

100 / CALIFORNIA WESTERN YEARS SCHOOL OF LAW / San Diego



One-Hundred-Nineteenth Commencement Ceremony | May 9, 2025



Commencement Program

Prelude | Pomp and Circumstance

Welcome Remarks | President and Dean Sean M. Scott

Class of 2025 Welcoming Address |

Introduction of the Trustees and Faculty | President and Dean Sean M. Scott

Introduction of the Commencement Speaker | President and Dean Sean M. Scott

Graduate Address | Luke Turner

Commencement Address | The Honorable Danna Nicholas

JD Candidates | Associate Dean Amy Day


Associate Dean Erin Sheley

Vice Dean Liam F. Vavasour

JD/MSW Candidate | Vice Dean Liam F. Vavasour

Presentation of Graduates | President and Dean Sean M. Scott

Postlude



We came to law
school as individuals,
but we leave here
as a united class,
ready to face the
challenges of the
legal world, knowing
that our time here
has shaped us into
advocates and
leaders.

— Salam Khayat

Board of Trustees

OFFICERS

Michael J. Whitton, Esq., Chair

Rahil K. Swigart, Esq., Vice Chair

D. Russell Hymas, Esq., Secretary

TRUSTEES

Jason S. Bazar, Esq.

Roy M. Bell, Esq.

Gayle M. Blatt, Esq.

Tina Fryar, Esq.

Kpish Goyal, Esq.

Charles Grebing, Esq.

Kenneth L. Greenman, Esq.

Duane W. Layton, Esq.

Thomas J. Lofaro, Esq.

Bruce E. MacDonald, Esq.

Lisa Ordóñez, Ph.D.

Robert K. Scott, Esq.

Sally Wong Avery, Esq.



Faculty

FACULTY | 2024-2025

Sean M. Scott | President and Dean

Hannah Brenner Johnson | Vice Dean for Academic Affairs; Professor of Law

Amy E. Day | Associate Dean for Teaching and Assessment; Legal Writing Professor

Phillip Gragg | Associate Dean for Library and Information Services; Professor of Law

Erin Sheley | Associate Dean for Research and Faculty Development; Professor of Law

William J. Aceves | Professor of Law

David W. Austin | Legal Writing Professor

Emily Behzadi Cárdenas | Associate Professor of Law

Susan Bisom-Rapp | Professor of Law

Kathleen Bolus | Professor of Law; Director of Academic Achievement

Allison D. Cato | Legal Writing Professor

James M. Cooper | Professor of Law

Pooja R. Dadhania | Professor of Law

Robert R. DeKoven | Legal Writing Professor

Shawn Fields | Professor of Law

Jessica K. Fink | Professor of Law

Paul J. Gudel | Professor of Law

Catherine Hardee | Professor of Law

Joshua A. Jones | Legal Writing Professor

Amy Kimpel | Associate Professor of Law; Executive Director of the California Western Innocence and Justice Project

Kenneth S. Klein | Professor of Law

Nancy Marcus | Associate Professor of Law

Art Neill | Associate Clinical Professor; Executive Director
New Media Rights Clinic

Laura M. Padilla | Professor of Law

Lisa Shaw Roy | Professor of Law

Carly Sassi | Associate Professor of Law; Associate Director
of Academic Achievement

Joanna Sax | Professor of Law

Aaron Schwabach | Professor of Law; Director of STEPPS

Brenda Simon | Professor of Law

Dana Sisitsky | Associate Clinical Professor; Executive
Director Community Law Project

Donald J. Smythe | Professor of Law

Kristen van de Biezenbos | Professor of Law

Liam F. Vavasour | Legal Writing Professor; Director of
Clinical Externship Program

Spencer Williams | Associate Professor of Law

Daniel B. Yeager | Professor of Law

Michael T. Yu | Professor of Law

EMERITUS FACULTY | 2024-2025

Tom Barton | Professor of Law Emeritus

Robert Bohrer | Professor of Law Emeritus

Michael H. Dessent | Dean Emeritus; Professor of Law Emeritus

Niels Schaumann | Dean Emeritus; Professor of Law Emeritus

Roberta K. Thyfault | Legal Writing Professor Emerita

Mark I. Weinstein | Professor of Law Emeritus

Adjunct Faculty

ADJUNCT FACULTY | 2024-2025

William M. Aul, Esq.	Corey Garrard, Esq.	Clarice J. Letizia, Esq.	Karen Prosek, Esq.
Megan Baca, Esq.	Richard Gates, Esq.	Catherine Ligioso, Esq.	Grant Puleo, Esq.
Thomas Bahr II, Esq.	Vanessa Gerard, Esq.	Yvette Lopez, Esq.	Karen Reimus, Esq.
Brandon Baker, Esq.	Diane Gibson, Esq.	Melissa Mack, Esq.	Dana Robinson, Esq.
Anne Bautista, Esq.	Barbara A. Glennan, Esq.	Hon. James Mangione	Devon K. Roepcke, Esq.
Flavia Berys, Esq.	Sara Gros-Cloren, Esq.	Patrick McManus, Esq.	Angie Sauberan, Esq.
Todd Bulich, Esq.	Sadaf Hane, Esq.	Marcela Mendez, Esq.	Dennis Sharp, Esq.
Lindsey Burnette, Esq.	John Hardison, Esq.	Katie Nagler, Esq.	Robert Teaff, Esq.
J. Clayton Carr, Esq.	Karen Hawkes, Esq.	Falvio Nominati, Esq.	Kyle Velte, Esq.
Hon. Mary Celeste (Ret.)	James F. Holtz, Esq.	Robert O'Leary, Esq.	Robert A. Waller, Esq.
Linda Cianciolo, Esq.	Theodore Janowsky, Esq.	Ricardo Ochoa, Esq.	Bobbi Ann Weaver, Esq.
Jason Conge, Esq.	Kayla Jimenez, Esq.	Paul Parisi, Esq.	Bryan Wildenthal, Esq.
Mark Conover, Esq.	Sayd Kazerounian, Esq.	Jo Pastore, Esq.	Hon. Tiffany Williams Brewer (Ret.)
Tracy De Soto, Esq.	Don S. Kovacic, Esq.	Laura Pennelle, Esq.	
Michael Donahue, Esq.	Christopher Lee, Esq.	Grant Porter, Esq.	
Iris Fugate, Esq.	Erika Lee, Esq.	Ariana Price, Esq.	



Senior Administrators

Sean M. Scott | President and Dean, Professor of Law

Hannah Brenner Johnson | Vice Dean for Academic
Affairs, Professor of Law

Jeannie Posner | Chief Financial Officer

Erin Scharnweber | Vice President, Philanthropy
and Alumni Engagement

Lisa Ferreira | Dean of Students

Jorge Garcia | Assistant Dean, Admissions,
Financial Aid and Campus Diversity

Phillip Gragg | Associate Dean for Library and
Information Resources; Professor of Law

Erin Sheley | Associate Dean for Research and
Faculty Development; Professor of Law

Amy Day | Associate Dean for Assessment
and Teaching; Professor of Law

Catherine Spray | Senior Director, Marketing
and Communications

I don't know how many times you
aced a cold call, tutored a class, or
joined a club on campus. But you
do. You know what it took to get to
where you are sitting right now.

— Arianna Deleal

Class of 2025, today
is a testament to
our resilience, our
perseverance, and our
ability to push past
every challenge that
came our way.

— Zarina Sementelli



Commencement Speaker

Honorable Danna W. Nicholas | Superior Court Judge

The Honorable Danna W. Nicholas is a mother, an Alaska native, and a very proud California Western School of Law alumna.

Superior Court Judge Danna Nicholas was appointed on October 18, 2023, by Governor Gavin Newsom. She presided over a misdemeanor and felony trial department in El Cajon. In February 2025, Judge Nicholas transitioned to the Central Division where she currently presides over a family independent calendar department.

