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Stetson Law School

Admissions' Virtual Open House for Prospective Students

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>> Thank you for joining us today for our virtual open house. As some of you know, due to tropical storm Nicole, we had to cancel the in person fall open house which was originally scheduled on November 10. It was a tough decision, but we made the decision to cancel to ensure that everyone was safe and not traveling across the state of Florida to be here in Gulfport. Closed captioning is available for the webinar and we will drop the link in the chat. So, if you want to follow along using the closed captioning, it will be in the chat. The second announcement, we are recording the session. We will be able to provide you a link to the recording. At a later date if you need to come back through and listen. We're going to go ahead and get started. We are about five minutes after the hour. At this time, it is my pleasure to introduce our Stetson law College of Law Dean, she was named interim Dean in June 2022. She previously served as associate dean of academics and associate Dean of administration and business affairs for the law school. Prior to joining Stetson, she taught at University of Cincinnati College of Law. She earned her degree at the College of William and Mary. And she teaches in the areas of bankruptcy and commercial law. She is also a faculty advisor to the bankruptcy team as well as faculty coordinator of in-house general counsel internship and bankruptcy judicial internship. I think you are still doing both of those. With that I'll had things over.

>> Thank you. Welcome to our virtual open house. I wish we could've had all you on campus today for those who are not in Florida it is a beautiful day here! Sunny with highs in the low 80s. Absolutely picture-perfect! And we are truly blessed to be on such a beautiful campus every day. But what really makes Stetson such a special place in the place I have been happy to be part of for more than 20 years, is the community that we have here at Stetson. The first introduction to the community is going to be the office of admissions, the group you will meet today, if you have not already met them. I know many of you have gotten to know the members of the team of admissions and you know that they are warm and friendly. And that is really indicative of our entire campus climate. You'll find that same welcoming environment for more faculty members who work very closely with students to help develop the students legal professionals and you will see that in the various departments around campus where staff members are really all here to help our law students succeed because we are standalone on our campus. We are only a law school on this particular campus, so everyone is here to help the law students succeed. And you will see that with fellow students to be join us because students are very supportive of each other. Working toward their common goal for the most part becoming lawyers. I note that you will start to learn more about Stetson law programs. We are very proud of the practice ready learning that we provide here at Stetson. That comes from nationally ranked programs and advocacy and legal writing. Several concentration programs that allow you to focus if you wish in a particular area of the law. Various law reviews and general satellites to become better writers, advocacy boards that help you hone skills in and outside of the courtroom. Our clinical externship programs that let you learn more about the real-life practice of law. And a variety of other opportunities that I don't have time to list all today. I know that applying for law schools can be a daunting process. Selecting your law school is really about finding the right fit for you. During the whole process, I really encourage you to visit your choices of law schools if you can, and most important, meet with students. I promise no one knows what it's like to be a student better than the current students.

So talk to them, talk to admissions professionals, ask questions. That's what they're here to do. They're here to help you as you make your decision and I promise you, we want to make sure that you, if you choose Stetson is because we are the right fit for you. Rest assured, after all the challenges of applying for law school and challenges in law school, becoming a lawyer is truly an honorable profession. It really does like to serve others and I love being in practice lot, even more love helping students become lawyers. I wish you the best on your journey into law school and on your journey in becoming a professional.

>> Thank you, Dean Radwan. As she indicated, it is a beautiful day here in Saint Pete, Gulfport. And it is a warmer than usual December 7 date. We have a great program in store for you. Dean Radwan has touched on some of the highlights that make Stetson so special. And we hope to build upon that as you go throughout the next hour and 1/2 with us. Thank you so much, Dean Radwan. At this point, I want to introduce our faculty presenter for today's webinar. Again, we are modeling this program after the exact program that you would receive on November 10. Professor flowers was prepared to be at the podium engaging everyone and she will now be doing that with us virtually. And it will be just as exciting. Roberta is -- also center for excellence in elder law. She teaches evidence, criminal procedure, professional responsibility and ethics in a elder law practice. Professor Flowers successfully coached Stetson trial teams, arbitration teams and other teams and national championships. She has served as the director of the Center for excellence in advocacy and as a William Reese Smith Junior distinguished Professor of professionalism. During her time at Stetson, Professor Flowers received university level excellence in teaching award. As well as the Stetson law inspirational teacher award. She also received from the student Bar Association, and Anna recognizing her for her support of student life. She received her JD from University of Colorado. And now, I'll had things over to Professor Flowers. Thank you so much for joining us.

You un-muted, I think. Got it?

>> Yes. We've only been doing this for how many years?

>> Just 2 1/2 years!

>> Just 2 1/2! [LAUGHTER] You can see behind me all beautiful campus. I wanted to make you feel like you have got to come and visit us. And as Dean Radwan said, please, if you have the opportunity to come and visit us in person, we as faculty members, love to chat with students. I mean we really are a group of people that love to talk to students and love to spend time with them. I am going to share my screen, hopefully. And so, I think I've been asked to talk a little about bringing out the advocate in you. You know, we call it law school, right? That's the traditional name of it. But what it really is, it is advocacy school. You are really learning to be an advocate. And so, we want to talk a little bit about, what does that mean exactly? So, it is important to understand that advocacy is not just in the courtroom. And I'll talk about what phenomenal training we do before courtroom lawyers for litigators. But we also want to understand that advocacy is a much broader topic. It is a topic that here at Stetson, we truly believe, in order to be a lawyer, you have to be an advocate. You may be sitting back thinking, I don't want to be in a courtroom Professor Flowers, I get it! I work in elder law now in most elder law attorneys don't want to be the courtroom. That doesn't mean for a minute, they are not advocates. Because advocacy is so much bigger than just being in the courtroom. So, here is the Oxford definition. Always want to start with the definition, right? Advocacy is defined as the public support for war

recommendation of a particular cause or policy. All right? So, we can see even from the definition, that they are not talking about being in the courtroom, cross examination, doing opening and closing. Giving support of recommendation for particular cause. When would a lawyer be an advocate? A lawyer will be an advocate obviously, for a client. That will be typically, maybe what you think about when you think about an advocate, we think about you know, I was going to say Perry Mason but you might not think about Perry Mason. You might think about other lawyers that you see on TV or in the movies. Advocate for clients, absolutely! That can include in the courtroom, it can be included in agency, administration, but that is not the only time you're in advocate or making recommendations for a cause or policy. You are going to be advocating, not only for your clients, but to your clients. Right? So, you will be counseling them on what's going to be their best course of action with regard to let everything from language in the contract, to alimony in a family law case. You are going to be advocating to your client, trying to recommend to them, what is going to be the best course of action for them. And we are not talking about pressuring them, we're not talking about overbearing there will. But we are talking about learning how to be persuasive with our clients. Helping them to understand what is going to be the best course of action based on our assessment. We will be advocating, not only for our clients but to our clients. We also need to learn how to advocate for a cause, right? Some of you may decide I hope, to go into may be, social justice or public service. And you will be advocating for causes. You're going to find yourself advocating for causes may be in front of city Council. For your church, so, you need to understand how do I advocate? How do I persuade? How do I give support for certain causes for policies? And finally, I think this is as important. You will sometimes be finding that you'd need to advocate for yourself. You will find yourself in situations where you need to know how to advocate for something that you need, a cause that you need for yourself. Advocating with a senior partner, to get a raise. Advocating for a job interview. And so, advocating really is about the ability to persuade others, within the sphere you find yourself, right? We talk about advocating you know from the office to the Supreme Court. Like from advocating for our client, advocating to the client, advocating for closet, advocating for ourselves. And so, how do I begin, you ask yourself? To start to bring that advocacy, the advocate out of myself? I bet you, if I could ask one of the 128 of you that are out there, many of you will say, my mom or dad said I need to be a lawyer because I argue all the time. I am in arguer. That's not being advocate. We really want to understand what, does it mean to be this kind of advocate, that is helpful out there in the world. Let's talk a little bit about the skills of advocating. So, let's talk how law schools bring out the advocate in you. All right? First of all, a law school teacher to certain skills. And we will talk a little bit about those skills in just a few minutes. Law school should also give you practice in being an advocate, right? From advocating in the classroom, being called on by the professor, to advocate in clinics, that Dean Radwan told you about. Advocating maybe on a competition team, so you're getting the practice to do that. And then finally, we want to make sure that we give you the confidence as to your ability to be an advocate. We have got skills, we want to practice it and then we want to come out of law school, feeling like I am an advocate, right? Not just a lawyer, not just an attorney. I am an advocate. Going to give you little story. The difference between a lawyer and an attorney is basically this. A lawyer is somebody who has passed law school, graduated from law school. An attorney is somebody who is registered to practice. And in advocate, and advocate is somebody that knows how to make things happen in this world because of those skills. Let's talk a little bit about the skills that you should be looking for as you make this decision about where you're going to fit best. What law school will be the best fit for you. The first thing we will tell you about being advocate will practice it. It is preparation, preparation, separation. We will have you prepared every single day for

