Derrick Hawthorne

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EDUCATION

University of Florida Levin College of Law, Gainesville, FL
Juris Doctor, expected May 2027
Honors: Chesterfield Smith Scholarship (merit based, full tuition)
Activities: Federalist Society

Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL
Bachelor of Science (B.S.), received Spring 2024
Major: Political Science
Honors: Vires Scholarship (merit based, half tuition)
Activities: College of Social Science Student Leadership Council, Voting Member

EXPERIENCE

State Attorney's Office, Eighth Judicial Circuit, Gainesville, FL
Legal Extern (incoming) January 2027–May 2027

The Honorable Alan Forst, **Florida's Fourth District Court of Appeal**, West Palm Beach, FL
Judicial Intern May 2025–August 2025

- Researched Florida case law
- Drafted bench memorandums and judicial opinions
- Proofed judicial opinions and other documents

Executive Office of Governor Ron DeSantis, Tallahassee, FL
Communications Staffer May 2023–May 2024
Communications Intern January 2023–May 2023

- Drafted press releases, memos, talking points, social media posts, and official proclamations

INTERESTS

College Football, Cooking, Monopoly