In addition to being a member of several of the Court's standing committees, Judge Nicholas is an active community member. She is a lay minister at her church, the Southern California Judicial Liaison for the California Association of Black Lawyers, a life member of the Earl B. Gilliam Bar Association, an active participant with the Urban League of San Diego's Project Ready, National Association of Women Judges - Las Colinas Women's Detention Center book club facilitator, SDSU H.B. K.E.E.P. mentor, and a member of Legal Geeks. Legal Geeks is a talented group of attorneys and judges who analyze the law through the lens of pop culture.

Judge Nicholas has been a featured presenter at several events including Comic-Fest, WonderCon, and San Diego Comic-Con. She is a nationally recognized speaker and shared the stage with former Secretary of State General Colin Powell, and former President Bill Clinton as a featured speaker at the National Army Corps of Engineers Black History Month Celebration, and at the White House for National Collegiate Press Day.

Prior to being appointed to the bench, Judge Nicholas served as a Lead Deputy City Attorney in the General Litigation Section of the San Diego City Attorney's Office from 2017 to 2023 and worked as a Deputy City Attorney there since 2004. She served as an Assistant Public Defender at the Alaska Public Defender Agency from 2000 to 2002. Nicholas earned a Juris Doctor degree from the California Western School of Law and graduated with honors from Howard University's undergraduate School of Communications.



Not only was our class full of highly successful and impressive students, but it was full of some of the kindest, funniest, and most generous people I have ever met.

— Clare LaCount

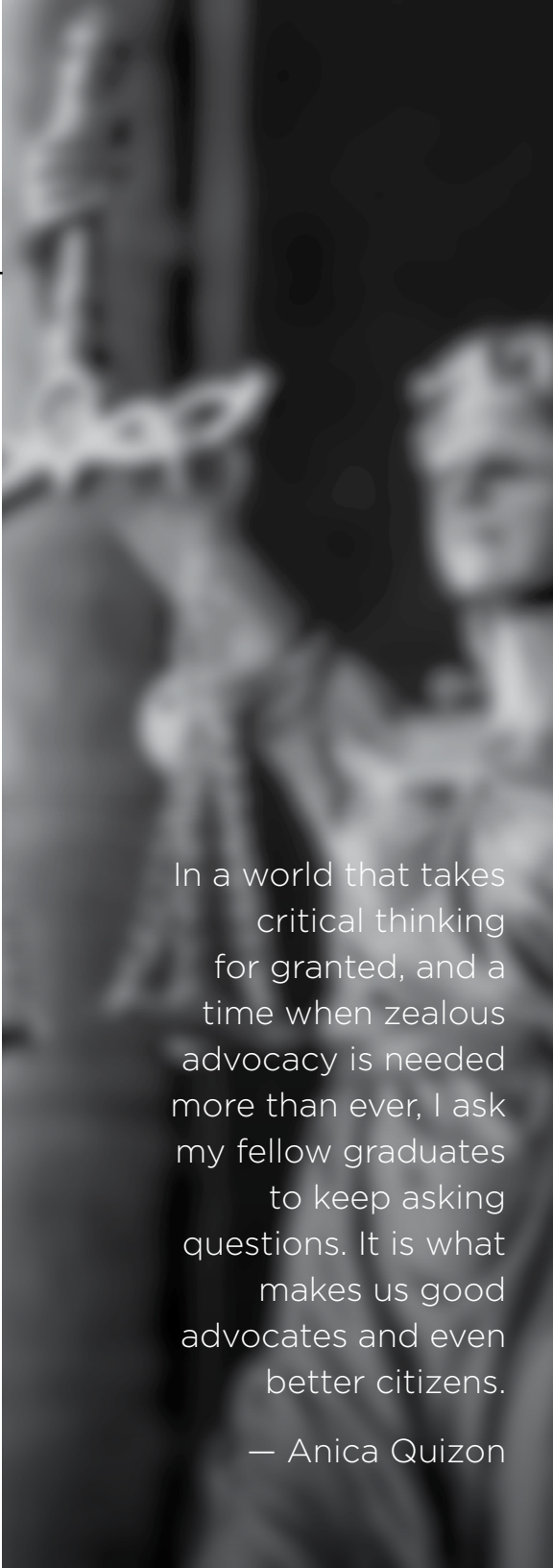
Because if there's one thing law school has taught us, it's that our voices matter, our actions have impact, and our futures are ours to shape.

— Erika Pichardo-Ley



JD Candidates

The JD is the doctoral degree necessary for the practice of law in the United States. Students are attracted to the degree because it is the most common preparation for sitting for state bar exams and providing legal counsel to clients. After completing a bachelor's degree, the student typically takes three additional years of specialized, legal course work, although at California Western, students can complete the program in 2 years by taking summer classes, or 4 to 5 years, by enrolling in the part-time program.



In a world that takes
critical thinking
for granted, and a
time when zealous
advocacy is needed
more than ever, I ask
my fellow graduates
to keep asking
questions. It is what
makes us good
advocates and even
better citizens.

— Anica Quizon



Freida Aguilar

San Diego, CA

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA,
SANTA BARBARA

Pro Bono Honors Society; Public Interest Law Foundation, Auction Chair and Community Relations Chair; Anson Levitan Grant Recipient; Cannabis and Psychedelic Law Student Society, Community Relations Chair; Business Law Concentration

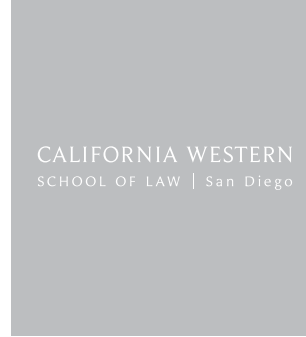


Angelia Alam

Orange County, CA

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, IRVINE

2 Academic Excellence Awards; Dean's Honor List, Spring 2023 - Spring 2024.



Michael Nunzio Alati

Orange County, CA

UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO



Julia Lauren Allen

Las Vegas, NV

UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA, LAS VEGAS

Dean's Honors List

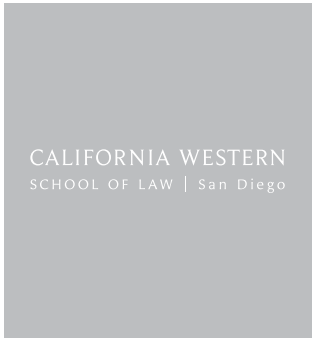


Mariam Amirzadeh Asl

Tallahassee, FL

FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY

ADR Competition Finalist; National Lawyers Guild, Secretary



Erin Antrim

San Diego, CA

SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY

Dean's Honor List; Academic Excellence Award; Health Law Society, Treasurer



Herag Aristakessian

Millbrae, CA

SAN FRANCISCO STATE UNIVERSITY



Garret Arrieta

Riverside, CA

OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY

Academic Excellence Awards - 3; Public Service Honors Society; Environmental Law Society, President; California Western Law Review, Associate Editor; Dean's Community Service and Leadership Scholarship



Jonathan Rico Aviles

San Diego, CA

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY,
SACRAMENTO

Student Bar Association - Class Representative; The Federalist Society - Vice President; Public Service Honors Society; Pro Bono Honors Society



Mina Azami

Alameda, CA

JOHN F. KENNEDY UNIVERSITY,
PLEASANT HILL



Iriana Basile

Chicago, IL

NORTHLAND COLLEGE

Pride Law (Secretary); Immigration Law Society (Treasurer); National Lawyers Guild (Treasurer); Latinx Law Student Association; Criminal Law Association; Moot Court: Appellate Team 2024; Legal Skills, Distinguished Advocate 2023; 3L Dean's Community Service and Leadership Scholarship Recipient, 2024



Caitlyn Bellamy

Phoenix, AZ

ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

Dean's Honor List; Academic Excellence Award; Black Law Students Association, Vice President, Secretary



Rojin Bijan

San Diego, CA

SONOMA STATE UNIVERSITY

Dean's Honor List; Academic Excellence Award - 1



Jordan Bogdan

Sacramento, CA

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, SAN MARCOS

Academic Excellence Award; Pro Bono Honors Society; Outstanding Advocate Award

CALIFORNIA WESTERN
SCHOOL OF LAW | San Diego

Max Brown

Cleveland, OH

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Health Law Society, Vice President



