisor's Guide for Candidates
Moderator: Oren Rosenthal, Esq., Assistant Miami-Dade County Attorney
Presenters:
Dr. Brenda Snipes, Supervisor of Elections, Broward County
Carolina Lopez, Deputy Supervisor of Elections, Miami-Dade County

B. Ethical Campaign Practices: Can Nice Candidates Win?
Moderator: Miriam Ramos, Esq., Deputy General Counsel, Miami-Dade Commission on Ethics and Public Trust
Panelists:
Joseph Geller, Esq., Greenspoon Marder, P.A.; former Mayor, North Bay Village; former Chair, Miami-Dade Democratic Executive Committee
J.C. Planas, Esq., Kurkin Brandes, LLP; former member, Florida House of Representatives, District 115
Katy Sorenson, President and CEO, The Good Government Initiative; former Miami-Dade County Commissioner

C. Case Study: Prosecuting the Phantom Contributor
Moderator: Larry Lebowitz: Investigator, Miami-Dade Commission on Ethics and Public Trust; former investigative reporter, *Miami Herald*
Presenters:
Carol Jordan, Esq., Special Assistant State Attorney, Office of the Miami-Dade Inspector General
Marie Perikles, Esq., Special Assistant State Attorney, Office of the Miami-Dade Inspector General

Shelby Williams, Special Agent, Office of the Miami-Dade Inspector General

3:55 – 4:55 ***Bush v. Gore* in Retrospect: Could it happen again?**

Moderator: Justice Gerald Kogan, former Chief Justice, Florida Supreme Court

Panelists:

Joseph Klock, Jr., Esq., Rasco, Klock, Perez & Nieto, P.L.; lead attorney for Secretary of State Katherine Harris in state and federal court cases, including appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court, arising out of the 2000 Presidential Election

Benedict Kuehne, Esq., Law Offices of Benedict P. Kuehne, P.A.; Attorney for Vice President Al Gore during 2000 Presidential Election Recount Litigation

Theresa LePore, former Supervisor of Elections, Palm Beach County

Norman Ostrau, Esq., Director, Florida Atlantic University Public Ethics Academy; former Chairman, State of Florida Ethics Commission; former Assistant Broward County Attorney assigned to election issues in 2000 Presidential election; former State Representative

4:55 – 5:00 CLOSING - DISTRIBUTION OF CERTIFICATES