your classes. Because a good advocate is prepared. And so, one of the skills that we are going to be teaching you, is, how do I prepare, and I'll be the first day you are in law school. You will be asked to spend time getting prepared for class. I know for some of you, that will be very different than what you have to do in undergraduate. You went to class, he took down notes and you are already to go to be as successful as you are. Because that is why you will be able to get into a law school. Law school is different. Because it really requires you to do that advance preparation before you get to the class. Because that is what advocates do. They get prepared before they go into a client meeting. They get prepared before going to the courtroom. They get prepared before their negotiating on behalf of their client. And so, we want you to develop that skill of preparation and so that you can be the advocate that you were meant to be. Listening. One of the things that we will emphasize to you over and over and over again, is that you cannot be an advocate until you have listened. One of the most important things an attorney does for a client, is to listen to them. What do they want? What do they need? Where do they want to see themselves? The only way that you can know that, is to learn to listen. Listen, two things are being said to you, listen to how it is being said to you, because a good advocate, cannot go out and just advocate what he or she wants, they have to know what the client wants. Right? They have to know that with the court once. They need to know if there from city Council, what is important to city Council? And the only way they can be a good advocate, is by listening to what is being said to them. In learning how to kind of put aside my own, this is what I think you want, in order to really hear what it is that you actually want. We want to teach you listening skills and we want to help you practice those listening skills. Deference and respect. We will talk about that fact that advocacy requires that you and I both understand, I have the absolute owner and opportunity to be an advocate which, to be a lawyer, and to be an attorney, and to be the best advocate I could be. But you know what? It doesn't mean I'm better than anyone else. I just had an opportunity. And so, here at Stetson, we want you to learn how to be respectful, to everybody, regardless of where they are in their lives. Or in their careers. We have a sick way to learn deference, right? We are going to be teaching you the skill because sometimes respect is a skill. Right? Deference is a skill. How to advocate for client but still be deferential to the board? How do I advocate for myself and still be deferential to my partner? So, that skill, of understanding how to advocate, but also, show respect and deference, it's a skill. And it is a skill that you want to learn in whatever law school you go to. You want them to be cognizant of the fact that they are teaching you to be respectful. And to be deferential and that is important. One of the things always want students to understand, is that the p in professional does not mean perfect. You're going to make tons of mistakes! Regardless of what school you go to, you are going to make some mistakes. And so as an advocate, I've got to be self-aware, right? Have to be willing to say, I messed up. I really messed up. Not I messed up but let me give you an excuse. I messed up! Right? Because a good advocate understands that sometimes, the best way to advocate, is to concede, right? The partner calls you in and you were late on something. Right? You did get something done on time. You have to advocate for yourself. But you will first have to live up to whatever mistake you made and then be a good advocate. Right? You mess up and a client is now looking at you and you have to say, you know what? I messed up, let me tell you how we are going to fix it. So understanding that even as an advocate, even as a lawyer, even as that licensed attorney, you are going to make mistakes. And a good advocate knows how to learn from mistakes, two learn to reckoning mistakes and apologize for mistakes and fix them. That's a good advocate. Obviously, advocacy will take learning how to word Smith, right? Words are lawyers tool! Right? We use words. We use written words, we use oral words and advocates, we have to learn the importance of language. Your first year law school

regardless of where you are, I teach criminal law in the first year, first semester. It is such a kind of mind blowing experience because every single word is going to mean something in a statute. It is almost like going back to the old days where when you were a kid and had to diagram sentences, right? Here's a verb, noun, adjective. That is so important, it is so important to understand that the words of the law are so important. And as an advocate, you've got to learn how important those words are. If I'm writing a contract for somebody, and I'm advocating for my client to get a good deal in the contract, I better know what each one of those words are going to mean, and how they're going to impact my client. It is also important to understand the legal to use will make a difference, right? We've got to learn that there is a language of the legal profession. And there are ways to talk as professionals that maybe you don't talk like out on the soccer field. Right? You know, I know we just lost the World Cup, got eliminated. But you cannot talk like a soccer player as a professional, right? Words matter. And as an advocate, you have to be very intentional about your language. So that is a skill we want to help you learn and a skill we want you to practice. The first time you get cold called. That basically says he didn't have a clue you're going to get called that they and the professor says, Carla, Europe today, let's talk about this. You've got to have was the first thing to talk about? Be prepared! Because now you're going to be an advocate, right? Your professor may say, I want you to be a prosecutor and argue that this person did commit this crime. Carla will have to look at every one of the limits of the crime. All of the list of words, and be able to articulate that, right? The only way you can learn how to do that, is to do it. And so, we are going to pull your advocate out of you, by forcing you to get on the bicycle. Right? We will tell you how to ride a bicycle, we are going to put you on it. And we're going to have you be an advocate in class, so that you acquire the skill, you practice it, and then you get confident. You get confident that you can do that. Roadmaps. One of the things that we will talk about a lot in law school is the roadmap to your success. Right? Where do you start? Where do you want to end and how do I get there? Because in advocate plans out where they are going. That doesn't mean I get up and said I like to take the red line after getting on the green line. Or take the blue line. But that intentionality of figuring out as an advocate. Because when you are in advocate, that client comes in, I got a roadmap of how I want to move that person to where they need to go in order to benefit them. Confidence, confidence, confidence, right? I want you to leave law school, I want you to leave Stetson University College of Law, confident that you are in advocate. That you didn't just learn the law, you learned how to advocate the law. Right? And so, your professors, and I'll tell you, Dean Radwan was not you know, pretending when she said, every person on this campus, once successful lawyers. We call them Stetson lawyers to become Stetson lawyers are different than any other kind of lawyers as far as we are concerned. When you got in the courtroom, judges know you are a Stetson lawyer. You learn how to advocate. Right? And so, we want you to have that confidence level. We want you to feel like, I can do this. I can advocate in any place where I need to be an advocate. Sometimes it's going to be painful. Sometimes it will feel like my gosh, she just keeps calling on me in class and I tried to answer her questions, but I can't get what she wants. That's okay! Because every time, don't advocate perfectly in law school, that is one less time that you won't advocate well out of law school. All right? So, you got to know that this is not going to be something where you walk in here, and it is exactly what you've always done and you know, we are pulling an advocate out of you we are walking alongside you, so that you can be the best advocate that you can be, regardless of what kind of a lawyer you are going to be. So, why Stetson? Right? I want you to see why I'm up here because I really want you understand, that's what your faculty believes. The faculty at Stetson University College of Law, leaving their students. We believe that when you succeed, we succeed. We don't bring you here and say look to your left, look to

your right, when you graduate half of you won't be here. Our hope is that you look to the left and look to the right, and when all three of you graduate come you walk across the stage as the best advocates you can be. Because that is what we are here for. We want you to know that you are unique, that you will be your own unique advocate. You are not going to be Bobby Flowers. our desire is to give you your voice because you need your voice to be an advocate. And so, here at Stetson, we believe in our students. A lot of law schools say, we teach students how to think like a lawyer. We teach students to think like an attorney also. But that's not good enough. You want to go to law school that not only teaches you to think like a lawyer, in other words, how to look at a case? How do you look at a law? How to take it apart? How do I annoy my family members by interrogating them? Right? We want you to know how to think like a lawyer. But more importantly, here at Stetson, we want you to learn to act like a lawyer, we want you to have the skills that can make you an attorney out there in the real world. Not just thinking about it but actually acting on it. And finally here at Stetson, we want you to become an advocate, to be able to advocate like an attorney. Because you have had the practice, you've had the skills taught and now you have the confidence that you are truly the advocate you were intended to be. Regardless of what kind of law you are doing, you could be advocate for client in a family law case or advocate for client in a contract case. Will you be advocating in a in-house counsel? Where Dean Radwan supervises? Will you be advocating for a family member in elder law? All of the different ways that we can advocate, Stetson law wants to teach you, how to be the advocate you were meant to be. Questions? I can answer questions on a variety of different things. As Karla indicated I was in charge of the advocacy center. I do live competition and still do a lot of competition, I love coaching students. If you have any questions on that side, if you want to talk about elder law is and what a great career it is just ask that question. Or if you want to ask about first-year law classes or any of your law classes, I'm here to answer questions and we can have a little interactive chat.

>> Thank you, Professor Flowers. It looks like Zach, you're the first with your hand up. Do you want to turn your microphone on and ask a question?

>> Yes thank you for your time. One of the things that impressed me about Stetson, was the presence and support for veterans and options to get to veteran advocacy. I was wondering specifically, what kind of work, is it with benefits or other with other areas that Stetson law helps students help veterans?

>> Yes. There are variety different things, Zach, that we are proud of. Obviously, we have an amazing veterans benefit clinic. I took a summer so I could learn a little more back that and took a case on at the clinic. And it was fascinating. We are trying to figure how to get a client in a fit by proving that he actually had been in Vietnam, so he could get benefits based on agent orange. Just the investigation trying to figure out how we could put his boots on the ground was fascinating. We also have the other side of the veterans. Which is over here, we really looking at, how do you plan for agent within the veterans cycle? Within their lives? Right? How can we make their lives better as they age? We have I think we do every semester we do wills, students work on estate planning documents and wills and end-of-life documents for veterans. So that you know, it's not just about their benefits, but if there's also a lot of opportunity for pensions and other ways for veterans to be more comfortable as they age. We have a very strong veterans presence. We do a conference every year that has a whole component on veterans. And we have our fantastic judge Allen come back from Washington D.C., to talk a little bit about the appellate process. And so, there's lots of opportunities here, along the whole spectrum of veterans work.

>> And next we have Trevor. Go ahead and turn your microphone on.

>> Thank you for having me. For those of us that have served as a community or club on campus in law school as well?

>> Yes, there is. And I am, Karla do you remember the name of it?

>> If the veteran law students, veteran law students organization or association. But they are very active. And that would be an opportunity for you to join a student organization as early as your first semester. They do social even could also have a platform for community service projects as well. So, yes, you can find information about our student organizations on the website, if you go to Stetson law, in the search field, choose student organizations. It would take you to the student organizations page. I think we have over 40 student organizations that are currently active. There is a veterans law student Association. Kayla? Go ahead and turn your microphone on. You are up next. Kayla and then Layla! I love that.

>> My gosh, that's funny! Professor Flowers, thank you so much for that presentation. I found it really inspiring. I was definitely participating as an advocate in undergrad so I'm happy to continue doing that. And it will be great to do that at Stetson. I wanted to ask more about the advocacy center. And what exactly that is and how to get involved.

>> Sure. So, did you do -- in undergrad?

>> Know is Moorpark student government. Advocating for students on campus.

>> Our advocate center is one of the busiest centers. Because there is so much going on over there. The advocacy center handles the whole spectrum of advocacy issues from our very specifics what we call skills classes, to the competitions, they do a writing program for advocates, they also do a copy of the opportunity to be on one of the competition teams, it could also be part of it as one of their center fellows that works specifically within the center. If you got interest in student government work or student advocacy on that end, you'll be really interested to touch base with our social justice advocacy programming. Because it really is a place where you go out and do different advocacy. The kind of advocacy in the communities. And in legislation, so that is kind of two sides of it. Kind of the advocacy with regard to courtroom advocacy, negotiations, appellate work and social justice advocacy, which really may be exactly what you're interested in, which is the government advocacy and community advocacy.

>> Okay great, thank you!

>> And Layla, you are up next.

>> Thank you guys for having us. Regarding the trial advocacy program like on the competition side, is there a competition team? I know that Stetson has a great trial team. How do you get involved in that? Is there a selection process? Like who makes the team and if not selected, is a selection process what is a way to stay involved? Being in the courtroom part of it.