Natalie Brown

Fallbrook, CA

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, SAN MARCOS

Pro Bono Honors Society; Appellate Team; Women's Law Caucus



Shannon Temple Casey

Evergreen, CO

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO, BOULDER

Academic Excellence Awards - Copyright Law, Business Organizations; Business Law Area of Concentration with Honors; Dean's Honor List, '23 & '24; Pro Bono Honors Society, '24; Wiley W. Manuel Certificate; Distinguished Advocate Award; Gil Closing Argument Competition, 2nd Place; 100% Academic Merit Scholarship; Business Law Society; Entertainment & Sports Law Society; Women's Law Caucus



Kaylina Castellanos

Riverside, CA

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO

Dean's Honor List; California Western International Law Journal, Executive Editor; 2025 Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition; Public Interest Law Foundation, Secretary; International Law Society, Secretary



Jordan Celaya

Napa, CA

BRIGHAM YOUNG UNIVERSITY



Andrew Chute

San Diego, CA

COLUMBIA COLLEGE

Academic Excellence Award; Dean's Honor List; Associate Editor, California Western Law Review; Senior Teaching Fellow, California Western Teaching Fellow Program; Torts Teaching Fellow; Research Assistant to Professor James Cooper; Public Service Honors Society; California Western Community Law Project

CALIFORNIA WESTERN
SCHOOL OF LAW | San Diego



Lindsay Cortez
Lewiston, ME
THOMAS COLLEGE

Academic Excellence Awards - 2;
Criminal Law Association, Secretary;
Military Veterans Legal Society, Treasurer;
Criminal Justice Area of Concentration



Dylan Cosby
Lakeside, CA
NORTHERN ARIZONA UNIVERSITY

Distinguished Advocate Award; Dean's
Honor List Summer 2024



**Matthew Christopher
Costello**
Phoenix, AZ
PURDUE UNIVERSITY

Dean's Honor List; Academic Excellence
Award; Moot Court Honors Board,
Chairman ('23-'24)



Katie Cox
Palo Alto, CA
CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC STATE
UNIVERSITY, SAN LUIS OBISPO

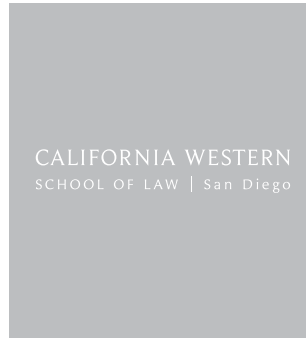


U'neque Cross
San Francisco, CA
SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY



**Christienne Angela
Quebral Cruz**
San Diego, CA
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO

Dean's Honor List; Academic Excellence
Award - 2: Consumer Law & Advanced
Negotiation; The Commentary, Senior
Editor; Asian Pacific American Law
Students Association; Family Law Society;
Women's Law Caucus; Family Law
Concentration



Bianca Cruz
Los Angeles, CA
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY,
LOS ANGELES

Latinx Law Students Association, Vice
President; LLSA Co-Community Liaison;
Pride Law, Vice President; SBA, Federal
Bar Representative; Pro Bono Honors
Society



Carlos Cuevas Rios
Portland, OR
UNIVERSITY OF OREGON

Dean's Honor List; Academic Excellence
Award; SDCBA & ACC DFP Fellow,
Student Intellectual Property Law Society,
Board Member



Nicolas Cussen
San Clemente, CA
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO

Academic Excellence Award - 1; 3L
Academic Merit Scholarship; Dean's
Honor List Spring 2024; Senior & Junior
Social Media Chair for the International
Law Society



Andrew Nabil Dahi
Glendora, CA
LOYOLA MARYMOUNT UNIVERSITY
4x Dean's Honor List; Academic Excellence



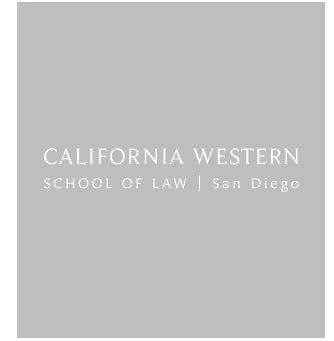
Ayham Dahlan
Rancho Cucamonga, CA
CALIFORNIA STATE POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY, POMONA
Student Bar Association, President; Middle Eastern Law Student Association, President; First Generation Law Student Association, Vice President; Dean's Honor List; Academic Excellence Award in Evidence



Sami Danly
San Diego, CA
SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY
Dean's Honor List



Sarah Davis
San Diego, CA
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO
Dean's Honor List; Academic Excellence Awards (4); Law Review-Associate Editor; Distinguished Advocate Award; Diversity Steering Committee Chair



Jordyn De Court
San Diego, CA
UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO
Student Animal Legal Defense Fund, Vice President



Benjamin DeCarlo
Vancouver, Canada
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, SAN MARCOS
Executive Lead Articles Editor, California Western International Law Journal; Pepperdine National Entertainment Law Competition, 2023 Quarter-finalist; UC Davis Asylum & Refugee Law National Moot Court Competition 2024, 2nd Place; Public Service Honors Society; Dean's Honor List; Academic Excellence Awards; Distinguished Advocate Award; Academic Merit Scholarship; Published in California Western International Law Journal



Gannon Rene del Fierro
East Clovis, CA
FRESNO PACIFIC UNIVERSITY
Dean's Honor List; 2x Academic Excellence Awards; Associate Writer and Editor, California Western International Law Journal; Court Appointed Special Advocate, Voices for Children; Mentor, Buddy Pod Program; Academic Merit Scholarship; Kenneth H. and Dorcas Ann Lounsbury Scholarship



Michelle Del Real
Gilroy, CA
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO
Public Interest Law Foundation, President; International Law Society, Social Media Chair; Research Assistant to Professor Cooper; Pro Bono Honors Society; California Western Immigration Law Scholarship (2022).



Arianna Deleal
San Diego, CA
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA BARBARA
Family Law Society; Community Law Project; Judicial Intern; Judicial Extern



Nitze Daniela Dominguez Rangel
Ciudad Juarez, Mexico
MONTCLAIR STATE UNIVERSITY
New Media Rights, Intern; Entertainment & Sports Law Society, Member

CALIFORNIA WESTERN
SCHOOL OF LAW | San Diego

Roya Dowlati

San Francisco, CA
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, DAVIS
Treasurer, Armenian Law Student Association



Emma Eckenstein

Homer Glen, IL
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS,
URBANA-CHAMPAIGN
Dean's Honor List; Academic Merit Scholarship

CALIFORNIA WESTERN
SCHOOL OF LAW | San Diego

Mitchell Enriquez

Moorpark, CA
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES



Rebecca Marie Fletes

Riverside, CA
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, IRVINE
Dean's Honor List; Kenneth H. and Dorcas Ann Lounsbery Scholarship; Student Bar Association, Administrator, Webmaster; The Commentary, Editor



Lauryn Ashleigh Flores

Madera Ranchos, CA
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FRESNO
Dean's Honor List; Academic Excellence Award; Distinguished Advocate Award; Academic Merit Scholarship; Lounsbery Scholarship; George Hopper Memorial Scholarship; Contracts I, Teaching Fellow



Giorgio Foggy

Sacramento, CA
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY,
SACRAMENTO
Distinguished Advocate Award 2023; CWSL Appellate Team Member, UCLA Cybercrimes Competition



Reyna Fortin

San Diego, CA
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA CRUZ
Trustees Scholarship; Academic Merit Scholarship; Dean's Honors List



Ragan Leigh Fowzer

Manteca, CA
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA,
SANTA BARBARA
Pro Bono Honors Society; Public Service Honors Society



Enas Gaballa

Cairo, Egypt
UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO
Distinguished Advocate Award - 1; Student Bar Association, Treasurer; International Law Society, Vice-President; Middle Eastern Law Student Association; Alternative Dispute Resolution Team

