



November 1, 2015

Florida Diversity Council hosts its Inaugural Florida Legal Diversity Summit

The Florida Diversity Council hosted its Inaugural Florida Legal Diversity Summit on October 23, 2015 at the Mahaffey Theater in St. Petersburg, Florida. This event was the first initiative of its kind within the National Diversity Council, focusing specifically on issues of championing diversity and inclusion within the legal community. The Legal Diversity Summit aimed to highlight the importance of diversity and inclusion efforts in the legal realm by bringing legal organizations and professionals together to discuss the issues and challenges that are specific to their industry.



This inaugural event served to illuminate diversity and inclusion efforts within the legal community and generate important dialogue about how outside and in-house counsels can support each other in achieving diversity and inclusion goals. The legal industry faces unique challenges when it comes to nurturing diversity and valuing inclusion and questions discussed by in-house counsel panelists addressed these challenges. The summit speakers contributed their valuable insights on the summit theme of “Plugging In-House Counsel Into Diversity & Inclusion Within Law Firms.”

Together with support from the event sponsors, Duke Energy and NAMWOLF, the Florida Diversity Council is proud to have created a forum to discuss these important topics within the legal industry.

For additional information about the Legal Diversity Summit, please contact Ameerah Mukayed at ameerah.mukayed@nationaldiversitycouncil.org or visit <http://floridadiversitycouncil.org/what-we-do/events-programs/legal-diversity-summit/2015-legal-diversity-summit/>

Event Chair

Kathryn Christian, Senior Counsel for Duke Energy Florida, Inc.

Moderator

Joel Stern, CEO of NAMWOLF (National Association for Minority & Women Owned Law Firms)

Panelists

Sharonda Mills, Vice President of Legal & Corporate Services Employment Counsel for Wyndham Vacation Ownership

Henry Stiles, Counsel, Markets & Securities Services Legal for Citigroup

Bryan Sims, Of Counsel at Squire Patten Boggs