

THE MESSENGER

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The James Madison Institute

Trusted Solutions for a Better Florida

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President's Message

It has been a tremendous few months for the great State of Florida. Coming off the heels of a 2018 election that saw the Sunshine State buck the leftward trend for the most part, your favorite think tank had ambitious plans to advance liberty for generations. While a couple of our congressional districts moved to the Left, our statewide trajectory continued to trend in a fiscally conservative free-market direction. With so much turnover and so many changes at the state level, 2018 was the most important Florida election of my lifetime.



The million-dollar question, however, was how the new administration would work in collaboration with the legislature. Would there be acrimony? How would the new Governor lead while advancing his priorities? How assertive would the new Speaker and Senate President be with their agendas? With a new Attorney General and Agriculture Commissioner, would there be substantial strategy changes in their respective approaches? So much was left to be answered between January and the start of session in March.

As we survey the landscape post-2019 session, however, there is no way to overstate just how optimistic we should be for the future. In an age in which the “outrage industrial complex” looks for every opportunity to leverage our differences and pit people against one another, I see a different take. While I know our media, and many in the political culture, seek to divide and sow animosity – we are fortunate to have something different here in Florida. I watched as a new crop of legislators arrived this session – 47 new members in the House, alone. And in contrast to seeing bitterness and anger in the 24-7 media environment, our legislature, our Governor, our cabinet members, and our agency heads came together around a common set of goals, debated vigorously, and accomplished a great deal. And

JMI was there every step of the way, educating our elected officials on good policy. Our staff was never more active than they were during the 2019 Legislative Session. Here are a few examples:

- **School Choice** – the legislature passed a major expansion of school choice via the Family Empowerment Scholarship program. Florida continues to be the nation’s leader on this issue.
- **Healthcare** – anticompetitive Certificate of Need (CON) laws, which stifled competition and choice, are now a thing of the past. Florida now has better healthcare access for all citizens because of the removal of CON laws.
- **Homeowner Protection** – nefarious actors and fraudulent assignment of benefits claims will finally be reined in through tort reform. Citizens need no longer fear being taken advantage of, when it comes to their homes, during times of crisis.
- **Criminal Justice** – we have begun to address persistent challenges in our criminal justice system through conservative reforms that both protect public safety and better steward taxpayer funds.

We could say it was a big session for our policy team at JMI, and that’s true. But, more than that, it was a big year for you. Because of your generosity, because of the sacrifices you have made in your time, we have a better Florida today than we did yesterday. While there are always looming challenges to freedom, especially in Florida, The James Madison Institute, because of your support, remains the tip of the spear in the great battle of ideas. In a time in which many wonder whether our children will inherit a better future, we have so much to be hopeful about here in Florida.

I thank you for your support of our efforts, and I am grateful for your commitment to our mission.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Bob McClure". The signature is fluid and cursive.

J. Robert McClure III, Ph.D.



Wall Street Journal columnist Jason Riley addressing a full crowd at the University Center Club during JMI's 2019 Annual Dinner in Tallahassee.



JMI's Board of Directors, spouses, Governor Ron DeSantis, and Jason Riley at the 2019 Annual Dinner in Tallahassee.



JMI supporters and school choice advocates at the 2019 Stanley Marshall Day luncheon.



JMI's Bob McClure participating in a panel on school choice hosted by Florida Citizens Alliance with Neal McCluskey, Dr. Larry Arnn and Erika Donalds.



JMI's Executive Vice President Becky Liner and University of Florida Campus Representative Victoria Brown at Chomp the Vote's first annual Public Policy Day.



Dr. Bob McClure and Education Commissioner Richard Corcoran at JMI's Stanley Marshall Day Luncheon.



Dr. Bob McClure welcoming guests to JMI's Tech Policy Bootcamp event.



JMI's Sal Nuzzo moderating a panel at the Institute's "Frontiers in Healthcare" event on certificate of need reform and dental therapy.