>> Sure! First of all, we have kind of you may know this but I want to make sure if everybody doesn't know there's actually three different kinds of competitions, rightly mentioned the trial team competition. There is also what are called dispute resolution competitions. That is what people learn

how to negotiate, mediate, client counseling, arbitration. Those are competition teams also. Then we have a court which is after the trial has occurred, it goes to the Appellate Division if you have that court. There's different ways for all three of those. It is a tryout process. And you cannot try until after your first year. To get you going. That does not mean you can't be involved during the first year. We have a very very competitive second semester competition for just -- it is a trial competition and all the teams were caused by trial team members which they get to be on the other side and see what it's like to be a coach. And so there is that ability to compete the second semester the first year and if you win the competition then you get some advantages in the trash because obviously you have skills. You can try out, we do tryouts usually the first, last week of April 1 week of May, after first year, you can also trout the second year but if you want to get involved after the first year. And then that way we have camps all summer to get ready for competition team. Let's say try to end it did not make it the first year. There's opportunities free to work within the advocacy center to act as the witness, to act as what we call, shadow teams. We have for lack of a better term, JV teams echo against competitors. It is a way for you to show interest, then we tryout the second year, that would be a real help to you. Finally, we have one of my favorite things, we have a comparative advocacy course in Oxford every summer. Basically we have a lot of one L that have never done trial, they come to Oxford and we do a two week, pretty intensive but just a blast, fun! Learning how to try cases. We bring the top professors from the nation from other schools, to work with students individually. That is another great opportunity to get trial advocacy experience before your second year at the Oxford program.

>> Thank you so much.

>> Professor, this will be the last question for you before we move forward with the program. This is coming from Victoria. Go ahead and turn on your microphone. Ask your question, there you go.

>> Hi, thank you so much for the presentation I apologize, my zoom camera does not work but I know that you talk a little about how law school and undergraduate and preparing but can you talk a little more about what -- I plan starting fall 2023. Can you tell what to expect the first year of law school?

>> Sure. So, talk about one thing that was different which was preparation. I think the other thing different for students, is that it feels like there is no right answers. I feel like there's chaos because you say okay Professor just talked about the prosecution we talked about what the defense would argue, what's the right answer? I will say to whatever the jury says order the judge says is the right answer. It feels like there is no right answers and so you have to get yourself willing to kind of be in that gray area. Where the most important thing is for you to articulate the law and articulate how the fact of the law. And know that there probably won't be right answer. Preparation different no right answers are different. Number three, you cannot just sit and expect that you will get out of class, what you need because most of us don't lecture. Right? In other words, I don't come in and say okay, they were talking about homicide. In 30 minutes and I'm still talk about homicide. No, I'm asking questions from the case as you read the night before. And I'm saying, was it Heidi? Or Victoria?

>> Victoria.

>> Victoria. Talk to me a little about, you read the case, then I'm going to change the facts. How would you apply that case to these new facts? And you're like, wait a second, all I learned about were those facts. Well now I've got to apply that law to the new facts. And so, it is that difference between just coming to class and kind of giving lecture and coming to class and being required to logically, take what

you read last night, and apply it possibly come into a completely different fact scenario than you even thought about. I think that is very different than undergraduate. I think, I hope you find it is fun, it is much more stimulating. Then maybe her lectures were because, people are talking and engaging. Classroom in law school are much more the students talking, equally, if not some days, more than the professor talks. So that's a little bit different. But it is fun! At least, what do I know?

>> It's all fun! Thank you so much, Professor Flowers.

>> Thank you.

>> It is also been amazing. I appreciate you taking the time to present to us and answer questions. And we are going to shift now --

>> Hold on can is a woman thing?

>> Yes, absolutely!

>> Please feel free if you have a question that you would love to just get a quick answer for, you can email me at flowers@law@stetson.edu, I'd love to answer question an email or even if you want to get on the phone to chat. Absolutely, I'm here to do that if it will be helpful. And you making the right selection for yourself for law school.

>> Wonderful, thank you! And this goes that plaque that you have there about us being here for students. That is just another example, thank you so much, Professor Flowers for taking the time. We have Doctor email address in the chat so everyone can access it, thank you. All right! So, we are going to shift now to start of the second half of the program, which will focus on the application process for admission. Followed by the application process for financial aid. Two areas that are very important as your preparing to apply and if you've already applied and are preparing for the financial process. The director missions and Heidi Gonzales, assistant director of student financial planning, will be participating in presenting this half of the program. Darren is on the camera now. We'll start with admissions. Darren Kettles has been at Stetson, is this your 17th year?

>> Is actually 16.

>> I think I always do that!

>> A long time. Okay, I think, would you like to say any opening remarks before we jump into?

>> Yes, thank you again, hope that you will enjoyed Professor Flowers. She was former chair of the admissions committee here and she also has been an integral part of kind of part of our top advocacy sort of, knowingsness. If that's a word. At the level of work they do. They get and spend time with students. It is really helped with our ultimate success over the long tenure. It is just like, I haven't seen her in a long time so it's interesting to see, I haven't seen anybody long time! Except in this format so it was cool to see that in reemphasize, what advocacy does and how integral it is as part of our education and preparing you all to be able to launch a career. It is great to see some names. I see some names I recognize, Kayla and a lot of applications so, I can see that you're probably waiting. We're getting through applications, we did lose a little bit of time with the storm problems we had. So come we just been sort of in overdrive try to make sure we get decisions out as quickly as possible. Thank you for your patience, we read them and we enjoyed them and we are enjoying the applicant pool so far. Kind

of on point from where we were last year this time which was really a stellar admissions cycle for us here. With that, I'm going to start. Some of you I thought, can you see that?

>> Yes.

>> Okay.

>> Slideshow mode.

>> There we go. Is that working?

>> Is not slideshow yet.

>> Okay anyway.

>> It's fine.

>> You have to enable editing to be able to --

>> Is that what's missing?

>> Enable editing and then slideshow is in the middle. You got it?

>> No. [LAUGHTER]

>> Maybe I should have somebody else.

>> Okay, do you see where it says protected view? Across the top, Darren?

>> Protected view.

>> In the yellow.

>> I got it.

>> Now you stopped sharing.

>> We will get there! Now, there you go, perfect!

>> Okay, perfect. Sorry about that.

>> That's okay!

>> Anyway, as I mentioned, we had an incredible cycle last cycle. I've been here long time and I never seen a cycle like that. Some of you might have been part of it some of you might have been part of last cycle which was so, really very competitive and very selective. We just under 2400 applications, about 250 seats in full time I think we ended up Georgia 53 and run 50 seats for part time. Anything, do end up around 50?

>> 53.

>> So we're pretty much on target. It was a really competitive cycle. People that were later in cycle fortunes were granted to problems, only with potential spot but people had to put on the waitlist because they would otherwise never be part of the waitlist. Because of just where we were. We

admitted a little over 30 percent of the applicant pool. It's a very selective class. This cycle is starting a very similar way. We are done I just checked we are down about a little over 50 applications from last year at this time. It is pretty much on par with where we were. If you're sitting on applications, submit them. If you would have conversations, we are meeting with people every day. As the Dean said we will have an event in February. For those of you who want to. Regarding, I want to give you to give selective this. There's a credentialed class in my almost 16 years here. And it was really good to see you know the applicant pool that came from out of state as well. But just the quality of the pool. You know 158 medium, 3.51 GPA. These are guides, our goal is certainly to make sure that we have enrollment goals that are pretty much in the same way, we like to always continue because it's good for you and good for us, it is good for you when you're networking and stuff. This is going to take you far in your life I've literally seen it transform peoples lives. If we didn't think it was the real deal we would not be here. This is really just an exceptional law school that really does transform lives. If you're looking at this sort of a profile, this is a good range. If you're in the 156 to 159 range. There is a good chance you could be competitive, right? GPA as well. The fitness of the applicant. Your whole life is on display when you go to law school. If you have a blemish or something along the way, fully disclose that. We will get to that in a minute. These are the kind of ranges that we are anticipating for the cycle. Maybe you know full applicant rule is yet to be seen. A little bit more, we talk about the size of class. We look to bring it around the 240 Ridge habitually given the best opportunities for student to access. Everyone is here just for the law. If you feel your commitment big public institution to a small private law school, you'll notice a different level of engagement and a level of access, just this part of our culture and fabric. Racial ethnic diversity. We are always looking trying to make sure that we expand those students with different backgrounds and races, ethnicities. You know, geographic, grades, geography, different programs around the country. There are so many things we want to make sure we diversify. Always making sure that we are bringing a class that is representative of the population of the United States. We want to make sure that it is part of classroom part of the environment. It makes you stronger and makes you understand things and allows you to engage in different dialogues. It is so much better! We were happy with that but of course, were not happy with just saying that we will continue to try to advance that. In terms of scholarship distribution, I mean, last year scholarship was probably one of the largest amount of scholarship we probably ever awarded. It is great to see the equity and always looking to equitably share. Incoming, scholarships are based on merit. GPA, LSAT score, fitness of applicant. We are strict when it comes those areas. But you know, we are reasonable people too. People make mistakes. You still want to see patterns, right? So just remember, always making sure that you are making the best decisions getting into law school. While in law school and as you proceed in this profession. In terms of this scholarship, we offer anything from just a full, if you thousand up to full tuition and everything in between. Based on merit. Some people apply early and get a scholarship award. And you know they think that they can improve the quality if they can improve a LSAT score something that. Submit final grades. All of those things can impact potentially an award. If somebody is on the webinar right now, and have been admitted asking about something of reconsideration, we will be doing not only at this point, scheduled everyone, March 1 and April 1. Someone wanted to do that and talk about any type of reconsideration, we will not be making any decisions prior to that. As we see the pool unfold. Good representation. It was always our goal to make sure that we attract people from all over. And our reach is continuing to grow. We are really happy about that. Over 40 percent of the applicant pool last year, it was over 40 percent. Which was really high, and you know, as far as what we matriculated to, students were coming and applying from all over the United States. As you can see,

