



# Marcus A. Christian

## Biography

Marcus A. Christian is the Executive Assistant United States Attorney at the United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Florida, one of America's largest and busiest offices of federal prosecutors. At the U.S. Attorney's Office, Marcus also has served as a deputy chief in the Major Crimes Section and as an Assistant United States Attorney.

Mr. Christian received his undergraduate degree from Williams College in Williamstown, Massachusetts. During his senior year in college, Marcus received a Rhodes Scholarship to attend the University of Oxford in Oxford, England. At Oxford, Marcus studied at-risk students and earned a Master of Science degree in Education. Marcus subsequently attended Yale Law School in New Haven, Connecticut, where he received a Juris Doctor degree.

During his junior year of college, Marcus started speaking to students at Pinellas County, Florida, public schools about the benefits he derived from academic achievement and attainment. At the University of Oxford his Master's thesis focused on the factors that make children vulnerable to educational failure--the failure to graduate from high school or meet some other important educational attainment objective.

During his breaks from Oxford, he worked at the Pinellas County Education Foundation, which raises funds and creates initiatives to enhance teaching and learning in Pinellas County Schools. Many of the initiatives focus on at-risk pupils. Mr. Christian is a native of Clearwater, Florida, and graduated from project Head Start and Pinellas County Schools.

After completing his studies at Oxford, Mr. Christian enrolled at Yale Law School in New Haven, Connecticut, where he received a law degree. In New Haven, he was a volunteer reading tutor in the public schools and participated in the Yale Law School Project SAT Program, in which law school students helped low income New Haven high school pupils prepare for the Scholastic Aptitude Test.

Since law school, Marcus has been engaged in several initiatives to increase the academic achievement and attainment of low income students. Among other things, he has spent several years working for one of the nation's largest scholarship and mentoring programs. The program has provided four-year, full-tuition college scholarships to thousands of low income students who met a pledge to avoid drugs, obey the law, and maintain minimum grades. In addition, the program matches each program participant with an in-school mentor. At various times during his tenure with the program, he served as legal counsel, chief operating officer, and president. He also was a mentor to two young men in Duval County Public Schools in Jacksonville, Florida.

Mr. Christian moved to South Florida in 2005. Here, he has participated in activities of the 5000 Role Models of Excellence Project, presented to students at career days in Miami-Dade public schools, read books to public school students, and spoken to parent groups. He has also volunteered with a nonprofit organization that provides educational enrichment services to minority and low income students.