CALIFORNIA WESTERN
SCHOOL OF LAW | San Diego

Manuel Gama

Caborca, Mexico
ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY
Retention and Recruitment Coordinator, LLSA; Secretary, LLSA



Alexi Garofalo

San Jose, CA
UNIVERSITY OF OREGON

Secretary, Employment & Labor Law Society; Dean's Honor List



Samuel Garson

Anaheim, CA
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO, BOULDER

Pro Bono Honors Society; Distinguished Advocate Award



Roberto Gaytan

San Diego, CA
UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO

Military Veterans Legal Society (President)



Bruno Rene Ghetty

San Diego, CA
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY

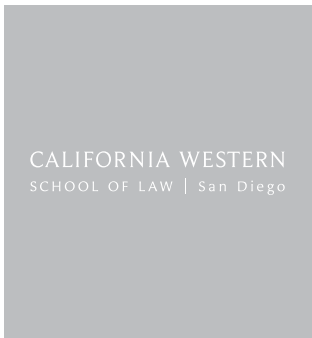
Justice Anthony Kennedy Scholarship; Academic Excellence Award - 2; Dean's Honor List - Spring 2023, Spring 2024, Fall 2024

CALIFORNIA WESTERN
SCHOOL OF LAW | San Diego

Chandler Ryan Gietzen

San Diego, CA
CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY, SAN LUIS OBISPO

Magna cum laude; Dean's Honor List; Academic Excellence Award (2); Distinguished Advocate Award; 2nd Place, UC Davis Asylum & Refugee Law National Moot Court Competition; Quarterfinalist, Pepperdine National Entertainment Law Competition



Jeff Gigliotti

Fallbrook, CA
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, MONTEREY BAY

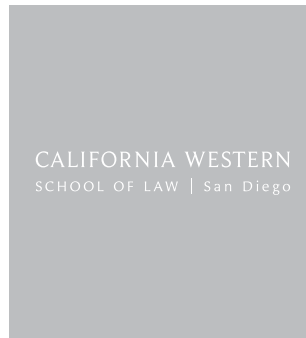
Pro Bono Honors Society; International Law Journal, Associate Editor



Sebastian Sardus Gold

Los Angeles, CA
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO

Academic Excellence Award - 4; Dean's Honor List Fall 2024; Federalist Society, Secretary; Jewish Student Union, Vice President; Legal Skills Honors Instructor



Sevda Golshani

San Diego, CA
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO

Academic Excellence Award; Legal Skills Honors Instructor



Jordan Goulet

San Diego, CA
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA BARBARA

Trustee's Scholarship; Dean's Honor List, Spring 2023; Dean's Honor List, Fall 2023; Dean's Honor List, Fall 2024; Public Service Honors Society; Academic Excellence Award - 1



Sage Gray

Mukilteo, WA
UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT M'NOA

Dean's Honor List; Academic Excellence Award - 4; Pro Bono Honors Society; Competitive Advocacy Team - Trial Team



Madyson Grosset
San Diego, CA
NORTHERN ARIZONA UNIVERSITY

Dean's Honors List; 5 Academic Excellence Awards; Distinguished Advocate Award; Law Review Executive Lead Articles Editor; Property Teaching Fellow; Legal Skills Honors Instructor



Thelma Guerrero
Guadalajara, Mexico
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FULLERTON

Dean's Honor List; Women's Law Caucus, Vice President



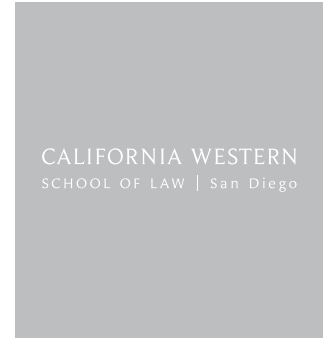
Anna Gurr
Santa Cruz, CA
CLAREMONT MCKENNA COLLEGE

Dean's Honor List; Academic Excellence Awards; Distinguished Advocate Award; Frank A. Schreck Gaming Law Moot Court Competition, Best Brief Runner-Up; Executive Director of Notes and Comments, California Western Law Review



Kimberly Sigrid Hackett
Toronto, Canada
MCMASTER UNIVERSITY

Distinguished Advocate Award; 3rd Place, Gafford 1L Trial Competition; "Best Opening Statement" San Diego Defense Lawyers Trial Competition; Pro Bono Honors Society Award; XONR8, President



Farwa Haider
Saskatoon, Canada
UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN, SASKATOON

Dean's Honor List, Summer 2024;



Jack Hathaway
San Diego, CA
GONZAGA UNIVERSITY

Dean's Honor List; Academic Excellence Award; Gordon & Holmes Oral Advocacy Award



Stephanie Haumschild
New Orleans, LA
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA BARBARA

Academic Excellence Award - 4; Distinguished Advocate Award - 1; Gafford Trial Competition - 1st Place; Trial Team Competitor; Deans Honor's List - 4 terms; Law Review; Torts I Teaching Fellow; Evidence Teaching Fellow; Research Assistant



Chase Hayes
Lathrop, CA
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA CRUZ

Concentration in Intellectual Property, Privacy, and Media Law; ABA Mediation Regional Champion; ADR Team Member; Erica Brown Gardner Mediation Clinic Scholarship; Executive Editor of the Int'l Law Journal; Distinguished Advocate Award; IAPP Award Recipient



Cristal Hernandez-Moreno
Mecca, CA
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES

Latinx Law Student Association, 1L Representative; Pride Law, Vice-President; International Law Journal, Associate Editor & Published Author; Dean's Diversity, Service, & Leadership Scholarship; SDLRLA Scholarship; Public Interest Law Foundation, Community Relations Specialist; THLA Scholarship; Federal Magistrate Judges Association Fellow; Carolyn H. Popp Scholarship; Professor Emeritus Barbara Cox & Steve Russell '87 LGBTQ Scholarship



Jillian Holland Browne
Reno, NV
UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA, RENO

Academic Excellence Award; Distinguished Advocate Award for Appellate Oral Arguments; Vice President, APALSA; Participated in ABA Negotiations, Tulane Sports Law Negotiation Competition, and Thomas Jefferson Sports Law Negotiation Competition; Dean's Honors List; Teaching Fellow for Torts and Criminal Procedure; Executive Director of Symposia & Outreach for ILJ



Colton Huckabone

Santa Clarita, CA

GRAND CANYON UNIVERSITY

Dean's Honor List - Spring 2023, Fall 2023, Spring 2024, Fall 2024; Academic Excellence - 1; Academic Merit Scholarship; Criminal Law Association; Family Law Society



Heather Mercedes Hunter

Sandy, UT

UNIVERSITY OF UTAH

Dean's Honor List; Academic Excellence Awards - 5; Pride Law, Treasurer; Dean's Honor Scholarship; Dean's Diversity, Service, and Leadership Scholarship; Competitive Advocacy Program Award; Faculty Award; Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition; International Law Concentration with Honors



Bradley Jaurique Jr.