JMI Events AROUND FLORIDA



Dr. Bob McClure, Julie McClure, and Representatives Toby Overdorf and Anthony Sabatini at JMI's 2019 Annual Dinner in Tallahassee.



JMI's Becky Liner welcoming guests to an event with Atlas CEO Matt Warner in Jacksonville, FL.

Influence

Bloomberg

**WALL STREET
JOURNAL**

el Nuevo Herald

BRADENTON HERALD

Florida Daily

**THE
CAPITOLIST**

FLWATCHDOG

Tallahassee Democrat.

**FOX
NEWS
92.5**

Miami Herald

Naples Daily News

News-Press.

Forbes

Newsmax

**Orlando
Sentinel**

SunSentinel

**SUNSHINE
STATE NEWS**

**THE
HILL**

**WASHINGTON
Examiner**

**FLORIDA
POLITICS**

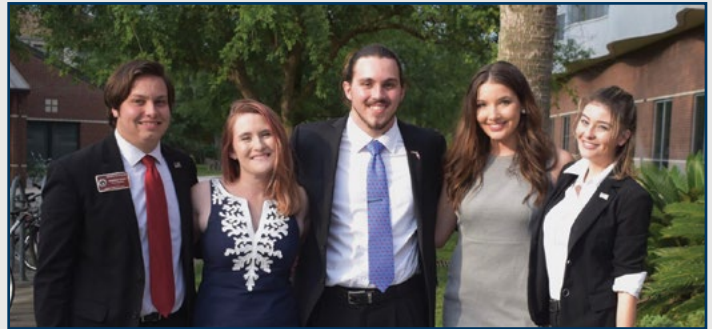
Watchdog.org

**100.7 FM
WFLA
TALLAHASSEE'S TALK RADIO**

Townhall



JMI's Vice President of Policy Sal Nuzzo addressing a crowd at Cato's State Healthcare Policy Summit about innovative healthcare reform and scope of practice



JMI's Campus Representatives, Jordan Foster (Jacksonville University) and Courtland Culver (FSU), were elected to the executive board of the Florida Federation of College Republicans. Jordan (far right) was elected Secretary, and Courtland (far left) was elected Treasurer.



JMI's J. Stanley Marshall Center for Educational Options Director William Mattox testifying on a civics education bill in the Florida House.



Dr. Bob McClure participating in an interview with Jason Riley for Florida Internet and Television prior to JMI's 2019 Annual Dinner in Tallahassee.



JMI's Vice President of Policy Sal Nuzzo speaking at a press conference on needed criminal justice reform at the Florida Capitol.



JMI's Campus Representatives Courtland Culver (Florida State University) and Ethan Berstein (Florida Gulf Coast University) at Conservative Political Action Conference's annual event in National Harbor, MD.



JMI Associate Scholar Vittorio Nastasi won 2nd place in the undergrad research competition at the Association of Private Enterprise Education conference for his work on JMI's latest policy brief on licensing and recidivism. He is pictured with Sam Staley, Ph.D. from the DeVoe Moore Center at Florida State University and Adam Millsap, Ph.D. from the L. Charles Hilton Jr. Center at Florida State University.



JMI's Becky Liner addressing Capital Rotary about our student intern and campus representative programs.



JMI's Sal Nuzzo participating in a panel on taxes hosted by the Florida House Democratic Caucus.



Dr. Bob McClure with members of JMI's Class V Leaders Fellows chapter.

THE INFLUENCER SERIES

The Miami Herald, el Nuevo Herald and the Bradenton Herald have launched the second year of “The Influencer Series” to promote discussion about the important issues facing the state of Florida. They have assembled a panel of 50 influential Floridians from a variety of industries and perspectives who will offer their views through the end of the year. Our very own Dr. Bob McClure was chosen a second year in a row as one of the 50 influential Floridians.

As the Florida Legislature met for its annual session, each influencer was asked to share what they believe is the top issue facing Florida and some possible solutions state leaders should be exploring to address that problem.

