

CALIFORNIA WESTERN SCHOOL OF LAW / San Diego



One–Hundred–Twenty Commencement Ceremony | May 8, 2026



Commencement Program

Prelude | Pomp and Circumstance

Welcome Remarks | President and Dean Miriam Baer

Class of 2026 Welcoming Address |

Introduction of the Trustees and Faculty | President and Dean Miriam Baer

Introduction of the Commencement Speaker | President and Dean Miriam Baer

Graduate Address | Malalai Fazilat

Commencement Address | The Honorable Michael Groch

JD Candidates | Associate Dean Amy Day


Associate Dean Shawn Fields

Vice Dean Liam Vavasour

JD/MBA Candidate | Vice Dean Liam Vavasour

Presentation of Graduates | President and Dean Miriam Baer

Postlude



As we step into the
next chapter, may we
lead with purpose,
act with intention,
and trust in our
ability to rise to every
challenge.

— Juhi Bhakta

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 Ordonez, Ph.D.
Robert K. Scott, Esq.
Sally Wong Avery, Esq.



Faculty

FACULTY | 2025-2026

Miriam Baer | President and Dean
Liam Vavasour | 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
Shawn Fields | 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
Jessica K. Fink | Professor of Law
Paul J. Gudel | Professor of Law
Catherine Hardee | Professor of Law; Director of Clinical Externship Program
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
Spencer Williams | Associate Professor of Law
Daniel B. Yeager | Professor of Law
Michael T. Yu | Professor of Law

EMERITUS FACULTY | 2025-2026

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 | 2025-2026

William M. Aul, Esq.

Megan Baca, Esq.

Thomas Bahr II, Esq.

Brandon Baker, Esq.

Anne Bautista, Esq.

Flavia Berys, Esq.

Todd Bulich, Esq.

Lindsey Burnette, Esq.

J. Clayton Carr, Esq.

Hon. Mary Celeste (Ret.)

Linda Cianciolo, Esq.

Jason Conge, Esq.

Mark Conover, Esq.

Tracy De Soto, Esq.

Michael Donahue, Esq.

Iris Fugate, Esq.

Corey Garrard, Esq.

Richard Gates, Esq.

Vanessa Gerard, Esq.

Diane Gibson, Esq.

Barbara A. Glennan, Esq.

Sara Gros-Cloren, Esq.

Sadaf Hane, Esq.

John Hardison, Esq.

Karen Hawkes, Esq.

James F. Holtz, Esq.

Theodore Janowsky, Esq.

Kayla Jimenez, Esq.

Sayd Kazerounian, Esq.

Don S. Kovacic, Esq.

Christopher Lee, Esq.

Erika Lee, Esq.

Clarice J. Letizia, Esq.

Catherine Ligioso, Esq.

Yvette Lopez, Esq.

Melissa Mack, Esq.

Hon. James Mangione

Patrick McManus, Esq.

Marcela Mendez, Esq.

Katie Nagler, Esq.

Falvio Nominati, Esq.

Robert O'Leary, Esq.

Ricardo Ochoa, Esq.

Paul Parisi, Esq.

Jo Pastore, Esq.

Laura Pennelle, Esq.

Grant Porter, Esq.

Ariana Price, Esq.

Karen Prosek, Esq.

Grant Puleo, Esq.

Karen Reimus, Esq.

Dana Robinson, Esq.

Devon K. Roepcke, Esq.

Angie Sauberan, Esq.

Dennis Sharp, Esq.

Robert Teaff, Esq.

Kyle Velte, Esq.

Robert A. Waller, Esq.

Bobbi Ann Weaver, Esq.

Bryan Wildenthal, Esq.

Hon. Tiffany Williams Brewer (Ret.)



Senior Administrators

Miriam Baer | President and Dean

Liam Vavasour | Vice Dean for Academic Affairs;
Professor of Law

Jeannie Posner | Chief Financial Officer

Laura Loomis | Vice President, Philanthropy
and Alumni Engagement

Lisa Ferreira | Dean of Students and
Administrative Services

Jorge Garcia | Assistant Dean, Admissions
and Financial Aid

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

Shawn Fields | Associate Dean for Research and
Faculty Development; Professor of Law

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

We are here because we endured.
Because we adapted. Because we
refused to let our circumstances
define our ceilings.

