Graduate Spotlight:

Clark and Newsome



The Dynamic Duo: Making Magic and Leaving a Lasting Impact

At Florida A&M University (FAMU) College of Law, Amber Newsome and Kaylah Clark have become known as a dynamic duo whose leadership, service, and presence have left a meaningful and lasting impact on the institution, and whose friendship fuels excellence.

Both from Miami, Florida, Amber and Kaylah arrived in Orlando with a shared commitment to serving their communities. What began as two work-study students in the Office of Financial Aid and the Office of Student Affairs quickly developed into a strong friendship grounded in discipline, support, and a shared vision for excellence. From the start, they approached their journey with intention, bringing a sense of energy and positivity that made even the most demanding moments feel a little lighter.

Throughout their time in law school, they balanced rigorous academic demands with a wide range of responsibilities and experiences. In addition to their leadership roles, both gained practical legal experience through judicial internships, participated in Guardian ad Litem advocacy, and pursued other internship opportunities that strengthened their commitment to public service. They also remained active in community service through local bar associations, the Marshall-Bell Law Society, and the Black Law Students Association at FAMU Law, consistently giving back while growing as future attorneys.

During their 2L year, Amber served as the Student Bar Association 2L Representative, while Kaylah represented the College of Law as Miss FAMU College of Law. Encouraging one another to lead with confidence, they later stepped into some of the institution's most impactful student leadership roles. Amber served as the 22nd Student Bar Association President, advocating for the student body, while Kaylah served as Editor-in-Chief of the Florida A&M University Law Review, leading the journal during a milestone year.

Beyond their titles, their impact is reflected in their presence across campus and beyond. Together, they volunteered, traveled, competed in moot court competitions, and represented the College of Law at various events with professionalism and pride. Both also served on the 55th Southern Region of the Black Law Students Association Board, with Amber as Social Action Director and Kaylah as Subregion 4 Director, extending their leadership on a regional level. In many ways, they brought a sense of creativity and intention into every space, finding ways to make each experience memorable for themselves and those around them.

Even with demanding schedules, long days, and late nights, they remained committed to excellence and to supporting one another. Their shared love for Disney became a consistent

thread throughout their journey, reminding them to find joy in the process, celebrate small wins, and continue showing up with purpose. Whether it was balancing responsibilities or representing the College of Law, they carried that same spirit of “making magic” into everything they did.

As they approach graduation, Amber and Kaylah reflect on a journey defined not only by achievement but by impact. Together, they have contributed to the culture, leadership, and legacy of the College of Law in ways that will continue to resonate.

While this chapter comes to a close, their paths forward remain rooted in service. Amber will join the Polk County Public Defender's Office, and Kaylah will join the Palm Beach State Attorney's Office, both pending successful completion of the July Bar Exam. Though they will serve on different sides of the courtroom, their shared commitment to justice and community remains the same.