and from countries outside of this. Good representation, 95 undergraduate schools, that were represented. It is good for you and for us. Helps the brand and the name as you continue to larger careers. Not only the state of Florida, but beyond our borders. You can take your current undergraduate degree wherever you want to go. You can certainly package Stetson law degree as well. Somebody asked about concentrations. 88 credits to confirm your training. Classes are chosen for you first year we have six concentrations somebody might decide. The good thing is, you do not have to decide as you matriculate law school. You have time to explore and have conversations with faculty and administration. You have advisors and even your peers, make sure you have the conversations as well. Some people choose to do them and some people don't. These are the six we have. Business law being the most recent one. Of course Stetson as you know being the top advocacy school. Do not feel you have to do a concentration. You could certainly, to learn or approach specialization areas as we talked about briefly. Higher education as well. A lot of people choose to just do a multitude of different elective offerings, they have a very strong foundation in many areas. Our graduates all over the country, we have a lot more graduates in the state of Florida, what we are recruiting some time to have a hard time from people like in Massachusetts. And they ask people are you going back to Massachusetts? And they say no, I think I'm staying in Florida now because I really like it here. It is all well but always nice when you can see the alumni all over the country. In every single state of the union. And the countries including the Caribbean as well. You know, if someone is looking to do that, get a degree somewhere else, we can work with you and connect you with alums. Tuition and fees. We are a private school. These are tuition and fees for this cycle. We will do our absolute best, which are scholarships we have a number of other scholarships as well. Hopefully it will not be your price to pay. Just be thinking about it in terms of the timeline. Scholarship party deadline for the cycle is March 15. We encourage a lot of you are all of you to apply sooner than later. If you're waiting on LSAT scores, just submit your application will get the score it'll come to us if you take it January or February. Just keep that in mind. We want to make sure that we can get the most amount of students that are qualified for admission to get the scholarship that will help offset the costs. Stetson has a multitude of elective offerings. I will go to the mall. One of the most offerings of any school in the country. If you have time go on the website and spend little time and see what type of offerings they have. You want to make sure you have identified such classes in your interest and we can check with the registrar to find out when those we offered. When you have elected offerings as well. That was just kind of a quick overview of the last incoming class but it was really impressive. I ran into a couple of students that had just walked into the office, they were getting ready for exams and going through exams. They were enjoying it immensely. Kind of the fun part of the job is to check in with students. It is a very personable school and culture. For those of you that driving that kind of culture where people, you feel people care about you and take it just in your life and help you get where you want to go. That is what we believe we have created here. So, if there's something that works well with you, you cannot succumb to Stetson and hide! Because we will flush you out. What is going on where you going what are your plans? That is just, everyone will know you. And you know, you can get involved as much as you want. You cannot come here and sort of, hide in the shadows. We will try and bring out the absolute best in all of you! As you launch your legal careers. Do we want to take any questions in between or shift right into just the application process right now? >> Let's shift the application instructions. We should be able to get through this quickly. Then we will take some questions.

>> Okay, we will shift back and forth and share as we both been in this profession a very long time. We lots of -- ask the tough questions as well. If you have things and you want to kind of, you know, put them in the chat or just prepare them at the end, we will try and make sure we go through all of those. Okay. I found it.

>> Okay, perfect. Okay, we see it. Slideshow? Perfect!

>> Okay.

>> Very nice!

>> Okay so,

>> Is it not on the bottom right?

>> Of course not!

>> Just hit enter.

>> We do not see the arrow.

>> On the keyboard.

>> Gotcha! Okay.

>> What is with that squiggle?

>> I don't know! Ignore those we are just adding some decorations. [LAUGHTER]

>> Okay so, is a pretty standardized process for the different perspectives we can maybe provide as law school admissions officers. Everyone has their own set of individual set of facts. But these are the standard things and some get tripped up in different areas but we can hopefully address some of those things too. The law school admissions Council, www.lsac.org, given to the website is the parent organization for anyone ADA accredited law school in the country. You are required to go to that. Right administering the LSAT will get to that moment. But you also set up what you call your credential assembly service account. In a nutshell it's really just an online account that you establish with them to follow in components of the application. And one bucket is full when you have all the components of your application. Whatever law schools will apply to. On average people applied to six or eight law schools some less and some more. It can be an expensive process. You know, for those of you, will send out waivers, application waivers bed when that intensity. Make sure that you wait and retouch our office. Make sure that you establish this. You do not have to set up your account when you first get started with things. But shortly thereafter, you certainly can because as things become available to you, you want to make sure that upload there. Also www.lsac.org has a multitude of resources. You want to be sure that you spend time there and adjust all the distant possible scenarios and people coming first generation, first initial losses and lots of diversity kind of, implementation and help your law school. Spent time in the website. You will register at the website to also take the LSAT. I don't know what happened there. Let me try again.

>> I'll just add that the CAS process, while it seemed like a daunting task it does help consolidate all of your information into one location. Like Darren said, most applicants are planning to six or eight you

know, or more law schools. And so, rather than submitting transcripts or letters of recommendations to each of the schools, individually, this does give you an opportunity to have everything sort of assembled in one place. Identify the schools that you want to receive your report. And then, they sort of collect and disseminate to all of those schools. It does, it is daunting but it does take away some of the work that would be back in the day, you had to send everything to each school. So I definitely consolidate the process quite a bit. You are sharing again we see it.

>> Is it sharing, you can all see it?

>> We do. I do! [LAUGHTER]

>> I know you've seen this a million times.

>> I think everyone sees it.

>> Okay good! We did address the application then. Am I correct?

>> I was talking about the CAS. The application for admission, it is available once you log into your CAS, your LSAC account you should be able to start processing and have that applied button show up to apply directly to Stetson. But we also provide you the actual URL. This allows you to submit your application to the online portal. Identify the what the report said to Stetson. Application is pretty standard, similar to most of the questions you would experience with other law schools applications, you know we are asking a lot of demographic information and education information, work experience information. Are you a first generation law student, first generation college student? We ask you to let us know what your interest areas are at this point in time. Knowing that it might change but what are you most interested in at this point? We also ask you to identify, schools you're considering, and we ask that you attach personal statement. I think those are the tabs that will come next. Personal statement, resume, you could also attach addendum' if you want to provide a statement or if you have something that you like to explain and there is a lot of places to do in the actual application for you could do in the addendum. That would be compiled to complete the actual resume. A personal statement, also, if you answered yes to any questions, those are things that are about academic conduct, or any criminal violations including driving if you answer yes to any questions you want to include a response that articulates, how it's resolved, if it was a ticketing situation, how it was the dissolution of that incident or case. If it was a conduct issue, what was the corrective requirement and did you complete it? Those are the items that we would look for in the application. Submission.

>> And to build on that, the actual application is written by attorneys, right? You complete and sign and date date it. If everything is accurate and correct to the best of your ability. If you're ever in doubt at any point about what you should include or whatnot, always silent over including then withholding. I've seen time and time again, what we do here, as part of the admission packet is Dean certification form. That is where we will verify with your school, if there's any type of violation of student conduct code. Any type of, you know, anything for undergraduate or graduate school. But typically we check for undergrad. With that. Our questions are very sort of, carefully crafted to encompass everything! Just because maybe, when a situation where there was an issue with an assignment, and somehow, something come up with a faculty member. And they give you zero, did it for like it was your own authentic work. And handling internally. Do not feel that just because it was internally, that is only going to stay internal. I think it is in your best interest, sometimes is not so much what you didn't

disclose, is the fact that you did, didn't disclose it in the application which becomes sort of a integrity issue for us. If you're ever having a question, even if it's something, it will just be between you and I. Inevitably, something comes up. And it will come back to bite you. I have seen it happen and happen to many times. It is very unsettling for students. Especially when launching a career. If you have any questions about character or how far you need to go back, these questions are asked because they are pretty much the exact questions you will get on the bar. So keep that in mind. Read the questions carefully. I know you have a lot of things to read while in law school. But make sure you read this really carefully. And transcripts. From some of you, and have started undergrad and right out of high school you kind of started a new program and then you started in a community college or earn a degree, did a study in Spain. Every one of those transcripts is required to complete your actual application. Even though they might be on your final University of Florida or Florida State transcript or otherwise, we will need all of those transcripts as part of your application and the process. And Maria has been here long time as well, she's very good and will ask for everything she needs. If you need things the application she will let you know and she will make sure that she gets application process as quickly as possible, she's very good at what she does. When in doubt submit all the transcripts very undergraduate school ever attended given that we need an undergraduate degree for you. Anything else you want to add?

>> No, did you mention graduate transcripts?

>> I did mention graduate transcripts. Also keep in mind transcripts, some of you might have taken a class. If you're taking a class and you took it the first time got an C, then took it again in you got an A. Even though your University of Florida transcript GP will reflect the A, they would take the average of the two grades. So most likely you have a B. they do this for almost all it will be all the transcripts for anyone applying to law school. It's a standard process. You may see little difference between the undergraduate transcript GPA versus the LSAC calculated transcript. Just know, there could be a little bit, if you do have that sometimes, a lot of times it happens during COVID, just know that the B one change in GPA but the F will. I'm not exactly sure what the impact will be but it will make a difference. But the key will not appear just to be clear and we've seen a lot of people obviously.

>> We have.

>> COVID people.

>> During the pandemic for sure. Thank you for adding that.

>> Yes of course. Want to touch on the recommendation?

>> Yeah so, we asked for one letter of recommendation with our application. The submission but you can submit up to three. I think when we typically see two or three letters for most applicants. These days. Your first letter, you definitely want to make sure your primary, quality primary letter of recommendation. The first one, it is from an academic reference. If you're able to ask a professor or instructor or someone who is actually you know, had you in a class or two and then able to really observe your work, and your classroom experience. Those are the best recommenders to seek out for the primary letter of recommendation. For letter number two, or number three, if you wanted to you know, ask an employer or someone that you worked with, in a more of a community service capacity or leadership capacity, on campus or off. It would certainly be fine to ask does recommenders to submit the second or third letter. But we really want to see at least one letter from an academic reference,

someone has taught you in a class or two or more. And would really can speak to your work in your classroom experience. And your recommendation letters are also going through the CAS service. The way it's organized, you indicate who you have asked to submit a letter or who your plan to ask to submit a letter of recommendation. You put the information in the system and that triggers LSAC to submit an email to the person, indicating that you have listed them as a recommender. It provides them some instructions on how to submit their letter of recommendation to LSAC. They were not, being tasked with collecting the letter from them and uploading it yourself or anything like that. It is a process that is communicated through and with LSAC in the process. Letters of recommendation are a big part of how we get to know you. Obviously, your personal statement is a starting point where you are telling us you tell us about yourself your background experience and interests, why you're interested in law school. What you envision as your career after law school. But the letters of recommendation give us another person's story, about you and the experience. So it helps us to have just a broader understanding of your background and experience. We really do take the time to review those letters of recommendation as they are a critical part of the application review process.