— Jasmin Divas

We are entering a
profession built for
moments like this.
Moments when rules are
tested. Moments when
process matters.

— Ashlyn Plant



Commencement Speaker

Judge Michael S. Groch | San Diego County Superior Court

Judge Michael S. Groch serves as Presiding Judge of the San Diego County Superior Court, California's second-largest trial court system. Appointed to the bench in 2010, he brings more than three decades of legal experience, including nearly 20 years as a Deputy District Attorney. His judicial career spans criminal, family, and limited civil assignments, along with significant leadership in court governance and statewide judicial administration. He has served as Dean of the B.E. Witkin Judicial College, Vice President of the California Judges Association, Chair of the San Diego Superior Court Technology Committee, and is a long standing member of the Judicial Council's Information Technology Advisory Committee. His work has focused on judicial education, court technology modernization, and institutional leadership. As Presiding Judge, he oversees 154 judicial officers, nearly 1,100 employees, and a budget exceeding \$220 million.



Wherever we go, the skills we gained here will allow us to help people navigate complicated situations and find solutions to difficult problems.

— Arman Sadighian

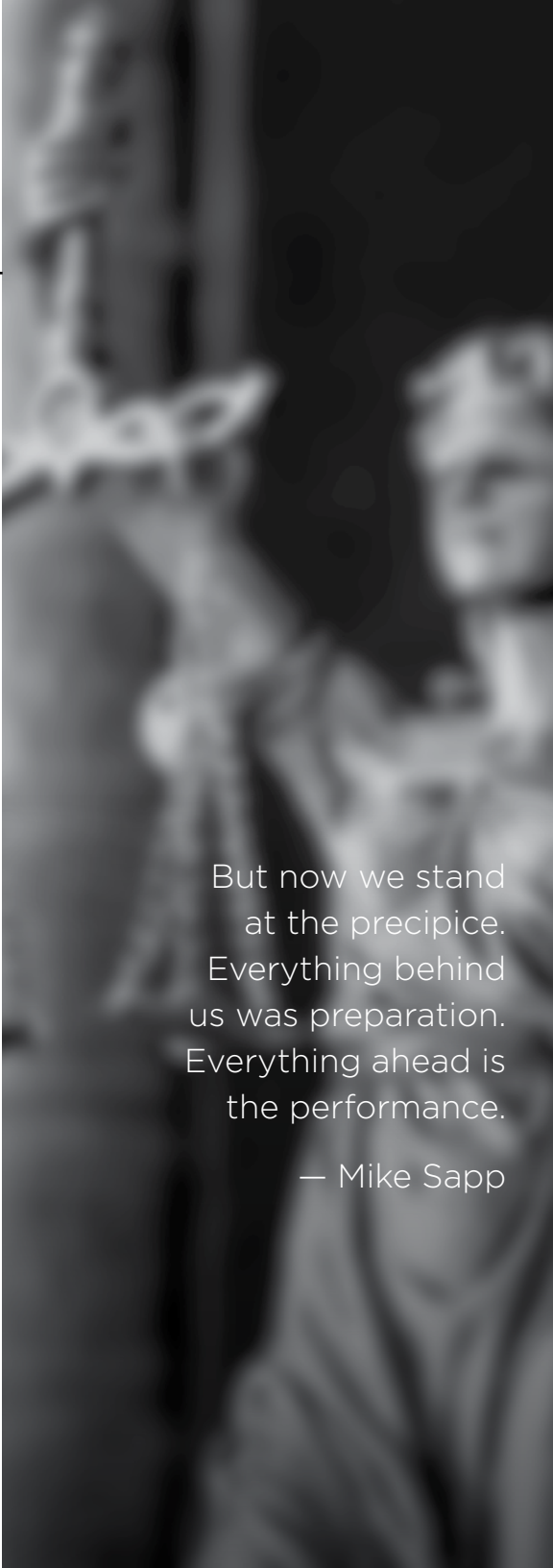
A Juris Doctor is not simply a title we earn today; it is a responsibility we carry forward.

— Jacob Sanchez



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, 4 to 5 years, by enrolling in the part-time program.



But now we stand
at the precipice.
Everything behind
us was preparation.
Everything ahead is
the performance.

