

Federal Bar Association South Florida Chapter Conducts Civil Discourse and Difficult Decisions (“CD3”) Program With Help from Stearns Weaver Miller Shareholder Stephanie Turk

MIAMI, FL — April 10, 2023 — Stearns Weaver Miller announced that Shareholder Stephanie Turk and the Federal Bar Association (“FBA”) South Florida Chapter facilitated a highly interactive civics program, [Civil Discourse: 16-Year-Olds and the Right to Vote](#).

Pre-law magnet students from Miami Carol City Senior High School attended this in-person program presided over by Judge Roy Altman. The program stimulated critical thinking and discussion surrounding a mock scenario similar to *Morse v. Frederick*, a Supreme Court case concerning the First Amendment and a banner saying "Bong Hits 4 Jesus" during a school-supervised event. The overarching issue was the intersection between free speech and restricting students when the speech relates to legalizing the use of illicit substances.

“The level of engagement and confidence of these students articulating their reasoning was a breath of fresh air,” said Turk. Students appreciated and learned valuable lessons from the program, providing feedback such as “It was very interesting and I was fully engaged... Best judge—inspires me so that I can become one for real... The program worked for me because it helped me be more open minded... Love it 10/10!”

Stephanie was instrumental in establishing the Civil Discourse and Difficult Decisions Program (“CD3”) in Miami and has helped coordinate and facilitate various in-person and virtual events over the past six years including in [October 2022](#), [September 2021](#), [May 2021](#), and [August 2020](#). The program was conducted virtually during the pandemic, but has adapted to an in-person format. As the program continues in-person, students get the opportunity to participate as lawyers in a mock hearing and deliberate after the mock hearing as members of the jury, using a fictional scenario based on a United States Supreme Court case. Last year, the FBA South Florida Chapter recognized Stephanie with an award for her Outstanding Service to CD3.

Stephanie is a Shareholder in Stearns Weaver Miller’s Labor & Employment Department. She has experience in both Employment Litigation and Employment Counseling. Stephanie has served on the FBA South Florida Chapter Board of Directors since 2017, including as the [current President-Elect](#), Civics Liaison, and Co-Chair of the Civics and Community Outreach and Law Day Committee.



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