“Florida is the single most dynamic state in the Union. Its demographics reflect the entire country, and yet are uniquely different in each region of the state. People are moving

here from across the country, indeed the world, so growth will continue and that will affect future decisions on education, healthcare, the tax and regulatory environment, transportation, property rights and virtually every major policy issue on the horizon. The quality of life and the economic environment uniquely combine to make this a place people come to pursue their version of the American Dream. So where do we want to be in 10, 20 or 30 years given this kind of dynamism? Technology alone tells us we cannot predict the future. So it starts with our communities, not dependence upon Tallahassee or Washington, D.C. It starts with conversation, not coercion. And it starts with a belief that individuals working shoulder to shoulder will be far more effective than any central planner at solving the important issues of the Sunshine State.”

—Dr. Bob McClure,
President and CEO,
The James Madison Institute



JMI Regional Leadership Council

This is a pivotal year for JMI and the state of Florida. We have a new administration, legislature, and cabinet. Consequently, we are renewing the commitment to bring our message to every corner of the state (and beyond) by reorganizing around Regional Leadership Councils (formerly called the Board of Advisors). Each regional council will be comprised of leaders who serve their communities, are focused on the future of the Sunshine State, want to expand their network, help host events, engage with our leadership team, and develop partnership strategies for the liberty movement in each region and across Florida.