— Mike Sapp



Valeh Aboonour
San Diego, CA
UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS, BOSTON
Middle Eastern Law Students Association,
Iranian American Bar Association
Representative



Adrian Ricardo Aguilar
Imperial, CA
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO
Academic Excellence Awards - 3; Dean's
Honor List Spring 2024, Fall 2024, Spring
2025, Fall 2025



Shielen Ahmadi
San Diego, CA
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY,
SAN MARCOS
Business Law Society, Vice President;
Middle Eastern Law Student Association,
Vice President; Themis Bar Prep, Head
Representative



Bahar Ahmadzadeh
Los Angeles, CA
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO
Master of Public Policy (UCLA)



Natasha Amonkar-Zazueta
Milpitas, CA
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, IRVINE
Jane Bishop Grant Recipient, Summer;
Family Law Society, Vice President; South
Asian Law Society, Social Chair



Rediet Angassa
San Diego, CA
SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY



Hector Alexis Arrieta
Compton, CA
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO
Academic Excellence Awards - 3; Dean's
Honor List Fall 2024; Dean's Honor List
Spring 2024; Treasurer, Entertainment
and Sports Law Society; 2L 100% Merit
Scholarship; 3L 70% Merit Scholarship



Eden La'akea Arthur
Kailua, HI
UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT MĀNOA
Dean's Honor List; Kūlia i ka nu'u
Scholarship awardee; Academic
Excellence Award, Appellate Bootcamp;
Teaching Fellow, Constitutional Law
I; Legal Research Assistant, Professor
Aceves; International Law Journal,
Executive Editor; Jessup, Oral Advocate;
First Generation Law Student Association,
President



Maryam Aso
San Diego, CA
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, SAN DIEGO
Dean's Honors List; Vice President,
Public Interest Law Foundation; Student
Ambassador, Office of Admissions;
Research Assistant, Professional
Responsibility; Social Chair, Middle Eastern
Law Association; Teaching Fellow, Property
Law I & II; Secretary, First Generation Law
Students Association; Study Abroad,
University of Vienna; Scholarship Recipient,
San Diego La Raza Lawyers Association;
Scholarship Recipient, Merit; Recipient,
Dean's Community Service and Leadership
Scholarship



Sabreen Atwal
Fresno, CA
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA,
SANTA BARBARA
South Asian Law Society, Vice President;
California Western School of Law
Admissions Scholarship; Pro Bono Society
(147 hours)



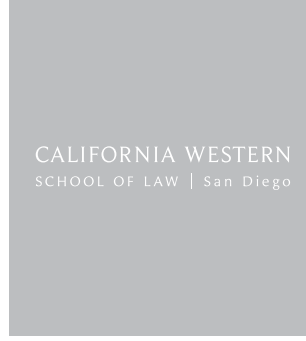
Ehren Azeris
Wheaton, IL
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO, DENVER

Dean's Honor List; Dean's Honor Scholarship; Merit Scholarship; Academic Excellence Awards - 3; The California Western Law Review, Executive Editor of Lead Articles



Christina Noell Azzuz
Northridge, CA
UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO

Dean's Honor List; Academic Excellence Awards - 3; Cannabis & Psychedelic Law Student Society, Social Media Chair; Academic Merit Scholarships



Matthew Bagdasar
San Diego, CA
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Academic Excellence Award - 1



Emin Baghdassarians
Los Angeles, CA
UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO



Terri Teague Baker Ombura
Scottsdale, AZ
WESTMONT COLLEGE, SANTA BARBARA;
THUNDERBIRD SCHOOL OF GLOBAL
MANAGEMENT, ASU, PHOENIX

International Law Journal, Senior Editor; Academic Excellence Awards - 3; Belonging and Community Committee, Student Representative; Teaching Fellow; Research Assistant; Academic Merit Scholarship; Dean's Honor List; ADR Team Competitor; Faculty Awards Nominee



Grace Banny
Charlotte, NC
UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA
AT CHAPEL HILL

Dean's Honor List; Pro Bono Honors Society; Public Service Honors Society; Justice Howard B. and Mrs. Joan C. Wiener Scholarship; Teaching Fellow, Civil Procedure; California Western Law Review, Senior Editor of Notes & Comments, Academic Excellence Awards - 6



Rachel Emily Barron
San Diego, CA
SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY

Dean's Honor Scholarship; Dean's Honor List; Civil Procedure I and II Teaching Fellow