>> Absolutely. I was just going to say little but also with letters of recommendation. When you set that up, you don't actually get to see the letters. When you have conversations with anyone that has agreed to write a letter of recommendation, be sure to ask them if they can write you a letter of recommendation. A good letter recommendation! You should have an idea of what you want them maybe to touch on. I would keep a formal process for this. You know, don't give them endless amounts of time but give them a deadline. A reasonable timeline. But also, have an idea of the things that you want included in the letter of recommendation. So they can choose whatever they would like. It should be a surprise to you. You know, I've had good letters of recommendation, but some are really exceptional. You can really tell that this particular faculty member or boss or community leader, it could be someone who is an attorney that you grew up with or whatever. You can always tell when someone really knows the person. You know you get something from the governor of Florida that has three sentences. It tells us nothing. I can tell you don't know them. You're far better off to choose someone who genuinely knows you, and maybe has a lesser title than you would try to get someone with a huge title, that really doesn't know you at all because I really think that they can write a letter that is far more advanced than one that is marginal. Really think about that if you questions about deciding how to choose to write a letter, we can talk you through that. You don't want to be in a situation where it is not helping you. You want to make sure it is extremely strong. You'll get to law school or Stetson under letter recognition but to make a difference between you getting admitted and being on the waitlist are being put on the waitlist versus being denied. I would love to see what people are respected in the letter of recommendation where they say, I've had Kelly in three classes in my undergraduate in my time at whatever university. And she's improved every single time, she's in the top 50 percent of the students I ever taught in my 20 years of history. Especially if you have that type of student experience. Those are really, I noticed those things. I do think faculty members particularly write that... Manually true. And it says a lot. It is important. It's been difficult during COVID to get to know faculty members. I think a lot of you are challenged. But if you're place to go to law school or professional school, making concerted effort to go meet people. And even planted the seed early on in your undergraduate education. It is really well done, you will happy to see that come through on your behalf. Personal statement. The other part is a personal statement and some will find that it is a little bit of an overwhelming thing. Our question, some do and some don't -- see what they're asking for. Our

statement asks you, why would like to go to law school? Why do you want to be an attorney? And it can be really sort of a compelling heart of the application. Because we can see the standardized, but is one of the areas that I really try and get a real handle on who you are as an applicant. And using that conjunction with everything else. So, use it as a way to convey to us, you know, maybe you just decided you want to go to law school. Some people have wanted to go to law school for a long time. Just do not start your personal statement with, for as long as of known I've always wanted to go to law school. I read that recently, I think it is overdone. Even though it may be the case I don't think it's a good way to write a personal statement with that first sentence. I feel it is just an overdone. You don't need to Google how to write a personal statement is unnecessary for your writing why you want to go to law school. And hopefully you thought about it. Hopefully, you really sort of, delved into white and jog your memory about, when did this happen? What are the things that did happen that are continuing to propel me? Sometimes it's a matter of trial and error. You started in undergraduate and shifted because you had access to, I don't know, some type of prelaw program that really excited you. Or maybe you had a series of injustices happen to you. In recent years I think a lot of young people coming out of college, they really feel the value of a J.D. a problem-solving degree, there's a lot of -- they can see how they can help advocate and advancing interest advocate for others. I see a lot of personal statements about people wanting to assist others that don't have a voice, whatever your reasons are, share with us. Use your writing center at the school, have a couple of people you trust with their writing and grammatical skills to make sure everything is polished. Do not leave another law school name in this personal statement. Do not do that. Because it is annoying. And it seems careless. It doesn't necessarily disqualify you, but if you are borderline candidate, I don't know, maybe one of the things you never know. Before you press send, make sure you have exactly what you want. It is so hard to get that point, do not send another law school personal statement to the wrong law school because I can tell you, is a real pet peeve for law school admissions officers. It is not fun to see and we wonder, did they really mean this for somebody else? And it's like really does this apply to us? Don't do that to yourself. Because he worked so hard to get to this point. You just want to make sure you shine on all levels on the application. If you're just brainstorming, right a few things down. Start brainstorming and thinking about little things. I people that have experiences, they saw injustices going on with young women and overseas and getting access to legal, legal advice and just things that they never knew existed in the world. I highly encourage you all to really jog your memory because you're putting together personal statements. I don't think you really need to focus too much on quotes from other people and staff. Use that real estate for things up real estate or personal thoughts. You can be inspired by things. But leave it in. We've those things in. It can be really powerful part of your application. Did you want to comment a little bit?

>> I would, everything you said, make sure that it is your authentic voice. We don't have an opportunity to do personal interviews. And so, we really do rely on the personal statement and the contents of the application. To better know you. So, as much as you can, relate to us you know, your authentic voice through that writing process. It is very helpful. In our process of getting to know you. I would agree, big fluffy quick to take up a lot of real estate, not necessary if you know, obviously there's a short quote then it's meant something to you, kind of if it was your life mantra and were sharing that in order to articulate a point to the admissions committee, that certainly is fine. But we really do want you to use that space to share. To share your story.

>> Good. Just quickly hit another resume. It is optional for us. I really think that it's important part of your application. Some of you worked during undergrad. Some of you did not have to work. I had to work during college. You know it's just the way it was but, sometimes, you know, people deal with a lot of different experiences. Don't feel you have to do legal internship before you go to law school. Don't feel you have to go all these things on the resume in order to be competitive. If you're working, sometimes people are service sometimes people get to work at a law firm. All are helpful but it helps put everything into perspective you have dates and times it helps you sort of given good overview to write it down on paper. Make sure that you do. Have an idea of all the things you have accomplished and perspective. If you are working during undergraduate education, keeping a full-time course load and keeping 3.75 GPA in a really good school and put down the number of hours that you do. That's helpful to us. If you're able to maintain those grades juggling everything you do, you have good time management all those things. Don't not put those things in their. It is really helpful in terms of our perspective of reading these. Highlighting awards, we put that you could highlight awards too but I like them, you can probably expand on those things. While in law school. And it is also, one of those things where we look at the resume, we see the things that you can bring in, some of you have had a multitude of experiences you brought, learning about people different from yourself. We tried to build the class, when we met you, we are doing it with the idea of would be what the person in this classroom? And so when you are admitted, enjoy our message to you. Yes, we would like you in the class knowing that you have lots of options. All of you likely will. The resume, put together this it will help when you do bar application and times and dates. Those things become part of your licensing process too. The more time you spend at the front end with the resume and getting that, it is. But again it is optional and highly recommended.

>> I said no then started talking. The only thing I would add is that we are often asked if the resume should be consolidated into one page, I get the question all the time. About the length of the resume. And I think it happens because certain players or job publications do require that you have an abbreviated resume format. That is the case for our purposes. You know, if the resume is a couple of pages long is totally fine. Particularly if you're expanding its own areas to highlight things like when Darren suggested the number of hours that you work per week. I have seen where applicants indicate accomplishments under each work experience. You know that you increase sales or you know, you improve the process. That will lengthen the resume, I just wanted to add that.

>> Good. And so lastly, then we will shut down. The agenda. Some people need those and some people don't. Don't feel because it's there is a possibility that you have to do it. You don't. But some people need a little bit of extra space to give us context, to maybe explain his circumstance. If you have some type of misdemeanor, you have some student conduct violation or criminal violation. We will require an addendum. Those are required. We will need that, you have to explain circumstances etc. Be very forthcoming with that with an addendum. But it's also good to give us context if you are you know, if you switched majors for example. Maybe started as a stem major and now you're on the social science program. There might be a differential or something. I think that could be helpful to highlight. In those circumstances. Other type of addendum is, if you had a legal absence from something. If you left undergraduate for whatever reason. Or suspended her education for whatever reason. Maybe just a short sense. If we see any type of grade word trend or switch schools, we will see that on the report we submit your application from LSAC we will see that. It is better for you to explain things and some people think it is you know since we don't seal it that we, it is like, just explain the circumstances. Some

people had really bad experiences taking the digital LSAT because of you know, the University had troubles. So they had to take it again. I think it's okay to use it for that context. Don't feel you can't. That is an area we can share stuff that is not otherwise has a natural part of the application than any other component, is your application, you want it to genuinely sort of, I guess highlight in depth, everything that you have to offer in this application. feel free to use us as part of the application but don't feel you have to have an addendum. It is not always required. [INAUDIBLE] That was a lot expert application fees, may she requested waivers from us. You can always email law admit.

>> Will always automatically send waivers.

>> And you know, of course we already have amendments. Will let you know if you need an amendment if something was not, if we need further explanation and require certain things but we'll get to that on a case-by-case basis in that instance. I think that might be it. We still have people here!

>> Yeah. We I think, you know, instead of stopping right now to answer questions, I want to allow Heidi to move through her financial aid notes and talking points. Then we will take questions at the end for admissions and financial aid. We are a little bit past time, 1:37 PM, Heidi was supposed to be finished but no so, -- I think this is a record for you!

>> It's a good thing.

>> I promise, I can make this very thorough and brief. Fear not! We will do this real quick.

>> Okay but don't feel like you have to rush.

>> Absolutely not! And you can always reach out to the financial aid office via the phone, email, virtual counseling if you want a 101 session. This is some really relevant information, I can go through quickly. It's very thorough and we can ask questions after.

>> Our assistant director for student financial planning. Heidi, your seven years, right? Did I get that right?

>> Seven years.

>> Okay I didn't give you an additional year like Darren. [LAUGHTER]

Go ahead.

