



## **Ausley McMullen Hosts Inaugural Law & Leadership Program to Inspire and Prepare the Next Generation of Legal Professionals**

**TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (December 18, 2025)** — Ausley McMullen hosted its inaugural Law & Leadership Program Monday, Dec. 15, a one-day immersive experience designed to inspire, inform and support aspiring legal professionals in the Capital City. The interactive program brought together students, firm leadership, attorneys, judges and legal leaders for a candid look at the many pathways available within the legal profession and the values that define successful legal careers.

For years, Tallahassee students interested in exploring legal careers have had limited options outside traditional internships or clerkships. Recognizing this gap, Ausley McMullen created the Law & Leadership Program to provide accessible, hands-on exposure to the profession. The program responds directly to the need for early mentorship, practical guidance and clearer pathways into the legal field, offering future legal minds a foundation rooted in professionalism, ethics and real-world expectations.

“This program is about helping young people achieve their goals,” said Rob Clarke, shareholder at Ausley McMullen. “Tallahassee has an incredible community of legal professionals and we’re proud to play a role in nurturing the next generation. Today’s young people are tomorrow’s advocates, counselors and community leaders.”

Throughout the program, speakers underscored that law is one of the most adaptable professional degrees, intersecting with nearly every industry, including technology, artificial intelligence, health care, sports, entertainment and public service. Students were encouraged to remain open-minded, recognizing that practice interests often evolve and that many law graduates pursue impactful careers both inside and outside traditional legal practice.

A central theme of the day was the importance of professionalism, ethics and integrity. Through candid discussion, students explored the responsibilities lawyers carry when entrusted with clients’ finances, personal freedom, family matters and highly sensitive information. Speakers emphasized that confidentiality, empathy and reputation are fundamental to building trust and serving clients during some of the most vulnerable moments of their lives.

“Supporting aspiring lawyers is a responsibility we all share as members of this profession,” said Katie Jones, assistant director of The Florida Bar’s Henry Latimer Center for Professionalism. “The Law & Leadership Program offers the type of guidance and access that many of us did not have early on. Early exposure to mentors and real-world insight can make all the difference in shaping a future attorney’s path.”

Participants also took part in a courthouse visit and question-and-answer session with The Honorable Stephen Everett, Circuit Judge of the Second Judicial Circuit, who shared insight into judicial career paths and reflected on the honor and responsibility of serving the justice system. Judge Everett described the practice of law as exciting, challenging and essential to democracy, encouraging students to consider their strengths, interests and long-term goals.

“Students often come to the admissions process with uncertainty about what law school truly requires,” said Dean Jessica Dworkin, dean of admissions at the Florida State University College of Law. “Today’s program provided clarity, structure and encouragement — exactly what students need to make informed decisions about their future. I was grateful for the opportunity to guide them and answer their questions.”

Students received certificates of completion and were encouraged to reference their participation in future interviews, law school applications and professional networking conversations. Ausley McMullen plans to host the Law & Leadership Program annually as part of its broader commitment to mentorship, community engagement and developing informed, ethical and confident future legal professionals.

Photos and broll [HERE](#). (PC: Revell Media)

###

### **About Ausley McMullen**

Ausley McMullen, based in Florida’s state capital, is a full-service firm serving clients throughout Florida, or those with interests or issues in Florida. The firm offers straightforward, reliable, practical and proactive legal advice that clients can depend upon from the beginning of a matter to its end, and beyond. Attorneys are dedicated to building lasting relationships with clients and referral sources who know they are there whenever they need. The firm takes great pride in its culture and offers a traditional, collegial and confident work environment, where clients are its number one priority.

For more information on the firm, visit [www.ausley.com](http://www.ausley.com) or connect with the firm on [LinkedIn](#), [X](#), and [Facebook](#).

### **Media Contact:**

Maria Elsbernd, Public Relations Manager  
Revell Media  
[maria@revellmedia.com](mailto:maria@revellmedia.com)  
(850) 445-7219