

JACKSONVILLE LAWYER MAGAZINE

A photograph of two men standing in front of a city skyline at night. The man on the left is older, with grey hair, wearing a dark blazer over a light-colored checkered shirt and light-colored trousers. The man on the right is younger, with dark hair, wearing a light-colored pinstriped suit jacket over a white shirt and a light-colored tie. They are both smiling. The background shows city lights and buildings under a dark sky.

TALKIN' BOUT A NEW GENERATION

THOMAS BISHOP + CURRY PAJCIC

AT HOME WITH
SATASHA WILLISTON

SEPTEMBER 2008

THOMAS BISHOP

TANNER BISHOP LAW

Law school: UF College of Law

Age: 42

Hometown: Belleair Beach, FL

Area of expertise: Commercial litigation with a secondary focus on white collar criminal defense

Marital status/kids: Married, 5 children

Typical weekday: I am typically up early and in the office around 7:00 a.m. My days are a mix of office work, with conferences, telephone calls and reading and writing, alternating with court or deposition days. My typical day ends with me hopefully home in time to see the children before they go to sleep.

Reason for going into law: I chose a career at the Bar because it is an intersection of several disciplines that deeply interest me—including history, philosophy, the meaning and import of words, and the power of ideas and critical thinking. It also represented an opportunity to do something important and that really matters to litigants and our community.

First job: Working as a clerk at a small town pharmacy in hometown

Favorite movie: Breaker Morant

Favorite food: Shrimp and rare steak

On weekends, we can find you: At home—unless it's winter, then maybe in a duck blind or on a quail hunt."

Advice to younger lawyers: To be a great advocate you must work tirelessly, strive mightily for perfection, and zealously advocate with all of your strength and skill for your cause, while always scrupulously adhering to the advocate's paramount duty to the court to conduct yourself honorably, with perfect candor, humility, and a profound respect for the courts and our sacred duty as advocates. If you do this, you will win far more often than you lose. You will gain the respect of the courts and your peers. Success will surely follow.

Proudest professional moment: I really can't choose just one, but would have to say that every single trial and appellate victory has been a wonderful and very proud moment for me.

Career path if you hadn't gone into law: Infantry officer

If you could represent one person, who would it be: My ideal client is one with strong convictions and the courage and treasure to back them up.