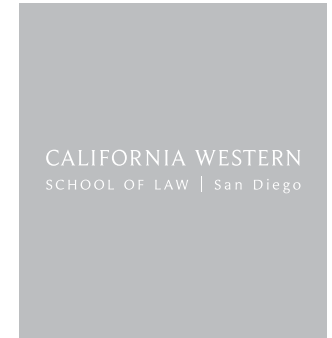


Sarah Briana Barron
San Diego, CA
SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY



Tiana Marie Barron-Wright
San Diego, CA
SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY

Academic Excellence Award - 1; Family Law Society, Treasurer; Environmental Law Society, Treasurer; First Year Admission Scholarship; Pro Bono Honors Society



Jacob Bear
Carlsbad, CA
CALIFORNIA LUTHERAN UNIVERSITY

CALIFORNIA WESTERN
SCHOOL OF LAW | San Diego



Erik Berroteran
Lompoc, CA
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, NORTHRIDGE

Dean's Honor List - 2; Academic Excellence Award - 1; Castetter "Dean Gene" Memorial Scholarship; Pro Bono Honors Society



Juhi Nilesh Bhakta
San Diego, CA
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, RIVERSIDE

2024 Distinguished Advocate Award Recipient; Alternative Dispute Resolution Team Member, Competitive Advocacy Program; Vice President and Treasurer, South Asian Law Society; Competed in 2026 ABA Mediation Competition, 2025 California Sports Lawyer Negotiation Competition, 2024 TJSL National Sports Law Negotiation Competition, ABA Regional Mediation Finalist 2026



Bradley Bolduc
Las Vegas, NV
UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO

International Law Journal, Executive Lead Articles Editor



Caitlin Burns
Mount Maunganui, New Zealand
UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO

Academic Excellence Award x3; Executive Editor, California Western Law Review; Academic Merit Scholarship Recipient; Dean's Honor Scholarship Recipient; Pro Bono Honors Society; Community Law Project, Student Leader; Tort Law Teaching Fellow; Research Assistant; International Law Concentration; Dean's Honor List



Joseph Paul Busalacchi
San Diego, CA
UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO



Claire Osa Bynum
Corvallis, OR
SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY

Academic Merit Award Scholarship: 2L, 3L; Dean's Honor List: Fall 2024, Spring 2025, Fall 2025; Academic Excellence Award - 4; Remedies, Teaching Fellow; Urban Planning and the Law, Teaching Assistant.



Katelyn Mishelle Alidio Castro
Bay Area, CA
SONOMA STATE UNIVERSITY

Dean's Honor List; Law Review Associate Editor; Honors Instructor



Brandon Reese Castro
Brawley, CA
CALIFORNIA LUTHERAN UNIVERSITY

Academic Excellence Award - 1; Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Team; Buddy Pod Program, Mentor; Distinguished Advocate Award; Moot Court Honors Board, ADR Coordinator; Pro Bono Honors Society; Public Service Honors Society



Jeffrey Cesark
Grand Junction, CO
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO, BOULDER

Academic Excellence Awards - Trial Practice, Trusts & Estates; Dean's Honor List - Spring 2025, Fall 2025

CALIFORNIA WESTERN
SCHOOL OF LAW | San Diego

CALIFORNIA WESTERN
SCHOOL OF LAW | San Diego



Jamie Childers
San Diego, CA
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY,
SAN MARCOS

Mathias Cien-Mayer
Chula Vista, CA
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA CRUZ

Hyacinth Lorena Concepcion
San Diego, CA
UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO

Dean's Honor List Fall 2024; Academic
Excellence Award - 1; Social Justice
Concentration

Elle Cook
Billings, MT
ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

Dean's Honor List; Distinguished
Advocate Award (1); Conte Cup Opening
Statement Competition (2nd Place);
Scholarship Recipient

Emma Cooper
Palm Desert, CA
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO



Victoria Elizabeth Cooper
Shafter, CA
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, SAN JOSE

Kaylee Coughlin
Kingsport, TN
EAST TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

Competitor, ADR intraschool competition;
Recipient, Dean's Honor scholarship;
Clinical Intern, Innocence and Justice
Clinic

Madison Dolores Croy
Maple Valley, WA
BOISE STATE UNIVERSITY

Two Academic Excellence Awards; Dean's
Honor Scholarship; 3L Academic Merit
Scholarship; Criminal Law Association;
Public Interest Law Foundation