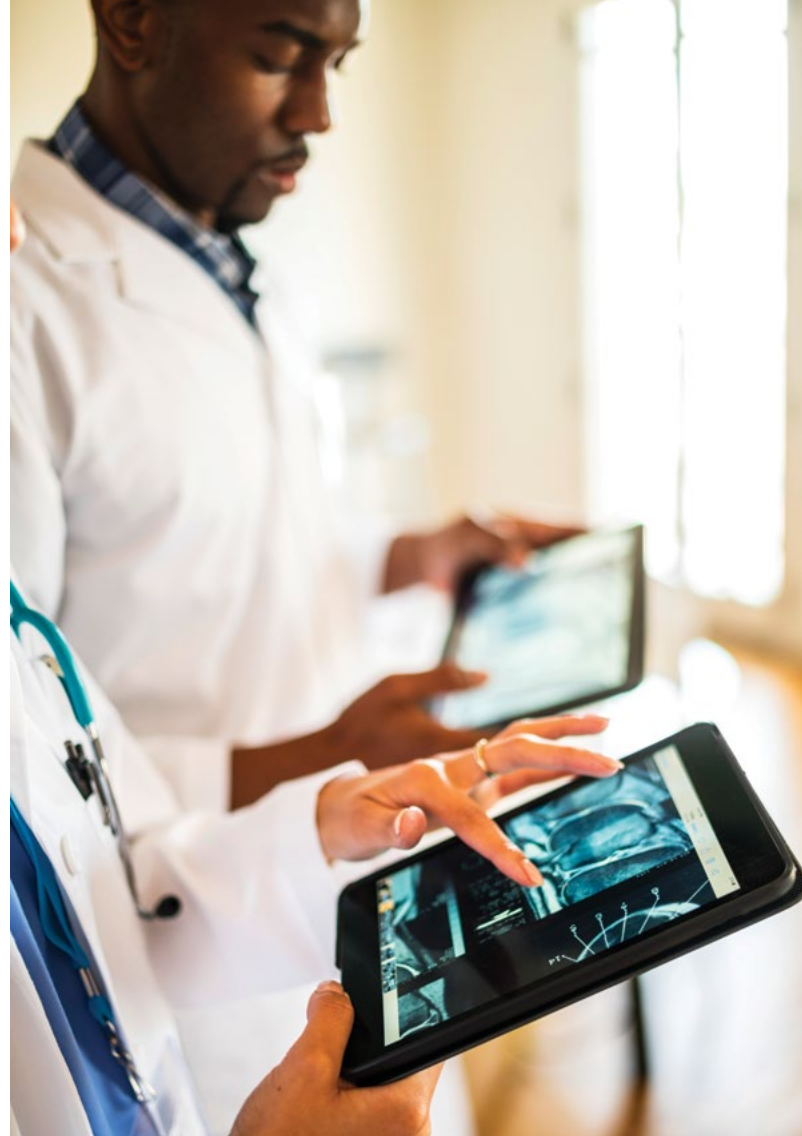


Technology and Telecommunications

This year, JMI launched a new policy center, the Center for Technology and Telecommunications. If there is anything that can be said about the 21st Century it is this – that we are in the midst of a technological revolution that has fundamentally altered, and continues to alter, the very fabric of our lives. The pace of change is so fast that entire industries are forced into a “keep pace or die trying” mentality.

Whether it is the advent of driverless cars, the use of technology in delivering healthcare services, or the deployment of 5G broadband across the state, policymakers will be faced with ever more important decisions every year.

The mission of the Center for Technology and Telecommunications is to provide meaningful and practical solutions to technology advances currently occurring, while also promoting a policy landscape conducive to advances that are yet to come.



Florida Leads on Free Speech

In April, Governor Ron DeSantis held a press conference to announce the support and commitment of the State University System of Florida for freedom of speech and expression on our university campuses. Florida is the first state to have its entire university system adopt a statement affirming its commitment to free speech, and this came months after each member of the Florida Board of Governors was given a copy of JMI’s report, “Free Expression and Intellectual Diversity: How Florida Universities Currently

Measure Up.”

“Our college campuses should empower and enable one another to speak and listen, rather than interfere with or silence the open expression of ideas. JMI’s 2018 report examined how well (or poorly) today’s universities protect free speech, promote a campus culture open to different viewpoints, and respond to speech-bullying by those seeking to drown out viewpoints they oppose. JMI commended the Florida Legislature when they passed a bill to end all free speech zones on college campuses later in the year. A central purpose for an institution of higher education is to offer a learning environment where differing ideas, opinions, and philosophies, new and old, can be carefully debated and critically evaluated. We are



pleased that Florida’s Governor Ron DeSantis and Florida’s twelve public universities support and encourage full and open discourse and the robust exchange of ideas and perspectives on our college campuses.”

—Dr. Bob McClure, President and CEO, The James Madison Institute



HOSTED BY DR. BOB MCCLURE & SAL NUZZO

Freedom, Culture and Florida's Future



Pundits on the Porch

JMI continues to expand its influence with its podcast series, “Pundits on the Porch” with Dr. Bob McClure and Sal Nuzzo. “Pundits on the Porch” features interviews with political and policy “pundits” about freedom, culture, and Florida’s future.

This year, we have interviewed Jason Riley, columnist at the Wall Street Journal; Grover Norquist, president of Americans for Tax Reform; Florida Attorney General Ashley Moody; Major B. Harding, former Chief Justice of the Florida Supreme Court; and other notable “pundits.”

Head over to iTunes or the JMI Podcast Page to subscribe and listen!



An Update from Florida's College Campuses

My name is Brandon Walker. I have been the JMI campus representative for FAU since the inaugural year of the program. Four years does not seem like a long time, but the strides we have made -- both through the campus representative initiative in general, but also on my campus specifically -- is disproportional to the time we have had...in the best way, of course. In the short years I have worked as a campus representative, I have maintained relationships with every business or politically-motivated group on campus. The positive feedback I have received on behalf of the Institute by groups on all points of the political-economic spectrum has been astonishing to say the least. I can say that on my campus, JMI is easily the single-most trusted source for Florida-based policy research for those who partake in that sort of thing.