Fresno, CA

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FRESNO

Dean's Honor List



Jeremy Renzo Javier

Salt Lake City, UT

WEBER STATE UNIVERSITY

Business Law Concentration with Honors; Dean's Honor List; Entertainment and Sports Law Society; Military Veterans Legal Society

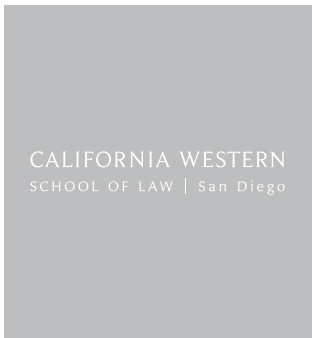


Alfredo Jimenez

El Monte, CA

CALIFORNIA STATE POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY POMONA

Dean's Honors List, Summer 2024; American Constitution Society, President; California Western Pride Law, President; Moot Court Honors Board, Trial Coordinator



Nayri Aline Kalayciyan

Los Angeles, CA

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, NORTHRIDGE

Armenian Law Students Association, President



Amandeep Kalhar

Seattle, WA

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON, SEATTLE

Dean's Honor List, Academic Excellence Award Contracts II; South Asian Law Society, President; National Lawyers Guild, Vice President; Academic Merit Scholarship Recipient



Alexander Kent

Irvine, CA

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, CHICO

SBA, Intramural Director; AAJ Trial Advocacy Competition; TYLA Trial Advocacy Competition; Gordon & Holmes Oral Advocacy Award



Alexandra Kepler

San Diego, CA

ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

International Law Journal, Executive Director of Notes & Comments; The Commentary, Co-Editor-in-Chief



Salam Khayat

Damascus, Syria

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, IRVINE

Student Bar Association, Vice President; Middle Eastern Law Student Association, Secretary



Alexis Khemili

Clifton Park, NY

NAZARETH COLLEGE OF ROCHESTER

Dean's Honor List Fall 2024; Academic Excellence Award (Appellate Program for Distinguished Advocates); Cannabis and Psychedelic Law Student Society, President



Chloé Grace Kramer

Clarkdale, AZ

NORTHERN ARIZONA UNIVERSITY

California Western Law Review, Executive Notes & Comments Editor; Academic Excellence Awards (2); Distinguished Advocate Award (1); Dean's Honor List; Pro Bono/Public Service Honors Society; First Generation Law Students Association, Treasurer & Founding Member; Judicial Extern for Honorable Judge Battaglia and Honorable Magistrate Judge Major of the US District Court of Southern California



Alyssa Kucera

San Diego, CA

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO

Dean's Honor List; Academic Excellence Award; Dean's Honor Scholarship; Entertainment and Sports Law Society, President; Student Intellectual Property Law Association, Director of Outreach; The Commentary, Editor-in-Chief; New Media Rights, Student Fellow; ABA Judicial Intern Opportunity Program, Participant



Rachel Mikaela Kupfer

Valencia, CA

SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY

3L Academic Excellence Award - Awarded to Highest-Performing Third-Year Student for Academic Achievement; Justice Anthony Kennedy Scholarship Recipient for 1L Rank of 1/201; Academic Excellence Awards - 8; Dean's Honor List; Law Review, Associate Editor and Published Writer; Business Law Concentration; Teaching Fellow, Contracts I and II; Student Bar Association, SDCBA Representative; Public Service Honors Society



Clare LaCount

Ventura, CA

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII, MANOA

Trustees' Scholarship Recipient 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025; Academic Excellence Awards - 2; Dean's Honor List - 4; Faculty Award Recipient; Constitutional Law I Teaching Fellow



Steven Daniel Lara

Rancho Cucamonga, CA

SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY

Distinguished Advocate Award; Military Veterans Legal Society - Vice President; ABTL Mock Trial Champion; Public Service Honors Society



Sarah LaVake

Encinitas, CA

CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY, SAN LUIS OBISPO

Dean's Honor List - 3; Academic Excellence Awards - 2; Teaching Fellow, Property; Public Service Honors Society; Diane Ethics Award



Gabriella LeRoy

San Diego, CA

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA CRUZ

Academic Excellence Award for Mental Health Law; Distinguished Advocate Award; 4 times Dean's Honor List Recipient; Professor William C. and Sally B. Lynch Scholarship



Julie Lewis

Acton, CA

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY

Moot Court Honors Board, ADR Coordinator



Viviana Leyva

Montebello, CA

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA BARBARA

Academic Excellence Award; Distinguished Advocate Award; Spring Legal Skills II Appellate Competition



Ellyse Linder
 Santa Barbara, CA
 UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES
 Research Assistant to Professor James Cooper



Solana Loust
 San Clemente, CA
 UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA
 Dean's Honors List, Fall 2023; Dean's Honors List, Spring 2024; Academic Merit Scholarship - 1L, 2L, and 3L



Deanna Maayaa
 San Diego, CA
 UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO
 Dean's Honor List; Academic Excellence Award - Legal Skills I; Pro Bono Honors Society; Intellectual Property, Privacy, and Media Law Concentration; New Media Rights - Student Fellow; Vice President - Middle Eastern Law Student Association; Secretary - Student Bar Association; Secretary - Entertainment Sports Law Society; SDCBA Diversity Fellow



Almin Lopez Manlucu
 Yigo, GU
 UNIVERSITY OF GUAM
 Academic Excellence Award; Dean's Honor List; Asian Pacific American Law Students Association, Treasurer (2023-2024); Student Volunteer at the Community Law Project (Fall 2023)



Ricky Marin
 Calexico, CA
 CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, SACRAMENTO
 Admissions Scholarship; Dean's Community Service and Leadership Scholarship; National Lawyers Guild at CWSL, President; Student Bar Association, 2L & 3L Representative



Wesley Mariscal
 San Ramon, CA
 SAN FRANCISCO STATE UNIVERSITY



Gabrielle Celene Mark-Bachoua
 San Diego, CA
 UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, DAVIS
 Executive Editor, California Western Law Review; Honors Instructor, Legal Writing; Teaching Fellow, Torts I & II; New Media Rights Student Fellow; Faculty Award; Public Service Honors Society; Dean's Honor List; Academic Excellence Awards



Alana Mayes
 Orange County, CA
 CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY, SAN LUIS OBISPO
 Dean's Honor List; Academic Excellence Award



LeBrian Mays
 San Diego, CA
 SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY
 Academic Excellence Awards - 3; Dean's Honor List - 4; Black Law Students Association - President; Black Law Students Association - Treasurer; WRBLSA Chapter of the Year Awards - 2; International Law Journal - Executive Editor of Notes and Comments; Earl B. Gilliam Scholarship Recipient; Black Men Lawyers' Association Scholarship Recipient; Dean Castetter Memorial Scholarship Recipient; Public Service Honors Society



Mitch McCarthy
 Iowa City, IA
 UNIVERSITY OF IOWA
 Academic Excellence Awards - 3x; Dean's Honor List - 5x; California Western Law Review - Editor-in-Chief; Moot Court Honors Board - General Board Member



Maren McConnell-Collins

San Diego, CA

REED COLLEGE

Admissions scholarship



Madison McCormick

San Diego, CA

NORTHERN ARIZONA UNIVERSITY

Dean's Honor List; Academic Excellence Awards - 6; Academic Merit Scholarship; Philip C. Jessup International Moot Court Competition; Teaching Fellow; Research Assistant to Professor William J. Aceves



Kate Danielle McDowell

San Diego, CA

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO

Academic Excellence Award; Student Intellectual Property Law Association (SIPLA), Vice President



Victoria McMullen

San Diego, CA

SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY

Dean's Honor List; Academic Excellence Award; Pro Bono Award; Bonnie Reading SDFLBA Scholarship

CALIFORNIA WESTERN
SCHOOL OF LAW | San Diego

Manuel Mendez Castro

Los Angeles, CA

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, NORTHRIDGE

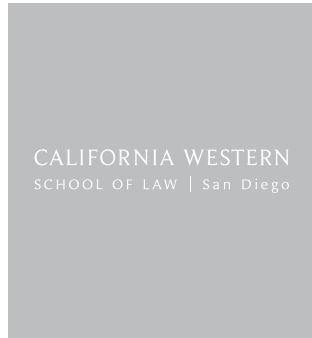


Mia Elizabeth Merritt

Denver, CO

SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY

Dean's Honor List (5); Academic Excellence Award (2); Distinguished Advocate Award (1); Academic Merit Scholarship (2); Employment & Labor Law Society; Entertainment & Sports Law Society



CALIFORNIA WESTERN
SCHOOL OF LAW | San Diego

Jessica Mertes

Camarillo, CA

TEXAS CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY



Verenice Vivienne Meza

San Diego, CA

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO



Allison Jean Miller

Santa Clarita, CA

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO, BOULDER

Law Review, Executive Director of Symposia & Outreach; Women's Law Caucus, Secretary; Dean's Honor List; Public Service Honors Society