Anthony Dallo
San Diego, CA
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO

Academic Excellence Award; Teaching
Fellow; 2L Academic Merit Scholarship;
3L Academic Merit Scholarship; Dean's
Honor List Spring 2024; Dean's Honor List
Fall 2024; Dean's Honor List Spring 2025

Shae Nicole Daly
San Rafael, CA
UNIVERSITY OF OREGON

Entertainment and Sports Law Society,
President; Entertainment and Sports Law
Society, Vice President of Sports; Pro
Bono Honors Society 2024; Pro Bono
Honors Society 2025



Kendall René Decker
Orange County, CA
SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY

Best Opening Statement - San Diego Defense Lawyers Trial Competition; 1st Place Negotiation Team - CWSL ADR Competition; CWSL Distinguished Advocate Award; AAJ Trial Competition; Dean's List Honors - Spring 2024, Fall 2024, Spring 2025, Fall 2025; Moot Court Honor's Board - Trial Coordinator; CWSL Professional Responsibility Committee; Research Assistant, Professor Yeager



Alexandra Diaz
Diamond Bar, CA
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, RIVERSIDE

Social Justice Area of Concentration; Pro Bono Honors Society Summer 2024



Kevin Dinh
San Diego, CA
SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY

Public Service Honor Society



Jasmin Divas Villeda
Sonsonate, El Salvador
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO

National Native Law Student Association Moot Court Competition; Founder and President, Indigenous People Law Student Association; Vice President, International Law Society; Hispanic National Bar Association VIA Fund Law Student Scholarship; Pro Bono Service to the Community; Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition; Distinguished Advocate Award; International Law Concentration



Shayan Ehssan
Anaheim, CA
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO



Robert Alan Ernst
Reno, NV
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA

Dean's Honor List-2; Academic Excellence Awards-1; New Media Rights Intern

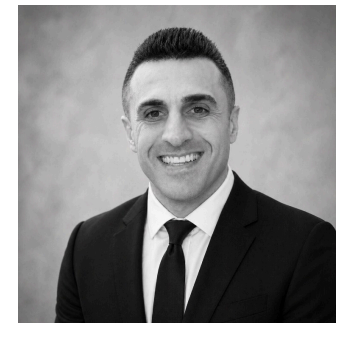


Blye Escalante
Bakersfield, CA
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY,
SACRAMENTO



Andre Eselebor
New York, NY
POINT LOMA NAZARENE UNIVERSITY

Dean's Honor List Recipient; Honors Reading Club, Professor Kennedy (Harvard Law School); Black Law Students Association - Community Service Chair



Landi Eskandar
San Diego, CA
SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY

Entertainment and Sports Law Society, Vice President of Sports; Federal Judicial Intern; ADR Competition Participant; Closing Statement Competition Participant



Malalai Fazilat
Irvine, CA
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO

Dean's Honor List; Academic Merit Scholarship; Dean's Community Service and Leadership Scholarship; Student Bar Association Representative 2024-2026; Muslim Student Association President and Founder



Dana Fennell
San Diego, CA
PURDUE UNIVERSITY

Academic Excellence Awards - 3; California Western International Law Journal, Senior Editor; Teaching Fellow, Civil Procedure I & II; Women's Law Caucus, Treasurer; Academic Merit Scholarship; Dean's Honor List



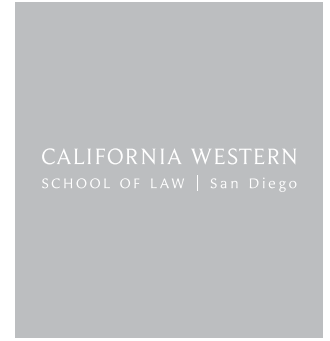
Jennifer Garcia
Los Angeles, CA
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES

Social Justice Concentration; Dean's Honor List; Academic Excellence Award; Pro Bono Honors Society; Recipient of the Disability Rights Now Scholarship



Maria Garcia Baldizzone
Palm Springs, CA
QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY

Academic Excellence Award; Deans Honor List; Public Service Honor Society; Cannabis and Psychedelic Law Student Society, President



Michaela St. Claire Garten
Phoenix, AZ
ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