As a campus representative, it is my duty to inform the students of my institution of the free-market principles JMI stands by. Not only have I met with and educated students on campus, but I have also had the opportunity to brush elbows with some of the brightest minds in Florida's political and economic discussions: the professors. One of the most undeniably powerful tools

in the realm of academia is the professor. They shape the minds of those who will be (and already are) leading the nation. I cannot speak for my fellow representatives, but I am proud to say that, on my campus, there are several professors who have aligned themselves with the same values touted by The James Madison Institute. This is a direct result of the engagement between the university and JMI brought about by the campus representative program. Partnerships with professors and student organizations have allowed me to fill rooms with students to hear from JMI-endorsed speakers like Star Parker, Bill Mattox, Charles C.W. Cooke, and many more.



We all know this: as Florida goes, so goes the United States; as the United States goes, so goes the world. With far-left ideologies and economic institutions like socialism being pushed so hard on our Florida campuses, it is comforting to know that The James Madison Institute is interjecting by speaking truth to the masses. None of this could be accomplished without those who know the demographic better than any other: the students. That is why the campus representative program is so needed today.

The James Madison Institute has made an impact in both my



personal life and my life as a student. JMI has kept me, like many who are reading this right now, informed more than most on what is going on in our great state. I have been able to contribute to conversations on campus about how we, the students, can make an impact on our community. Throughout my four years at FAU, not only have I worked and studied like most other students do, but I have also been tasked with being JMI's connection with the students and faculty, which can be trying at times. I do not say this to solicit sympathy or praise, as it forced me to focus on the ever-changing political economic world around me. Rather, I would like to show my appreciation to the staff at JMI and my fellow representatives throughout the years. Without their support, and the support of those who fund initiatives such as this, we would not have been able to accomplish everything we accomplished throughout the years on college campuses. Working in this capacity has not only made me a better student, but also a better person. The connections and, more importantly, the relationships I have made through my position as a campus representative will hopefully be something I can grow throughout my career and my life. I owe it all to The James Madison Institute campus representative program.



A Conversation with Sam Staley, Ph.D.

As the director of the DeVoe L. Moore Center at Florida State University, I am continually engaged in the classroom and in public discussion on the value of free markets in promoting human flourishing and individual liberty. Our applied policy initiatives, whether in research or in popular writings, directly engage dozens of students each year in programs that expose them to the practical workings of liberty as well as the academic foundation on which free-market principles stand. As a free-market center located within a public university, achieving our mission poses important intellectual and operational challenges. Our active partnership with JMI has emerged as an important component of our success and maximizing our impact.

The DeVoe L. Moore Center was founded in 1998 through an endowment by entrepreneur and real-estate developer DeVoe L. Moore. The center's mission is to promote market-oriented approaches to state and local public policy, with a focus on regulation, economic development, entrepreneurship, land use, and government accountability. Our center's mission complements JMI's economic policy objectives and forms the basis of one of the most productive partnerships I've experienced in more than 30 years of work in applied urban policy research.

Prior to coming FSU (in 2011), I held senior research and executive positions in free-market think tanks, including the nationally focused

Reason Foundation and the state-based Buckeye Institute. I am the author of thirteen books on economics and popular culture, including most recently *Contemporary Film and Economics* (Routledge, 2018), as well as more than 100 articles, policy studies, and technical reports. My research specializations are in land use, urban economic development, growth management, housing, transportation, and government accountability. My professional policy focus has given me dozens of opportunities to provide expert testimony in the U.S. Senate, U.S. House of Representatives, the Florida State Legislature, and before elected bodies in numerous other states and cities. I have also had the privilege to provide expert legal testimony or contribute to amicus groups on behalf of economic freedom and property rights, including the infamous eminent domain decision *Kelo v City of New London* (2005). My professional travels have given me an international focus as well and include more than 30 trips to China as the Robert W. Galvin Fellow at Reason Foundation.

My experience in the free-market think tank world allowed me to transition the DeVoe L. Moore Center from a largely academic focus to an applied research center active in public policy discussions



while transforming the lives of undergraduate students in and outside the classroom. My think tank experience and our ability to leverage the talents of our student researchers also helps me work with JMI's senior staff to optimize our academic and policy research on-campus event planning and the co-publication of policy-relevant studies and reports. JMI is more than a platform for us; they are active partners who help us effectively target our research and tap into resources difficult for us to uncover independently. More importantly, we have just begun to explore the ways our partnership can impact campus climates and improve the quality of policymaking at the state and local levels in Florida.