CALIFORNIA WESTERN
SCHOOL OF LAW | San Diego

Luis Montano

Hesperia, CA

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, RIVERSIDE

Dean's Honor List; ABA Regional Mediation Champion; Erica Brown Gardner Mediation Clinic Scholarship Recipient; Employment and Labor Law Concentration



Arthur Moore

Riverside, CA
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKLELEY

Academic Excellence Award - 1; California Innocence Project



Kathryn Moore

Vista, CA
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY,
SAN MARCOS

Academic Excellence Award; Legal Writing Honors Instructor; Public Service Honors Society (2); Judicial Extern; Cannabis & Psychedelic Law Student Society, 1L Class Ambassador; Academic Merit Scholarship (3)



Novel Moses-Chakmakis

San Diego, CA
SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY

Dean's Honor List; Academic Excellence



Aria Nabipur

Anaheim, CA
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FULLERTON

Dean's Honor List, Fall 2022; Dean's Honor List, Spring 2023; Academic Excellence Award in Legal Skills



Marianne Name

Mexico City, Mexico
UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO

Academic Excellence Awards-3; Dean's Honor List; American Association for Justice Trial Competition (AAJ); San Diego Defense Lawyers Trial Competition (SDDL)



Madalyn Grace Nelson

Alpine, CA
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY,
SAN MARCOS

Moot Court Honors Board, Executive Outreach Coordinator; Criminal Law Society; Women's Law Caucus



Lindsey Thi Nguyen

Cincinnati, OH
SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY

Dean's Honor Scholarship; The Honorable J. Clifford Wallace Inn of Court, Student Member



Saba Berenji O'Neal

San Diego, CA
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES

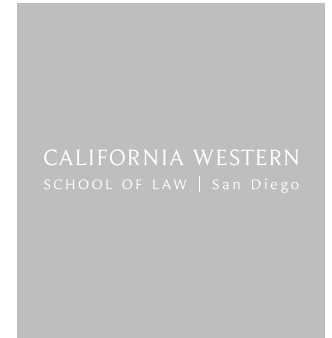
Dean's Honor List; Academic Excellence Award



Claudia Oro

San Diego, CA
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO

Distinguished Advocate Award; Public Service Honors Society, Summer 2023



Aylin Mireya Ortiz

Chula Vista, CA
SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY

Student Organization Leadership: SBA Representative; LLSA Treasurer; NLG Treasurer; Pride Law Media Manager; Honors Reading Group Member



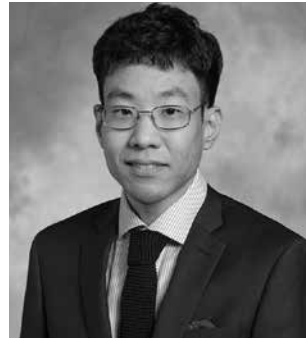
Juan Ortiz
Los Angeles, CA
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY

Distinguished Advocate Awards - 1; Latinx Law Student Association, President



Eva Parente
Albany, NY
UNIVERSITY OF TAMPA

Law Review, Senior Notes and Comments Editor; Moot Court Honors Board, Executive Trial Coordinator; Remedies, Teaching Fellow



Junghoon Erick Andres Park
Los Angeles, CA
ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

Dean's Honor List



Chaeyeon Park
Seoul, South Korea
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO

Dean's Honor List; California Western International Law Journal



Meenal Patel
Fremont/San Diego, CA
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO

Distinguished Advocate Award; ABA Business Law Student Section Scholar; Public Service Honors Society; Best Appellate Brief; Outstanding Research Journal; Outstanding Memorandum of Law; Moot Court: Appellate Advocacy Team; Thomas Tang Moot Court Competition; National Appellate Advocacy Competition; President, South Asian Law Society; Social Media Chair, Criminal Law Society; Ombudsman, SBA



Jared Paulson
Sacramento, CA
UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA, RENO

Editor-in-Chief, California Western International Law Journal; Dean's Honor List (every semester eligible); Academic Excellence Award; Academic Merit Scholarship; Employment & Labor Law Society, Vice President; Pro-Bono & Public Service Honors Society; American Inns of Court, Welsh Chapter; Employment & Labor Law Concentration with Honors



Anika Paz Lopes
San Diego, CA
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO

Academic Excellence Awards (7); XONR8, President; Dean's Honor Scholarship; Academic Excellence Scholarship; Dean's Honor List; Public Service Honors Society; Teaching Fellow, Constitutional Law I; Honors Instructor, Legal Skills I & II



Tatiana Karla Peregrina
Chino Hills, CA
UNIVERSITY OF LA VERNE

Distinguished Advocate Award, Gill Trial Competition; Women's Law Caucus, Community Liaison; Dean's Diversity, Service, and Leadership Scholarship Recipient; Public Service Honors Society; Legal Skills Honors Instructor



Grace Phan
Los Angeles, CA
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, IRVINE

Dean's Honor List (3); Academic Excellence (2); International Law Journal, Associate Editor



Erika Pichardo-Ley
Tijuana, Mexico
FORDHAM UNIVERSITY

Dean's Honor List; Academic Excellence Award; CAP Trial Team Member—South Texas Mock Trial Challenge & SDDL



Joseph Promotico
 Carlsbad, CA
 UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO



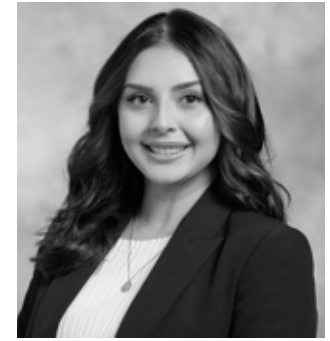
Kristopher Pua
 Escondido, CA
 UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO
 Pro Bono Honors Society; Wiley W. Manuel Certificate Recipient



Anica Regine Quizon
 Los Angeles, CA
 UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO
 Asian Pacific American Law Student Association, President; Pro Bono Honor Society; Academic Excellence Award - 1; Dean's Community Service and Leadership Scholarship



Kamla Jafar Rahman
 Hemet, CA
 CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, SAN MARCOS
 Dean's Honor List; Academic Excellence Award



Fereshta Robeena Rashidi
 Temecula, CA
 UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO
 The Commentary, Co-Editor-in Chief; Immigration Law Society, Co-Chair; IABA San Diego 2024 General Scholarship; Dean Hannah Brenner Johnson, Research Assistant



Bryan A. Rayo Carranza
 San Diego, CA
 SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY



Marie Redoutey
 Costa Mesa, CA
 THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF AMERICA
 Federalist Society, President; American Business Trial Lawyers Moot Court Competition, 1st Place; Dean's Honor Scholarship



McKenzie Richard-Weller
 Chula Vista, CA
 GRAND CANYON UNIVERSITY



Jessica Richer
 Fallbrook, CA
 DOWLING COLLEGE
 Academic Excellence Award; Dean's Honor List; Family Law Society, Social Co-Chair; International Law Journal, Senior Editor; Justice Anthony Kennedy Scholarship Recipient; Pro Bono Honors Society



Daniel Richman
 Medfield, MA
 EMMANUEL COLLEGE
 Dean's Honor List; Public Service Honors Society

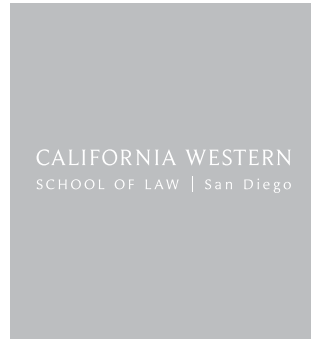


Justina Robinson

Oceanside, CA

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY

Academic Excellence Award; California Western International Law Journal, Senior Editor



Jorge Fernando Robles

El Centro, CA

UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA



Anthony Romano

Julian, CA

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA,
SANTA BARBARA

Academic Excellence Awards - Five Received; Academic Merit Scholarship



Kirstin Rosa

Orcutt, CA

CALIFORNIA LUTHERAN UNIVERSITY

Academic Excellence Awards (2); Distinguished Advocate Awards (2); UCLA Premiere Competition; Online National Competition; First Chair Competition; TYLA National Trial Competition; Criminal Law Association, President; Moot Court Honors Board, Vice Chair; Gordon & Holmes Oral Advocacy Award