Jewish Student Union, Vice President; Indigenous People Law Student Association, Treasurer; Women's Law Caucus, Secretary



Ashley Gaston
Fallbrook, CA
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, RIVERSIDE
ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY, M.ED



Griffin Geringer
San Diego, CA
CALIFORNIA LUTHERAN UNIVERSITY

Deans Honor List; Earned scholarship awards for all semesters



Daniella Gil-Reynoso
San Diego, CA
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, RIVERSIDE

Dean's Honor List; Student Ambassador, CWSL Admissions; Research Assistant, Professor Emily Behzadi Cárdenas



Jared Aiden Gluckstein
Toronto, ON
THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO

Academic Merit Scholarship; Dean's Honor List Fall 2024, Spring 2025, Fall 2025; Academic Excellence Award in Trial Practice and Advanced Negotiations.



Gabrielle Gomozias
San Jose, CA
UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO

Academic Excellence Award; California Western Law Review, Associate Editor; California Western Law Review, Published Author



Joshua Goodmacher
San Diego, CA
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA,
SANTA BARBARA

Senior Lead Articles Editor, The California Western Law Review; Concentration in Labor and Employment Law; Employment & Labor Law Society - Treasurer; Academic Excellence Awards: Disability Law, Employment Law, Innocence & Justice Clinic II; ADR Negotiation Competition: Finalist, Distinguished Advocate; Dean's Honor List: Spring 2024, Fall 2024, Spring 2025



Clifford Grant
San Diego, CA
UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO

Dean's Honor List; Academic Excellence Awards - 2

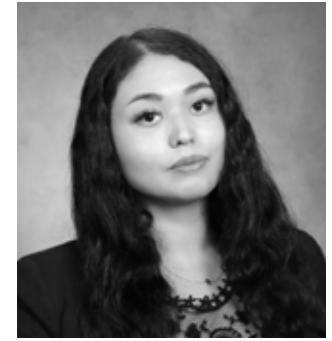


Marina Grigoryan
Los Angeles, CA
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES

Dean's Honor List (2); Academic Excellence Award

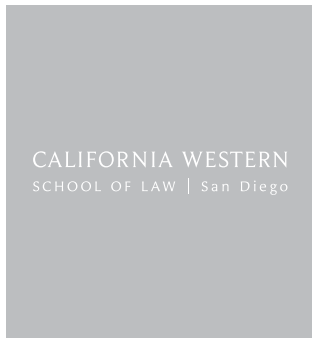


Raechel Grover
San Diego, CA
SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY



Sarah Hamrick
Guatemala City, Guatemala
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY,
SAN MARCOS

Academic Excellence Award; Family Law Society, President



Jonah Handel-Mannis
San Diego, CA
UNIVERSITY OF DENVER

Dean's Honor List; Academic Excellence Award



Michelle Helbig
Temecula, CA
UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY

Academic Excellence Awards: Constitutional Law, Criminal Law Theory, Trial Practice, Advanced Legal Research; Dean's Honor List - 5 semesters; Distinguished Advocate Award, Bobbie Thyfault Appellate Competition; Appellate Team, Thomas Tang Moot Court Competition - National Level, NAAC Competition, UC Davis Asylum Law Competition; Professional Responsibility Committee; Military Service Scholarship; Military Veterans Legal Society, President



Sierra Henrichsen
Phoenix, AZ
ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

Admissions Scholarship; Distinguished Advocate Award; Alternative Dispute Resolution Competition, 3rd Place; Moot Court Trial Team, Online National Competition Participant



Katherine Henry
San Diego, CA
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES

Justice Anthony Kennedy Scholar; California Western Law Review; Research Assistant to Professor James Cooper for Artificial Intelligence Casebook; Concentration in Intellectual Property, Privacy, and Media Law; Dean's Honor List; Secretary, Entertainment and Sports Law Society



Ashleen Jamilex Herrarte
Los Angeles, CA
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, RIVERSIDE

Entertainment and Sports Law Society, Vice President of Entertainment; The Commentary, Editor-in-Chief; Student Bar Association, Board of Representatives Chair; Moot Court Honors Board, Outreach Coordinator; Public Service Honors Society; Research Assistant, Professor Yeager