>> Let's get started. If you received financial aid is underground you are familiar with the process. The end all financial aid is the FAFSA, you couldn't do it online@studenta.gov. The 23 – 24 is available, you can do it this weekend and knock it out and not worry about for the following year because of something you have to submit every year. Just make sure that when you are on the FAFSA, you add Stetson College of Law. That is different from Stetson University. Make sure we at schools, do that. Our school code is make sure you select the College of Law. If you plan on taking the loan, you need loan counseling and master promissory north or notes depend on how many different loans you accept. These can also be completed at studentaid.gov. Once we receive your FAFSA we get your letter of eligibility and we send you an offer letter. It will tell you everything you are eligible for. It will include fellowships you offered, as part of the admissions process. It will also detail the additional steps you need to take to show that financial aid disperses in a timely manner. These letters typically go out late

February, early March. So, if you kind of started stressing about where to find the financial aid offer letter we haven't said the top. Look for those closer March. We don't have our cost of attendance for 23 – 24 yet. We anticipate that in the next couple of weeks. This is our current budget. And this is an example of a full-time J.D. student. You can see by semester and year. The current cost of attendance for the year is \$70,592. That can seem like an excessive amount of money, but when you really think about it, only \$48,542 is a tuition. One way to look at it, and we can take it by one semester. One semesters worth of tuition is only \$24,271 plus fees, your total fixed cost is \$24,519. Let's say you got a \$20,000 scholarship coming in, be \$10,000 per semester. If you deduct the \$10,000 scholarship, your fixed cost per semester is \$14,519. That is significantly better than the big overall cost of attendance. What that \$70,592 for the year demonstrates, if you've taken a difference between the tuition for the year, subtract it from the cost of attendance, difference is what we offer for living expenses. Now in terms of living expenses, you want to come up with a budget, a monthly budget. It is what typically tell students to do. Rent and utilities, car payment, groceries, add it all up for one month. And multiply that by nine Ray Nunberg budget for the following spring. Then only borrow that amount that you need. Try to come under a budget, don't try to accept the full 70,000. Try to come up with a budget, come under budget, and only accept what you need. A good thing to know is that if you only accept what you need and then later on in the semester, you think, any more money, you can always reach back out to us and we can disperse the additional funds that you asked for. Once you admitted, when she received the admin packet and receded your FAFSA and offer letter, you can go into my Stetson account, check of their unsatisfied requirements. For your financial aid under the financial aid dashboard. You can view and accept financial aid offer and you can also check the billing statement. Outstanding balance, this will all be detailed in your offer letter that we send you, once we start mailing those out. Let's talk a little about the types of aid starting with scholarship. Darren has already talked to about merit-based scholarships. Those are water through the admissions office as part of the admissions process. Here it Stetson, we also have operative 200 endowments that we award. We are currently in the throes of the process and it is astounding, how much money we are awarding. You can actually go to our website and see the full list. I think that we have a few more out there but you can see the full list and the requirements for the funding. The application for the endowed scholarships, the notification typically goes on in October. Scholarships are awarded for the following spring semester and students must reapply for those every year. You don't want to limit yourself to what Stetson has to offer you. You want to search for any outside opportunities. Your employer, you know, any civic organizations that you might belong to. And we do have several search engine, scholarship search engines on our website including that from access life that we partner with the has their own law student search engine. We link that on our website. Continue on with the types of aid, as a graduate student, you're looking at loans are no grants of the graduate level only loans and unsubsidized. Which means the only loans graduate students are eligible for, are those loans that interest begins to accrue once the funds dispersed but there are two types of loans. There is a direct Stafford unsubsidized loan and the direct graduate plus unsubsidized loan. Both are federal student loans. Both of these have the same federal student borrower benefits. The only difference between the two is, the interest rate, so this year the interest rate is for the Stafford direct loan is 6.54 percent in the direct graduate plus loan it is 7.54 percent. The other difference between these two loans is that the graduate plus requires a credit check. That is done by the department of education. Once we begin originating loans. Keep that in mind. But again, both are federal student loans, both have the same borrower benefits, to include a six month grace period after graduation. Before you go to repayment. The different income-based repayment

plans, standard repayment plans options and the option to go to forbearance, if you went into financial difficulty after graduating. And then going to repayment. Also, bright futures. For students who went to high school in the state of Florida, you may be eligible for one semester of bright futures at the graduate level. And in order to receive bright futures at the graduate level, you could not have used your full eligibility of your Florida bright futures as an undergraduate meeting must have graduated in seven or fewer semester hours or 105 credit hours or less. You must have graduated high school no more than five years prior to starting graduate work and if you have the remaining eligibility, just know that you can only get it for one semester and Italy pays up to 15 credit hours at the undergraduate rate, depending on whether you receive cloud academic or Florida endowment scholarship. Some of you may indicate on the FAFSA you like to be considered for work-study. Work-study is a fund from the department of education, that pays the students wages if they find a part-time job on campus. You may come if you indicate that you would be interested federal work study, you may see that as an offer on your offer letter. Don't expect that to disperse. Again it is something that you earn where your paycheck is drawn from. They will not disperse and you will not get the money in front in other words. If you have already submitted your FAFSA company did not indicate you want work-study but just happened to find a part-time job on campus, can you always reach back to the office and we can determine your eligibility and post the award at a later date, no problem. Her couple of veterans questions for academic purposes. Just know if your veteran student, we have a veterans certified veterans coordinator on the campus. Her name is Jennifer Cobb, and she can be reached directly at jcobb@law.Stetson.edu or just call the financial aid office directly, and we can put you through to her. Florida prepaid. If your parents have a college savings plan you have remaining funds in that plan they want to apply towards her graduate work, you can do that. It is actually something that is set up through our business office and you would just reach out to them. Their contact information is up here now. Talk to them directly. They will get you set up for your Florida prepaid to apply toward your tuition. So, disbursement and bookstore advances. About 2 to 3 weeks prior to the start of the semester, the bookstore opens up what is called the bookstore advance purchase program. Students who had pending financial aid to go into the bookstore to purchase their books. Anything they charge over the bookstore will automatically be deducted from their financial aid disbursement. And that happens every semester. Just know that we disperse 10 days prior to the start of each semester. What happens is, we disperse 10 days prior to the start of the semester, anything a student owes the University such as tuition fees and anything they charged over the bookstore. It will undoubtedly be deducted from your financial aid disbursement and any remaining funds after that, will be sent to you via check or we highly recommend getting set up for direct deposit. The funds left over that we send the direct deposit are funds that you use for your living expenses. Again, all of this information will be detailed in your offer letter. How to get set up direct deposit, bookstore advance information, don't feel like you have to know all of this right now. And again, you can always reach out to us directly if you have questions. Your next step, what to look out for, make sure you read all emails sent not only by the college of law but specifically, the office of student financial planning. The 23 – 24 FAFSA is already available. Go to studentaid.gov and submit that now if you haven't already. Once you are admitted, we do not package students until after they've been admitted. If you haven't been admitted yet, it's okay, go ahead and submit your FAFSA so you don't have to more about it once a bit about when you are admitted we send you the offer letter. Once admitted, once you receive the offer letter reviewed information and then make sure you log into your my Stetson account and follow the steps outlined in the letter. Otherwise, that was the nitty-gritty, quick down and dirty of financial aid! It is a lot. You

know, I do not expect you to get everything all at once. You can contact us at email, phone, we also have virtual counseling sessions that you can set up through the link on our website. But hopefully this is helpful. I think at this point, I'm out of breath from going so fast! [LAUGHTER] But I think we are ready to take any questions at this point that you have. Whether it is for Darren or the financial aid office.

>> Go ahead and catch her breath. It looks like McKenzie was the first to raise her hand. Go ahead, McKinley.

>> Hi! I have a question in regards to admission. I was just wondering how the admissions Council kind of ways the graduate GPA in comparison to the undergraduate GPA when reviewing your application.

>> Heidi, you can stop sharing, if you want. You can take your screen down. The graduate transcript is, the admissions committee is going to look at the graduate transcript as they are reviewing your academic credentials. We don't record and report the graduate GPA, but we certainly do look to graduate GPA as an indication of how well you performed in a graduate or professional school setting. So, I always tell applicants that it adds value, it certainly does add value to my review process and Darren would agree and admissions committee members would as well. If you complete a graduate degree, we do want to see that transcript. It is a helpful part of the process of evaluating your academic credentials. Even though, LSAC does not require, is not required as part of your reporting. We do want to see that graduate work. A lot of times, what we are seeing, a very strong performance in graduate school, and we want the committee to be made aware of that. That strong performance. Darren, are you adding something there? Go ahead.

>> No, I think that's all good.

>> Okay!

>> Thank you.

>> You're welcome. I think Aaron is next.

>> Thank you. Are we able to shadow a current student?

>> Shadow.

>> Like --

>> Shadowing a student? We certainly have people that will want to come to visit the law school. And maybe sit in on a class. That will allow you to sort of get an idea of what it is like. Have you ever had somebody that was a friend that came along to a class that maybe was confirmed by the professor and then you are coming or something like that? Those are individually done. But if you want to come and experience like, what it is like to sit in on a class. Usually we have a multitude of options. We highly encourage anyone that wants to sort of experience what that would be like, to see how people interact with the professors, how they interact with one another and what questions. You know it is not everyone just sitting there, concerned about getting called upon in the experience. I know some of the faculty members have sort of a get out of jail free think. You can cash in your chips if you have read the required reading and we still have no idea what you're talking about. You say don't call me to have no idea what this is about. You know, those type of things. But you know, I think I can get you a start. If

you know somebody at the school, a friend in law school, you might want to check with them and see if they will allow you to tag along. Maybe you know somebody at Stetson and you can check with the faculty member. But typically, anyone coming to campus always goes to the office of admissions. We are kind of the first point of contact. Just keep that in mind. It might offer up a good insight you know, what that experience would look like. A lot of people have never even cover the don't even know anyone in law school, let alone ever sat in a law class or anything.

>> I think another thing to add there, is that our tours, our campus tours are given by students. Stetson ambassadors. So, if you're looking for an opportunity to you know, pick a students brain or you know, ask them the tough questions about why they chose to go to law school, why they chose Stetson, you could do that during the campus tour. Hopefully, that allows you more of the insight that you are looking for. The campus tour, a class visit, you know, those should allow you to get some real insight of a current student.

>> Also, even as you come to law school you're matched up with a mentor. An upper-class person too, so that's a double way. A lot of mentorships as you enter law school, certainly affiliated with Stetson. You have an alumni mentor, faculty mentor, higher upper-class people. Upper-class students. You are also getting that experience as well. Then you have the class section. Will we did by the incoming class to three sections. You will find your section with resources as well. There are lot of touch points with that too. Come to the event, it will take a lot of things. Always willing to have a conversation.

