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### **FAMU College of Law Graduates Mark Progress in Bar Passage**

**Orlando, Fla.** – Graduates of the Florida A&M University (FAMU) College of Law who sat as first-time takers for the Florida Bar Exam in July 2010 improved the passage rate by nearly 10 percent compared to the previous year's results.

According to the official results released from the Florida Supreme Court, FAMU College of Law posted a passing rate of 62.5 percent, an almost double-digit increase from the July 2009 results of 52.6 percent. The passing percentage is also one of the highest achieved by FAMU first-time Bar exam takers.

“We are positively encouraged by this indication that our efforts at providing support for our students in order for them to achieve greater success on the Florida Bar is headed in the right way,” said LeRoy Pernell, FAMU College of Law dean. “While we are far from satisfied yet that we have reached our goal with these first-time bar passage percentage results for July 2010, we are pleased that we have experienced a dramatic increase in first-time success – the largest such increase of any Florida law school.”

“During a period where law schools across the state are experiencing a decline in Bar passage rates, our graduates are closing the gap with positive gains,” said Jendayi Saada, director of the College of Law Academic Success and Bar Preparation program.

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The FAMU College of Law was founded in 1949 on the main campus in Tallahassee. After graduating 57 lawyers, the law school was closed by the state of Florida in 1968. The Florida Legislature voted to reopen the law school in 2000 and Orlando was selected as the location. The re-established FAMU College of Law opened its doors in 2002 and is now housed in a state-of-the-art facility in downtown Orlando's Parramore neighborhood. The FAMU College of Law received full accreditation from the American Bar Association in July 2009, and is ranked number one in the nation for Diversity by U.S. News & World Report.