Marleen Hiedo

San Diego, CA

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO

California Western School of Law (CWSL) Admissions Scholarship; Moot Court Honors Board, Social Media Chair; Student Bar Association (SBA), Ombudsperson & Board of Representatives Vice Chair; Academic Excellence Award; CWSL Trademark Clinic



Trent Elijah-Nash Hightower

Trenton, NJ

RUTGERS UNIVERSITY



Michelle Howard-Navarro

Gardena, CA

CALIFORNIA STATE POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY, POMONA

Distinguished Advocate Award; Dean's Honor List; Homeless Outreach Legal Society, President; Federal Bar Association, Vice President; San Diego La Raza Lawyers Association Scholarship

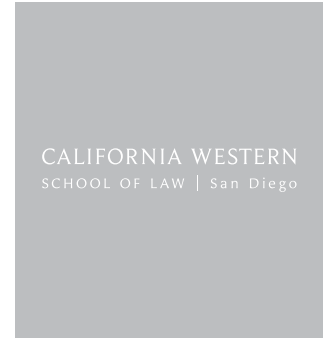


Tanner Hoyle

Surprise, AZ

SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY

Academic Excellence Awards - 3; Dean's Honors List - 4; Distinguished Advocate Award; Trial Team - San Diego Defense Lawyers Competition; Public Service Honors Society Award



CALIFORNIA WESTERN
SCHOOL OF LAW | San Diego

Owen Hunt

Sacramento, CA

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO

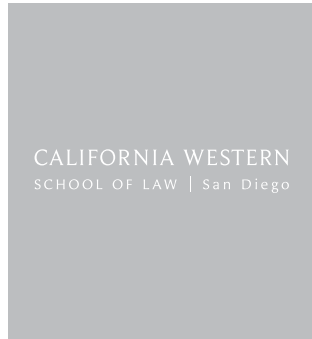


Cheylise Samara Jefferson

Las Vegas, NV

UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA, RENO

Black Law Student Association, President



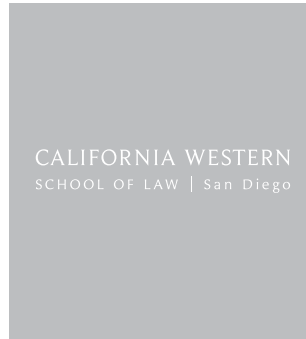
CALIFORNIA WESTERN
SCHOOL OF LAW | San Diego

Annalisa Candida Jenrich

Tujunga, CA

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, IRVINE

Academic Excellence Awards - 3; National Appellate Advocacy Competition; Public Service Honors Society



CALIFORNIA WESTERN
SCHOOL OF LAW | San Diego

Erik Christopher Jensen

Napa, CA

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES



Ryan Jensen

Fremont, CA

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA CRUZ

California Western Law Review - Executive Director of Notes & Comments; Scriba Regis Award and Scholarship; ACREL National Writing Competition 1st Place Award and Scholarship; Academic Merit Scholarships; Dean's Honor List; Bobbie Thyfault Appellate Competition 1st Place Award; Distinguished Advocate Award (2); Academic Excellence Award; Forklift Operator Certification



Monica Jimenez

San Diego, CA

SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY



Olivia Elizabeth Salima Johnson

Temecula, CA
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY,
SAN MARCOS

CWSL Law Review, Senior Lead Articles
Editor; Family Law Society, Secretary



Christopher Johnson

Rancho Cordova, CA
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY,
SACRAMENTO

Pro Bono Honors Society



CALIFORNIA WESTERN
SCHOOL OF LAW | San Diego

Justin Vaughn Johnson

San Clemente, CA
BRIGHAM YOUNG UNIVERSITY, HAWAII

Dean's Honor List



CALIFORNIA WESTERN
SCHOOL OF LAW | San Diego

Jonathan Jordan

Santa Fe Springs, CA
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO

Student Bar Association Representative
- International Legal Society; Academic
Excellence Award - Legal Drafting (Fall
2025)



Madison Elizabeth Kane

Merced, CA
SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY

Dean's Honor List - 2; New Media
Rights, Student Fellow; First Generation
Law Student Association, Treasurer;
Entertainment and Sports Law Society,
Member; Research Assistant to Professor
Jessica Fink



Nicholas Danny Nabih Kashou

San Diego, CA
SAN JOSE STATE UNIVERSITY

Academic Excellence Awards - 2; Civil
Procedure Teaching Fellow; Contracts
Teaching Fellow