Delilah Nicole Sadat

Santa Maria, CA

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FULLERTON

Dean's Honor List; Pro Bono Honors Society; Academic Excellence Award; Distinguished Advocate Award; Competitive Advocacy Program Award



Brenda Sanchez

San Bernardino, CA

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES



César Alejandro Sánchez

Ramona, CA

CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC STATE
UNIVERSITY, SAN LUIS OBISPO

Dean's Honor List; Pro Bono Society



Danielle Sanderlin

Victorville, CA

LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY, BATON ROUGE

Dean's Honors List, Fall 2024; Academic Excellence Award - 2; 2L Academic Merit Scholarship, 2023-24; Distinguished Advocate Award; Black Law Students Association, Treasurer; Elaine Galinson and Herbert J. Solomon Scholarship; Competitive Advocacy Program; International Law Journal, Associate Editor



Analese Monique Sandoval

Fontana, CA

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FULLERTON



Vaughn Schnoebelen

Escondido, CA

PACIFIC UNIVERSITY

Dean's Honor List



Lauren Mackenzie Schulze

Valley Center, CA
PEPPERDINE UNIVERSITY

Academic Excellence Award; Distinguished Advocate Award; Dean's Honor List; Honors Instructor; Public Service Honors Society; Academic Merit Scholarship; Dean's Honor Scholarship; Faculty Award for Scholarship and Service; Moot Court Honors Board



Melissa Scrivnor

San Diego, CA
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY,
SAN MARCOS

Dean's Honor List - five times; Board of Trustee's Scholarship recipient; Shawnee Tribe Higher Education Award recipient



Zarina Sementelli

Saint Paul, MN
SPELMAN COLLEGE

Academic Excellence Awards: 1 (Jurisprudence); Distinguished Advocate Awards: 1 in Trial Advocacy Competition 2023; Student Organization Leadership Positions: President of the Black Law Students Association (BLSA); President and Founder of the First Generation Law Students Association; Scholarships Awarded: Lourine W. Twyman Scholarship Recipient (2 years in a row); Competitions Won: BLSA Chapter of the Year, Western Region under my presidency (2024-2025)



Samantha Kayla Sepulveda

Alhambra, CA
LOYOLA MARYMOUNT UNIVERSITY

Dean's Honor List; Academic Excellence Award; Employment & Labor Law Society President, Vice President; Public Interest Law Foundation, Senior Treasurer; Dean's Community Service and Leadership Scholarship; Pro Bono Honors Society



Nicole Marie Sias

Northridge, CA
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, NORTH RIDGE

Student Intellectual Property Law Association, Board Member; Employment & Labor Law Association, Board Member



Maria Teresa Siliezar Siguenza

San Francisco, CA
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY.

San Diego County Bar Association, Student Member; Business Law Society; San Diego La Raza Lawyers Association, Award Recipient



Daniella Smigielski

San Diego, CA
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA,
SANTA BARBARA

Academic Excellence Awards - 1; Distinguished Advocate Awards - 1; Evidence Teaching Fellow; Dean's Honors List (5) Spring 2023, Fall 2023, Spring 2024, Summer 2024, Fall 2024; Pro Bono Honors Society Fall 2023; Public Service Honors Society Spring 2024; Competitive Advocacy Program: SDDL, ABTL



Lily Kaye Smith

Tucson, AZ
UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA

Pro Bono Honors Society



Joni Sorenson

San Diego, CA
TEXAS CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY



Ali-Reza Soroosh

Dayton, OH
UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, GLOBAL CAMPUS

Academic Excellence Awards - 4: Advanced Negotiation, Alternative Dispute Resolution, Law Office Technology: Case Management & Marketing, and Legal Skills I; Academic Merit Scholarships: 1L, 2L, 3L; Dean's Honor List - 4: Summer 2023, Spring 2024, Summer 2024, and Fall 2024; Legal Skills Honors Instructor: Spring 2024, Summer 2024, and Fall 2024



Hannah Stevens
Broomfield, CO
SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY

Dean's Honor List; Academic Excellence Awards (2); California Western Law Review; Executive Editor; Employment and Labor Law Society; Treasurer; Public Service Honors Society; Pro Bono Honors Society; Trustee's Scholarship Recipient



Sean Stillman
Westwood, CA
LONG BEACH STATE UNIVERSITY

Academic Excellence Award - 1



Sydney Stuhmer
Las Vegas, NV
SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY

Academic Excellence Award - 1; 2L SBA Representative; AAJ Trial Competition



Melika Taheri
Temecula, CA
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, RIVERSIDE

Pro Bono Honors Society



Isaac Tanori
San Diego, CA
SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY

Dean's Honor List; Public Service Honors Society; California Western International Law Journal



Daria Venea Taylor
Rock Island, IL
ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

Black Law Student Association, Treasurer; International Law Society, Ambassador; Dean's Community Service and Leadership Award; Tom Homann LGBTQ+ Scholarship



Dante Thorn
Los Angeles, CA
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, NORTHRIDGE

Distinguished Advocate Award Winner; Moot Court Honors Board Vice Chair; Criminal Law Association Treasurer; CAP Trial Team Veteran; 2024 Octofinalist in Houston Mock Trial Competition; Competitor, San Diego Defense Lawyers Mock Trial Competition



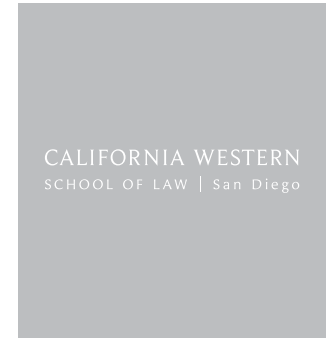
Chelsey Rose Tobiason
Nevada City, CA
WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY

Academic Excellence Award (2); Dean's Honor List; 2L Academic Merit Scholarship; 3L Academic Merit Scholarship; Pro Bono Honors Society (2); AALS Pro Bono Honors Award



Zeying Tong
Luo-Bei, Hey-Loong-Jiang Province, China
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES

Dean's Honor List; Academic Merit Scholarship; Academic Excellence Award



Armand Tovmassian
Burbank, CA
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, NORTHRIDGE

Vice President, Armenian Law Students Association



Amie Sophia Troutt

Tempe, AZ
ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

Distinguished Advocate Award, Gill Trial Competition; Women's Law Caucus, President; Pro Bono and Public Service Honors Society, Gold Level Inductee; Scholarship Recipient; Jewish Student Union



Nikole Truong

Anaheim, CA
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES

Dean's Honor List, Academic Excellence Award; Asian Pacific American Law Student Association, Treasurer



Luke McKay Turner

Fort Myers, FL
FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY

Distinguished Advocate (Gafford Trial Competition); American Association for Justice Trial Advocacy Scholarship; S.B.A. 1L & 2L Representative; President (Student Intellectual Property Law); C.F.O. (Moot Court); Trial Team (AAJ & San Diego Defense Lawyers Competition); Public Service Honors (Summer 2024); Tom Homann LGBTQ+ Law Foundation Scholar; Entertainment/Sports Law Society Member; Business & IP Law Concentrations



Michelle Valania

Hazlet, NJ
SUFFOLK UNIVERSITY

Community Law Project, Student Fellow; Moot Court Honors Board, 2025 Appellate Coordinator; Academic Excellence Awards - 2; Distinguished Advocate Award; Gil Trial Competition, 2nd Place; CWSL Admissions Scholarship; Academic Merit Scholarship; Pro Bono Honors Society; Dean's Honor List; Wiley W. Manuel Certificate for Pro Bono Legal Services



Natalie Valentine

Morgan Hill, CA
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, DAVIS

Dean's Honor List, Spring 2023, Fall 2023, Fall 2024; Pro Bono Honors Society, Fall 2023; Public Service Honors Society, Fall 2023 and Spring 2024; Academic Excellence Award