>> Evelyn is next. Go ahead.

>> Can you hear me? It is very crowded where I'm at. If I need to relocate, just let me know.

>> We can hear you.

>> I just wanted to make sure! This is more about the application itself in regards to addendum and fitness questions. I would have an addendum that I've written 72 schools due to health complications in my undergraduate career. But I know that in Stetson character and fitness part of the application, there are questions academic discipline. The school that I'm currently attending, has a policy of academic probation.? If you GPA falls below certain threshold, you're automatically put on it. But is not a disciplinary action. So, I wasn't sure if on the applications, that a question of the character and fitness that I need to answer yes to? Because it is technically probation? Or if there's something I can say no to because it is not disciplinary action. And I know if I were to write an explanation for it, it would be basically rewording my addendum which already have. I wanted to get a perspective on that.

>> I would say, if your transcript reflects academic probation, if there's any notation on the transcript, that indicates probation, you should answer yes and provide that. If your transcript does not show that as a probation like you are suggesting, you know, that would be the gray area to perhaps, not answer the question as yes. But even then, I would still encourage you to provide an addendum that outlines exactly.

>> Yeah!

>> Okay.

>> You said that if the probationary situation like they --

>> They call it academic probation, but you're automatically placed on it if your GPA falls below a certain threshold. It is not considered a disciplinary action, in speaking to the people at my university, it was processed through a different department. In my case, I spent I think it was fall of 2019, I spent the whole week before finals that semester in the hospital. And this is all detailed in the addendum I'll be submitting. I wasn't sure if that is something because it is not a disciplinary action, it is something you need to include a separate statement for. Because I statement will just rehash pretty much everything that is already in my addendum.

>> Okay yeah because actual question on the application. It asks have you ever been a probation? It is part of one of the questions it asks. In the sort of hole disclosure, if you sort of are rebounding from there for whatever reason, it's always better to over share the not. These things are typically not -- [INAUDIBLE] Thank you. Kayla, I think you're up.

>> Thank you so much!

>> You're welcome.

>> Thank you. First of all, thank you for doing that virtually. I'm from Jacksonville and I visited Stetson, my friend was there and I love the campus, and I have a full-time job I will have the time? I'm super grateful for this. My question is a short one. Say someone is maybe going to apply today, or in the next couple of days. What can someone expect, when can someone expect to hear back from you guys?

>> Yes all common terms of the turnaround time, I think I mentioned a little bit earlier, the storms impacted our law school more than any other law school in the state. But it doesn't mean that we are not expediting. We have been sort of evaluating and trying to catch up we know the people are waiting for a decision. We tell people it could be up to like six or seven weeks. By the time you apply. Our goal is certainly to get them out faster than that. The good thing is, Freddie would maybe not applying for like early decisions, established until April 1. You still have time. What kind of word over the overview on credentials, some people have some idea how competitive they are. But then you want to see we will send an email first and you know, with the decision then follow up. We have been getting them out. Once we get into this, we have sort of done or recruiting because we are on the road a lot. Now we are sort of fully into reading. And maybe with the holiday we will do more. To get decisions out to all.

>> Just to add to that, one of the things it also happens Kayla, when we communicate with you at checkpoints. We communicate what we receive your application. We communicate if it is incomplete, we communicate when it is complete and going to the committee for review. At the point it is to the admissions committee, the email notification will share with you the anticipated timeline for you to hear back from that point in time. Okay?

>> Okay, sounds great! Thank you so much.

>> And like Darren said, we are trying to go faster but we are also trying to maintain a quality review.

>> Right.

>> Good! Trevor, I think you are up.

>> Thank you for putting this on. For people who have Artie submitted but did not think about an academic addendum, my major was mostly graduate-level work. At an undergraduate level. Just the

way the major was structured, it had a lot of dual graduate students and undergraduates in the same class. But it was all graduate-level work regardless. How would you go about submitting the addendum post submitting an application?

>> There addendum was, I just say quickly. Identities can be added at any point. Especially in the process. If you find that you submitted your application Trevor, and he wanted to add something, you can always just send it directly to us. We can upload it to your application, especially if everything is in the CAS report. People will do that, sometimes are updates to people applications they've already submitted. Maybe you receive something and you want to let us know that you received a high academic award or something like that. We are okay with those you can always send them through the main admissions account which would be in the chat. But you can always send it to us and we can make sure that we get it through the process as well. We are pretty accessible. You'll notice is differences as you can make it with different offices. Some are little easier to contact. We want to make sure that fully represents you and if you have something to add after the fact, just let us know and we will make sure to add it.

>> That was it. Emailing us, you can send that and our staff will attach it to your application.

>> Thank you.

>> Briana, you are next.

>> Thank you for taking the time to speak with us. I was wondering if you could elaborate a little more we said that we split into three different classes or groups. How is that determined I guess? What is the basis for the groups? Or is it just minimize?

>> We decided to bring in this year, 240 full-time students. That's our goal. one section on its own we do provide part-time, that is your cohort. Then with the full-time, we will divide that into three individual sections. You will have 75 to 80 students per section. And you can stay with that section for your year. We get to legal research and writing classes, you have one and two. Legal research will be divided in half. Even though you will be in a larger group for some of you, the legal research writing classes get divided in half. It is a little more personal. we want to make sure that everyone gets that level of attention in their 1L foundation classes. But they are random. You will be registrars office, is actually pretty much over that and they will just put three groups together. There is no understanding of all the scholarships in one class, we don't do any of that. They are randomly done. And as a full-time student you plan to be art with a full-time job. I always tell people 8 to 5, you have classes during that time constantly you could have a day off but just plan for that in your 1L your. It could be very different to M3 but in the 1L year, don't plan to do anything other than that. It is such a pivotal year. We want to make sure that you are there. But you don't really have any say, Briana. But they're all good.

>> And that is just for the full first year? You are in the classes with that section? And then is just anybody for the second and third year?

>> Yeah, you have a chance to take elective classes. Some people go concentration track and some people do something different. There's a multitude of different tracks that people take after that. We have plenty of time, in your 1L your we are trying to make sure that you are having a direction and what you're doing and have what we sort of put in front of you for the most part. And then after that you can have opportunities that you choose. Okay?

>> Okay, thank you.

>> Emily, you're up.

>> Hi, I will add myself to the list of many thank yous. I have the opportunity to visit the Gulfport campus, and it is beautiful! Can you speak maybe to the amenities and resources of the Tampa campus?

>> The Tampa, can you hear me? The Tampa campus is sort of a best-kept secret. I think, in a lot of ways. Our Tampa campus is located in downtown Tampa. It is close to federal building courthouses and whatnot. It allows students who are doing internships and externships, clinics to have a real easier access to those areas. Our part-time students, during the first year, or at the Tampa law center so that population of students uses the Tampa campus pretty regularly. It is a beautiful campus, it is model to look a lot like the Gulfport campus with the tower structure and everything. There is a courtroom there, lots of study spaces, there are classrooms, there is a library section there, there is ample parking the Tampa law center is something that students always say, plenty of parking. And you know, it's managed by, it still has public safety and it has sort of a on-site manager there, the director of special events, the main office is there. So it has an administrative person they are overseeing the facilities. And like I said, it's in close proximity as a lot of things it has a great restaurant, a culture around it, and is one of the highlights students mentioned as well. Darren, anything else to add about the Tampa law center?

>> Really houses mainly our part-time program. As you know that started in 2001. In the Tampa law center. It was built in 2004. It created kind of a legal corridor right there which now has large firms is different there so it's kind of like the pillar of a legal hub that started in downtown Tampa. Hopefully that answers your question.

>> Laura? Next?

>> Hi, thank you this is very helpful and got a lot of information today. Something I had not considered was about academic conduct. Driving interactions, or driving infractions. I don't know how far back you want us to go. I'm an older applicant, only 39 in a few weeks. And in my early 20s I had some driving infractions, should I go back that far?

>> Yes, your whole life comes out when you go into law school. I would side of full disclosure. It is not so much an infraction, it is the enclosure. It is the inclusion of the details. You do not want to ever want to withhold information you want to have a situation with a law school application -- if they find it's more of an integrity thing to talk about. Just fully disclose, driving infractions typically don't keep people out of law school. But it is the withholding that is the integrity thing. That is the thing that really, Stetson is like very strict when it comes to character and fitness. And just disclose it. You should be pulling your DMV record, make sure you understand the student conduct record, your institution, this should be really no surprises for you. You should know everything that is out there. But things could be there by mistake or an error and you should be able to sort of know these things. You don't want things to be surprises for us. Because you know, if something comes out sometimes people remember something and they had to do an amendment to the application that they've already submitted. And so, it's an official amendment that we then have to include. If you don't want to constantly do amendments because it is, it asks you in the application, is this accurate? some people forget being arrested and it's

like really? I've never been arrested, but I think I would remember that. Just make sure that you fully disclose things, pull the DMV records, make sure that there are no surprises.

>> Okay, thank you.

>> Good, I think Christina is next. Victoria I think I accidentally kicked you off. I didn't take you out of queue.

>> Hi, thank you all for the open house. My question is in regards to the end of the fall semester coming up. An application is already been submitted and is in progress and be reviewed. -- should transcript be submitted for the fall semester? Were submitted again?

>> Yeah, we would love to receive that transcript as soon as it is available. If you're able to have that transcript sent to LSAC, they will issue an updated CAS report electronically to us. Okay? The answer your question?

>> Yes, thank you.

>> No problem.

>> By the time you get to that stage your academic life, your grades haven't really changed that much. Unless you have a final semester we have a pretty good idea. Sometimes it can make a difference. Especially if you're admitted, a complete unit scholarship bracket. You want to do it as soon as you can. -- I think you are up. Did Dylan go away? There he is, you are muted. I think, can I unmute him?

>> Hello?

>> Now we can hear you.

>> Okay. Thank you very much for your time. I really learned a lot about not just Stetson, but law school in general. I am like an older applicant. I am five years graduate of the class of 2017. I was wondering if I can get --

>> We lost you there.

>> A letter from a former employer or something because I've been out of undergrad for so long.

