



# Faulkner University Jones School of Law

Josh Roberts  
Director of Admissions  
334-386-7210  
<http://www.faulkner.edu/jsl/>

1. What do you enjoy most about your job?

There's probably not a better job in the world than getting to work with students who are determined to make a difference. Sometimes students want to make a difference in the boardroom or as a judge and sometimes students want to become activists and work in the non-profit sector. Law school is simply the best vehicle for equipping students to change that world that our country has. As a university, Faulkner is dedicated to the proposition that each of us has the potential to change the world. I love working with students to determine if they are the right fit for Faulkner and then having a front row seat to watch them start to lead, achieve, and grow.

2. What do you like most about your law school?

If I had to describe our law school in just two words, it's that we are small and Christian. I love that we are small because students come to school here with the knowledge that they have to engage, they'll be expected to be leaders, and they'll be pushed (quite a bit) to take full advantage of the opportunities law school affords. I also love that we are Christian because it emphasizes our culture. We're highly encouraging, nurturing, and open with our students. We also train them to be uncompromising professionals in their convictions, their values, and their pursuit of peace and conflict resolution.

3. Is there any advice you would give pre-law advisors as they are working with students on the application process for your law school?

Two things I've noticed SAPLA members tend to do really well is to focus on student-school fit and to pick up the phone. First, the pre-law advisor is in the best position to steer students to a school where they will be positioned to excel. Beyond choosing a small school or big school, state school or private school, the pre-law advisor can talk frankly to students about whether a particular student would be better off with a placement at a less known school with a scholarship or pursuing a better known school while paying full tuition or whether the student would stand a better chance of excelling close to home or far away. These are the types of decisions that students make every year, and frankly, law school Admissions Offices aren't always providing students with unbiased information. Secondly, I absolutely love receiving phone calls from Pre-Law Advisors. When a Pre-Law Advisor thinks enough of a student to pick up the phone, then that student immediately shoots up our wait list, or at times, even our scholarship lists. We crave students that are ready to partner with their faculty and administration in order to achieve their full potential and when a Pre-Law Advisor calls to talk to us, then we know that a particular student already has a great track record of working with university resources to empower them.

4. What are some of the unique opportunities students will find at your law school?

In the next few years, our nation is poised to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversaries of monumental civil rights achievements such as the March on Washington, Dr. King's "I Have a Dream" speech, the great Selma marches, the passage of the Voting Rights Act and many, many more. Faulkner Law is proud to be located in Montgomery, Alabama – birthplace of the American Civil Rights Movement. We are equally proud to honor the legacy of those who have boldly walked before us and effected change so that our legal system can embody the rights and dignity of all men and women. To that end, we offer students some of the best clinical experiences in the country. Our students work with victims of domestic violence who have historically been marginalized by the court system through our Domestic Violence Clinic. Our students work to restore dignity to end of life decisions and financial matters through our Elder Law Clinic. Our students work to facilitate peace and harmony throughout our community through our innovative Mediation Clinic. We also place students in externships throughout all levels of state, local, and federal government. Our students work with state and federal judges for class credit. Inside the classroom, our students begin law school with an innovative course called "Foundations of Law". Our Foundations course is designed to train students in legal reasoning, legal history, and the major themes that run throughout the various subjects that students study in law school. More than anything, Faulkner Law is a place where students come when they want to be involved. Whether it's through our Board of Advocates, our Student Bar Association, or any of our many extracurricular and co-curricular programs, Faulkner Law empowers students to seek out their passions and we leverage our institutional resources to making sure that students can incorporate those interests into their legal education.

5. Is there anything you would like to leave pre-law advisors with as a final comment?

I really want to leave you on a note of encouragement. I know that some students are a breeze to advise and some students require a lot more attention and care. Advising a student on their future is an incredible task to undertake and I applaud the Pre-Law Advisors who work so hard to make sure that students are making wise decisions. And, as always, if you are interested in a little bit more information on Faulkner Law or coming to campus to check us out – I'm just a phone call or a mouse click away!