2019 ANNUAL DINNERS

2019 Tallahassee Annual Dinner

In the midst of a tumultuous and unpredictable legislative session, The James Madison Institute and its special guests came together on April 3 for the 2019 Tallahassee Annual Dinner. Attorney General Ashley Moody spoke to our sponsors during the VIP reception. JMI welcomed Florida Governor Ron DeSantis and Jason Riley, an author, commentator, and Wall Street Journal columnist. Both provided us with laughter and fresh insight. Thanks to our honored guests and attendees, the 2019 Tallahassee Annual Dinner was a success and left us hopeful about Florida's future.



Naples Annual Dinner

The James Madison Institute had a brilliant night of insight into American politics and policy on April 9 at the home of Board Member Glen and Sandra Blauch in Naples, Florida. The 2019 Naples Annual Dinner hosted keynote speakers Governor Scott Walker and Grover Norquist. Walker is the former governor of Wisconsin and Grover Norquist is the president and founder of Americans for Tax Reform.



Centers



J. STANLEY MARSHALL
CENTER *for*
EDUCATIONAL OPTIONS
at The James Madison Institute

MISSION: To promote policy reforms that empower Florida parents to choose the schools, courses, resources and programs that best meet their child's unique needs, interests, aptitudes and learning styles.

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PRESTON A. WELLS, JR.
CENTER *for*
AMERICAN IDEALS
at The James Madison Institute

MISSION: To help students of all ages learn more about the time-honored ideals that have animated American life since our nation's founding by providing high-quality resources to teachers and students.

.....



CAROL & BARNEY BARNETT
YOUNG LEADERS CENTER
at The James Madison Institute

MISSION: To raise up young leaders who impact American culture with the principles of limited government, economic freedom, and individual responsibility through training and experience.

.....



CENTER *for* TECHNOLOGY
and TELECOMMUNICATIONS
at The James Madison Institute

MISSION: To provide meaningful and practical solutions to technology advances currently occurring, while also promoting a policy landscape is conducive to advances that are yet to come."



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ECONOMIC PROSPERITY
at The James Madison Institute

MISSION: To advance free-market solutions that promote entrepreneurialism and create economic opportunities for all.

.....



CENTER *for*
PROPERTY RIGHTS
at The James Madison Institute

MISSION: To promote liberty, economic prosperity, and the rule of law by recommending property rights policy that will:

1. Maximize an owner's right to enjoy and use one's property
 2. Prevent government attempts to overregulate the use of property, limit government ownership of property, and eliminate government abuse of property owners
 3. Promote responsible stewardship of all property regardless of ownership—private, corporate, and public
-



K. EARLE DURDEN CENTER *for*
THE ADVANCEMENT *of* LIBERTY
at The James Madison Institute

MISSION: To build a network of supporters, investors, ambassadors, and friends across the Sunshine State who protect and promote the ideas of free markets, economic opportunity and prosperity for every Floridian.









Trusted Solutions for a Better Florida





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LEAVE
A
LEGACY
OF
LIBERTY



The Publius Society

The James Madison Institute's Publius Society is a group of men and women who believe the most important legacy they can leave their children is a bequest of freedom.

Become a friend of the people of Florida and join The James Madison Institute's quest to leave a permanent legacy of liberty to future generations.

If you are interested in joining The Publius Society, please contact Don Orrico at dorrico@jamesmadison.org or call 850-386-3131.



WHY PUBLIUS?

Publius was the pseudonym chosen by James Madison, John Jay, and Alexander Hamilton, in their original collective writing of The Federalist Papers. The Roman name "Publius" also means "a friend of the people."

These 85 papers from the anonymous "Publius" appeared in newspapers across the country to support the ratification of the U.S. Constitution.