Lexi Jean Vander Linden

Rancho Cucamonga, CA
SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY

Dean's Honor List 2023 and 2024; Academic Excellence Awards - 2; Civil Procedure I and II Teaching Fellow; California Innocence Project; Pro Bono Honors Society; Distinguished Advocate Award; CAP Trial Team; Gill Trial Competition Winner; Premiere Rookie and TYLA Competitor; Justice Howard and Mrs. Joan Wiener Scholarship; Academic Merit Scholarship; Dean's Honor Scholarship; First Generation Scholarship



Audrey Verdone

San Diego, CA
SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY

Criminal Law Association, Vice President



Brenda Judith Virrey

Reno, NV
UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA, RENO

Academic Excellence Award - Criminal Law; Distinguished Advocate Award; San Diego La Raza Lawyer's Association Scholarship recipient; Queen Jasmine Scholarship recipient; Pride Law, Social Media Chair; Immigration Law Society, Program Coordinator; American Association for Justice Student Trial Advocacy Competition; Association of Business Trial Lawyers Competition



Zachary Wagonis

Temecula, CA
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, DAVIS



Brooke Walker

San Diego, CA
NORTHERN ARIZONA UNIVERSITY

Dean's Honor List Spring 2023; Professor Irwin D. Miller Inspiration and Achievement Award



Brittany Erin Wallace

San Diego, CA

MCGILL UNIVERSITY

Dean's Honor List: Summer 2023, Fall 2023, Spring 2024, Summer 2024, Fall 2024; Distinguished Advocate Award; Academic Excellence Award: Legal Skills I, Legal Skills II, Contracts I, Property I, Torts I, Trial Advocacy, Entertainment Law; Teaching Fellow: Torts I, Constitutional Law I; Research Assistant; SBA Ombudsperson; California Western Law Review, Senior Lead Articles Editor; Academic Merit Scholarship: 1L, 2L, 3L



Colton Walters

El Dorado Hills, CA

UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE, KNOXVILLE



William Wang

San Diego, CA

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO

Pro Bono Honors Society Award; Distinguished Advocate Award; Third Place Finalist, The Premiere Trial Competition; Octofinalist, South Texas Mock Trial Challenge; California Innocence Project; Gordon & Holmes Oral Advocacy Award; Competitor, San Diego Defense Lawyers Mock Trial Competition



Sargena Nineveh Warda

Phoenix, AZ

ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

Dean's Honor List; Academic Excellence Award; Moot Court Honors Board, Networking Event Coordinator; Competitive Advocacy Program, Premier Trial Competition; Academic Merit Scholarship



Daniel Abraham Weiser

San Diego, CA

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA BARBARA

California Western Law Review, Senior Lead Articles Editor; Dean's Honor List, Spring 2023 & Fall 2023; Pro Bono Honors Society, Summer 2023; Academic Excellence Awards - 5; Student Bar Association, Treasurer; Teaching Fellow, Criminal Law; Justice Anthony Kennedy Scholarship Recipient; California Innocence Project, Clinical Intern



Fred Burton Wells II

San Diego, CA

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, CHANNEL ISLANDS

California Western Dean's Honor Scholarship Recipient; Homeless Outreach Legal Society, President 24-25; Gafford Competition Participant; Pro Bono Honors Society; Dean's Honor List, Fall 2024; American Bar Association Representative



Ashley Jan Willcox

San Diego, CA

SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY

Academic Excellence Awards (4); Dean's Honor List; Academic Merit Scholarship; Business Law Society, Vice President; California Western Law Review



Isaiah P. Winfield

Evansville, IN

INDIANA UNIVERSITY, BLOOMINGTON

Elaine Galinson and Herbert J. Solomon Scholarship; Castetter Award Winner; BLSA Washington Trip Coordinator



Kelcey Woodson

Chula Vista, CA

SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY

Dean's Community Service and Leadership Diversity Scholarship Recipient; Pro Bono Honors Society; Secretary, Family Law Society (2024); 2024 Business Law Student Scholar Program Participant



Armen Haig Yessaian

Chatsworth, CA

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, NORTHRIDGE

Dean's Honors List; Academic Excellence Award; Armenian Law Students Association - Vice President



Paul Yim

Irvine, CA

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY

Dean's Honor List Fall 2023; Public Service Honors Society Fall 2023; Dean's Honor List Spring 2024; APALSA Secretary 2023-24; APALSA Vice-President 2024-25; KABA Student Representative 2022-25; PALSD Student Representative 2023-24; NAPIPA Student Representative 2023-25



Nicolette Andere Yohn

Sarasota, FL

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

Dean's Honor List; Honors Instructor - Legal Skills I & II; Academic Excellence Awards - 3; Pro Bono Honors Society; First Place and Distinguished Advocate Award - Spring 2023 1L Appellate Advocacy Competition; Best Brief Runner-Up - Franck A. Schreck Gaming Law Moot Court Competition; San Diego County Bar Association 2023 Diversity Fellow

While our success will no doubt be due to the knowledge
we have gained, it will also be due to the lessons we've
learned about resilience, community, and hard work.

— Lexi Jean Vander Linden



JD/MSW Candidate

The JD/MSW Dual-Degree Program
California Western School of Law
San Diego State University, School of Social Work

The goal of the dual-degree program is to graduate students who are competent in the disciplines of social work and law for advanced practice in the field of child abuse and neglect where law and social work converge. The major objective is to develop the knowledge and skills vital to effective practice areas associated with child welfare. Complex issues which require this expertise arise in the context of family counseling, administration and policy-making, as well as in practice in juvenile/family and criminal courts, and in mediation. The program stresses an interdisciplinary approach, which values collaboration and communication skills.



Maliat Chowdhury

Reno, NV

UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA, RENO

International Law Area of Concentration;
6 Academic Excellence Awards; 2
Distinguished Advocate Awards; 2
Scholarly Publications; Philip C. Jessup
International Moot Court Competition,
Oralist; Richard Baxter Award Recipient;
Hardy C. Dillard Award Recipient; NAPIPA
Scholarship Recipient; International
Legal Studies Scholarship Recipient;
Duane W. Layton International Law
Scholarship Recipient; International Law
Journal, Executive Director of Symposia &
Outreach; Kennedy Scholarship Recipient;
Dean's Honor List

Take time and be
present in this very
moment, look around,
see the clear skies,
hear the birds chirp,
and feel that cap that
is on your head. That
cap is greater than
an indication of your
merits, it's a promise
to those who look
upon you that they
are not alone.

— Isaiah P. Winfield



CA Western
School
of Law

DOWNTOWN

Our legacy will be defined by the impact we
make. Let's make it worth remembering.

— Sydney Stuhmer

Academic Apparel

The academic apparel worn today by the faculty and candidates has its origins in the everyday dress of the Medieval European university communities. Codified and standardized in this country late in the last century, it serves as a scholastic heraldry indicating in its elements the degree held, the discipline in which the degree is taken, and the institution granting the degree.

The gowns are of three kinds: the Bachelor's with open, pointed sleeves; the Master's with sleeves covering the arms only to the elbow then falling in narrow closed panels; and the Doctor's with very full sleeves gathered at the wrist and guarded with three velvet bars, the front panels of the gown being also of velvet. The gowns vary in color, and almost always are trimmed in velvet of the color of the particular discipline. The participants today, as recipients of the Juris Doctorate degree, wear this latter gown trimmed in royal purple for law.

The hood is the most colorful, informative, and perhaps most important element of academic dress. Its length, shape and the width of its edging indicate the degree held. The color of the velvet represents the discipline or field of study. For instance, the doctoral hoods awarded are four feet long. The velvet is five inches wide and royal purple for law. The silken lining is turned out and indicates by its colors and pattern the institution granting the degree. The Trustees and candidates wear the hood of California Western School of Law, incorporating our school colors (royal purple and gold).

The popular "Doctoral Tam" in soft velvet is the cap worn today. They are decorated with a purple tassel for a Doctor.





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The graduates are wearing gowns made of
100%, post-consumer recycled plastic bottles.

