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From the Jacksonville Business Journal:

<https://www.bizjournals.com/jacksonville/news/2019/09/06/grayrobinson-announces-new-presidentceo.html>

GrayRobinson announces new president, CEO

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GrayRobinson P.A., one of the largest law and lobbying firms in the state, recently announced a management shakeup.

Dean Cannon, former executive vice president and chair of the firm's government affairs practice and former Speaker of the Florida House of Representatives, has assumed the position as president and CEO of GrayRobinson.

The promotion was effective September 1. Cannon succeeds Mayanne Downs "as she refocuses on her complex litigation practice at the Firm, while continuing to support and participate in Firm leadership and management," the firm said in a statement.

A fifth-generation Floridian, Cannon began his career with GrayRobinson working as a runner in the firm's Lakeland office while attending high school. He received both his bachelor's and juris doctor from the University of Florida and returned to GrayRobinson where he practiced state and local government law from 1995 to 2007. Cannon's law practice has included litigation and appellate work at the District Court of Appeal and Supreme Court level, as well as land-use and state and local government law.

Cannon is also widely recognized for his service in the Florida House of Representatives. During his eight-year tenure in the House, he played pivotal roles in property tax reform, growth management reform, health care and Medicaid reform,



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Dean Cannon of GrayRobinson

and major transportation infrastructure policy initiatives, among many other accomplishments, GrayRobinson said in a statement. Cannon was elected by his peers to serve as Speaker of the House for the 2010 to 2012 term, where his leadership proved particularly effective during a time of great economic and political challenge for the state.

“I am extremely honored to have received Mayanne’s nomination and the unanimous support of my colleagues, many of whom have provided support and longtime friendship that has helped shape my legal and political career,” said Cannon. “We have an incredible law firm, and I am extremely grateful for this opportunity, and fully committed to our collective future success as I undertake the position of President and Chief Executive Officer.”

With guidance from GrayRobinson Chair Emeritus J. Charles Gray, Chair of the Board of Directors Byrd F. “Biff” Marshall, and immediate past President and Managing Director Mayanne Downs, Cannon recently traveled throughout the state, discussing his initial goals and seeking input from the shareholders. These are set to include a keen focus on recruitment in key practice areas and continued geographic expansion within Florida.

Cannon also plans to emphasize one of the Firms’ core principles established by Charlie Gray, that “if you build your community, you will also build your law firm.”