>> Your conversation or your question kind of is a little bit unclear but I think if I heard it correctly, your rendering because you're out of school a few years if you're able to not get an academic recommendation, could you use maybe a current employer or somebody? Is that the question?

>> Yes.

>> Of course! Yes you can. I mean, I don't know some people have good relations with faculty and go back five years and still do that but some faculty members move on. We don't even have them at the same institution. If you are not able to after some effort, see if you can, I mean, current employer or if you been volunteering or you have other community leaders that know you and you know your level of professionalism and readiness, although things are fine. Employers can be good. And it's a different perspective and sometimes we get academic, that's really helpful. Also, levels of professionalism and you aren't able to advance yourself because of your skill set those can be valuable to you in terms of a professional letter of recommendation. It would just be another student so, you would just be another

student here. Just do the best you can. If you are unable to do that maybe we can brainstorm about recognitions.

>> Edward Professor willing to do it so I think I'll be all right but I was wondering for the second employer.

>> I think that sounds like a good plan. Make sure you have a conversation with them though. And some things you want them to touch on.

>> Thank you.

>> Okay Dylan.

>> Where Victoria and Sarah. And I think those will be the last two. Victoria?

>> Yes then Sarah's after that.

>> Question, not necessarily about emissions just in general. I was wondering what Stetson does to prepare the students for the bar.

>> We have a very active and engaged office of academic success and bar prep. It is a four or five person, four attorneys and advisors. In the office and coordinator, the person is a corner in the office. They work to engage students as early as the first year. During orientation, you would meet them and during the first semester they have kickoff workshops for students, students to learn about the bar prep process that they offer. They do a lot of programming, lots of workshops throughout the academic year, lots of one-on-one coaching, they are very hands-on, and like I said, they want to engage with students as early as possible. In their bar prep process. You can see, this is more of an uptick from students after they are in their second and third year, when the bar exam becomes more serious to students. But they do preach and advocate that students take advantage of opportunities to do other workshops as early as the first year and to use their resources. They have a ton of resources. Their information is located on our website. If you go to Stetson law and such academic success bar prep you can see all of the different opportunities and resources that they offer. Publicly. You can see that there. We highly encourage students to take advantage of that. As much as you can take advantage of the services that they offer. As long as they have recommendation letter students are highly encouraged to do a supplemental like -- there is multiple sort of prongs to the preparation. The bar preparations so it is kind of slightly anticlimactic. He spent three years in law school, graduate and then you go back to the library for 12 more weeks to make sure you study for the bar. Once we should get through at the very first time. You don't want to be messing around with maybe, getting through half of it and then going back and finish the other half. We traditionally have every sort of strong bar preparation program and passages well. The Florida bar is, there's no reciprocity. You stick to the Florida bar, and so, some states are different, you have to look at configurations. But it is a challenging bar. In a lot of ways we do this to protect -- for graduates of Florida law because it's really easy bar than people would be from all different places. Something to think about as you go about your bar preparation. Thank you for the question. Sarah, you are up.

>> Good afternoon and thank you again for all of the presenters. I appreciate all the information for today. My question is that I am completing my undergraduate coursework this summer. So I am

concerned on being able to submit final grades and be accepted and admitted for fall 2023. Is that possible?

>> Yes, in terms of luck, most traditional students undergrad or applying when they're in their senior year of college. We don't have everyone's complete, would have a complete transcript for anybody. As long as you have been conferred your bachelors degree if admitted by the time you matriculate, and that is completely fine. If you have the spring semester, I was totally do that but there's a lot of people that started the cycle, and back in what September? Depending on when they started. In their senior year, they apply to law school, when the applications open. Whether October or what. A lot of people just have three years of grades, right? They don't even have the first semester grades of their senior year. We're kind of just going on what we have seen you be able to do and achieve while you been undergrad. It is completely fine, we have people that finished and conferred their vouchers week before the actually matriculated law school. The transcript does become available, it shows degree conferral but a lot of you at that point, and this will probably be the be the case with you. In the summer you probably needed letter from the academic team stating that you have satisfied the degree requirements and you'll be officially conferred through the office of the registrar. That's probably what we need. For you, okay?

>> Great, thank you so much.

>> You are very welcome. And I think Alexandra, you're the last question. We will take that. I'm happy everyone stayed around. All 58 of you! Stayed the course, thank you!

>> Thank you. Sorry I came in here at the end real quick. I appreciate of course, you all, it is incredibly helpful. I have a quick question. If you are an applicant that applied last cycle, and you didn't make the cut, aside from taking the LSAT again having more competitive score, have a GPA that you have, is there anything else from the application side that could be more intriguing to the admissions Council? Whether it is, and he said it wasn't necessary to do hours logging with a firm like it doesn't necessarily change a lot of the application. But what else from the admissions side would like meet the applicants, to make them stand out?

>> Yeah, I mean you know, when you think about it is so common that someone applies to law school with was paid last cycle was kind of an anomaly. Because if you recall the previous cycle, was was really intense especially at the beginning because the end of the other previous cycle before that, it was so over-the-top in terms of applicants to law school. Really top applicants were not getting admitted in the cycle so they all applied the beginning of the last cycle so was kind of a avalanche of really good applications. For us too. But you know, haven't really always seen that. So sometimes people, when they apply maybe March or April, which was still be well in a recycle that ends in May. There were people that just were you know put a waitlist because we had no room, we were over at that point. And we had so many extended offers we were worried about being over admitted. I don't know what your situation was but I always tell people to make the application, every component as strong as it can possibly. Authentically do you. Work experience on every level is good. Because I think there's a lot of transferable skills, if you can secure a legal internship while working on a firm, that's great! But those are hard to get. Not everyone gets a legal internship or works at a law firm so don't feel that it is less of an application because you don't have that. But if you feel like you can improve sometimes when grades are done, there's nothing you can do about it so focus on the stuff you can control. Right? And if

that means like strengthening other parts of application, sometimes the LSAT is one of the biggest areas. Sometimes, we are always trying to uphold standards of the brand of law school. For us, we want to make sure it is strong for you but also for current, future students and alum. We want to make sure we are continuing to do the same thing because you have a big investment here, you believe that you have entrusted us with your legal education. We want to make sure that this community and law school always shines. And it is highly respected in the marketplace. So, give us something that you believe is going to make you more competitive. And so, I know the LSAT is not the most fun thing in the whole wide world. But no one is forcing you to go to law school, your choosing to do this. Do what you can. You know their people that really struggle with that task. It is miserable, I get it. But anyone can do anything for a few months, right? If you feel like you are on that path and you need a prep program to help you sort of, maybe bolster a score, I think it is always really helpful. If you feel like a new letter of recommendation could add a little bit more strength your application, then go for it. If you can tweak the personal statement were maybe you can strengthen in other ways. Something happened in the last year that you were able to do something and you would like to use that. I mean, all those things also can strengthen your application. There is no sort of golden ticket. That essay if you do this, then you will win. That probably won't happen. But that is sort of my recommendation for you. Because once you get into law school, but he really cares about any of that. Just another law school student like everybody else here. But just get through you know, just get through, get an opportunity. It is a big deal. It will transform your life and it is worth it. Anyone that is admitted has worked really hard to get here so sometimes you have to -- even when we feel we don't have the strength but hopefully, you feel like maybe you can strengthen some areas. And I highly recommend that.

>> Thank you!

>> I would just add that you know, you can always schedule a one-on-one counseling session with us and we can actually look your application. And give you some feedback as a real applicant. You know on ways in which you can improve it. If it wasn't just as Darren said, typing. You know? Because last year and there before, we had sort of this implosion of applications and we had to turn a lot of folks that would normally have otherwise been admissible. Because we just didn't have additional seats. If it was that that is just a matter of getting the application in early and had a schedule. But if you want to talk through it and we can point to some suggestions, we are happy to do that in a one-on-one counseling session. You can schedule those on the connector thus page. It will connect with us. There is a bookings link and you can schedule a one-on-one counseling session. And the link is in the chat. Thank you!

>> Thank you.

>> All right, we have come to the end. We went a little over.

>> An hour!

>> Now, a half-hour. We figured we would take questions until 2:00 but we did not end the presentations until about 12 minutes until 2:00. Thanks to someone! [LAUGHTER] So, but we are glad that you hung in there that with us.

>> Everyone was very happy with the information according to the chat. We had lots of people here.

>> Yeah. It all worked fine. And we were happy to stay on with you. And get your questions answered! So thank you so much for hanging on with us. Thank you for your questions. They were great! As Darren mentioned, if you have not applied to Stetson, and I know Kayla's work on her application, so that we will be sending an application fee waiver. You know, just as a little thank you for attending today. So watch your inbox for that. And you can use that to apply for 2023 or a future cycle. We really hope that you enjoyed this open house virtually. And that you are able to learn a bit more about Stetson, about our advocacy, training, and certainly about the application process for admission and financial aid. If for any reason we were not able to get to your question, I think we got to most of the chat I know that we were working hard to answer everything the chat. But if we missed a question or you have a question later, we continue to be available to answer questions. Just email us. Again lawadmit@stetson.edu, that is the office handle and we will respond as soon as possible. Click save the day. We tease this a little earlier. On February 25, I don't know why I came out with September but on Saturday February 25, we will be hosting an in person open house. For perspective and admitted students here in the Gulfport campus. Watch your inbox for details. It should be, the program will be scheduled from 9 o'clock until 1 o'clock. And we will have opportunities for you dear for faculty and students, student organizations, staff offices, concentrations, so lots of opportunity to get to know the community and have some additional questions answered. If you are interested in visiting with us before February 25, we will be resuming campus tours and class visits in spring semester. Once we are back after the holiday break, when students are back in session and we have a sense of ambassador availability, we will be setting up our campus tour and class visit schedule. We will send out an announcement and official announcement once we have the tour on the schedule up and running. You will be able to see it and from there, you can schedule a time to come visit us. And as always, if you want to schedule a one-on-one virtual counseling appointment, we can do that. As I said we are happy to meet with you one-on-one. With that, what to say thank you so much. Again, thank you for joining us. We hope this was helpful, big thank you to Darren and Heidi and Mahsa for all of your help hosting the event today. Thank you to all of you for setting aside the time and engaging with us. We'll appreciate it and hope this was as I said, helpful and informative and we want you to enjoy the rest of your day. Goodbye!