Dear Miami Law Alumni and Friends –

We hope that this message finds you and your family and colleagues healthy and well. We know that the COVID-19 pandemic has created unprecedented challenges for everyone, and we would appreciate a couple of minutes of your time and attention.

As you know, six weeks ago, Miami Law fully transitioned to online education in light of the COVID-19 crisis. Our students and faculty rose to the challenge and adjusted to the new electronic teaching and learning platforms as best as we could have expected given the circumstances. In addition to completing traditional courses online, students continued to fulfill their responsibilities to our clinical programs, externship field placements and other experiential offerings in a remote fashion.

As the semester comes to an end, students now are adjusting to the economic uncertainly brought on by the public health crisis and what it all means for their summer employment. In normal times, summer represents an opportunity for first- and second-year law students to gain practical experience and forge important new professional relationships. While some summer opportunities will move forward in a remote fashion, others are no longer possible due to employers’ changed circumstances.

In communicating with students, we hear repeatedly that their top priority is to gain experience, even if in a nontraditional format, and to build their professional networks. Although Miami Law has expanded its summer course offerings and is encouraging the hiring of additional research assistants, we cannot replicate the value brought by experiences with practitioners.

Therefore, we are asking you to consider any employment opportunities you may have for Miami Law students, whether traditional law clerk or intern positions or short-term, virtual opportunities such as research and writing assignments, discovery, trial preparation assistance, client intake or other projects that can bring value to your practice. All opportunities are welcome and helpful. We strongly believe that these opportunities can be mutually beneficial, and we appreciate any effort you can make to assist our students.

To make the process of hiring students as smooth as possible, the Career Development Office is available to discuss opportunities, collect application materials, and coordinate virtual interviews. Please contact Maria Chisholm at mchisholm@law.miami.edu to begin the process.
We look forward to working with you to help our students at this difficult time. We wish you and yours a healthy and safe summer.

With great appreciation,

Anthony E. Varona  
Dean and M. Minnette Massey Professor of Law

Marcelyn R. Cox  
Assistant Dean for Career Development