Elijah Kastrul

Phoenix, AZ
ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY, TEMPE AZ

Jewish Student Union, President



Logan Elizabeth Kelly

Sacramento, CA
LEWIS AND CLARK COLLEGE

Academic Excellence Awards - 1



Suzan Khalil

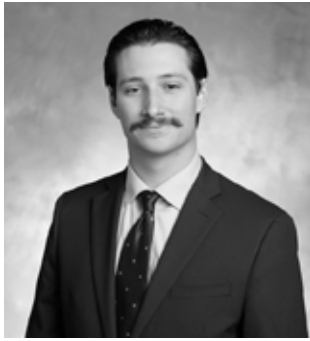
Overland Park, KS
UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI, KANSAS CITY

Dean's Honor List; Arab-American Bar
Association; Middle Eastern Law Student
Association; American Immigration
Lawyers Association



Artin Hambarsum Khatchadourian

Glendale, CA
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES



Samuel Kinsey
San Diego, CA
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA,
SANTA BARBARA

Dean's Honor List; Academic Excellence Award



Lauren Rose Koger
Everett, Washington
BOISE STATE UNIVERSITY

Moot Court Honors Board, Trial Coordinator



Lemor Kosov
Los Angeles, CA
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES

Academic Excellence Awards, Legal Drafting; Scholarship Award, 3L Academic Merit scholarship; Pro Bono Pledge, National Jewish Advocacy Center; Professor Irwin D. Miller Inspiration and Achievement Award; Professor Susan A. Channick Memorial Scholarship Award

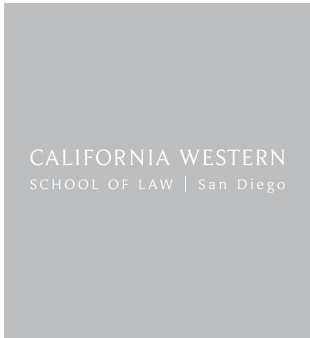


Thomas Davies Lavine
Austin, TX
TRINITY UNIVERSITY

Dean's Honor List; Distinguished Advocate: Appellate Argument; Academic Scholarship Recipient; Entertainment and Sports Law Society



Alexis Leal
Los Angeles
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, IRVINE



CALIFORNIA WESTERN
SCHOOL OF LAW | San Diego

Colin Lee
Fullerton, CA
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES



Jonathan Andrew Levy
Cherry Hill, NJ
UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH

Distinguished Advocate Awards - 1; Competitor, The Online National Championship



Brittany Longo-Frascatore
Las Vegas, NV
CENTRAL CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY

Public Interest Law Foundation, President; Dean's Honor List; Pro Bono Honors Program; Recipient of the California Lawyers Association's Wiley W. Manuel Award for Pro Bono Legal Services



CALIFORNIA WESTERN
SCHOOL OF LAW | San Diego

Isabelle June Lovell
Chula Vista, CA
CALIFORNIA STATE POLYTECHNIC
UNIVERSITY, POMONA

Dean's Honor List



Elisabeth Luntz
San Diego, CA
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, IRVINE

1L and 3L Academic Merit scholarship; Dean's Honor List Fall 2024, Fall 2025



Jackson Lutzker
Davis, CA
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO, BOULDER



Benjamin Magana, Jr.
San Marcos, CA
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY,
SAN MARCOS
Academic Excellence Award - 1



Anthony Manning
Granger, IN
UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO
Academic Merit Scholarship (3x); Lloyd
Ellis Griffin Scholarship (2x)



Aaron Mannis
San Diego, CA
SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY
Senior Editor - California Western Law
Review; Public Service Honors Society



John Paul Mantone
Long Island, NY
VILLANOVA UNIVERSITY



Casey Manuel
Brentwood, CA
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, IRVINE

Buddy-Pod 1L Mentorship Program,
Mentor ('24-'26); Art and Law Society,
Vice President ('24-'25); Federal Bar
Association, Professional Chapter Liaison
('24-'25); Asian Pacific American Law
Student Association, Secretary ('24-'25),
Co-President ('25-'26); Student Bar
Association, Administrator ('25-'26); Pro
Bono Honors Society, Silver Level



Jesus Martin
San Diego, CA
SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY

Alternate Dispute Resolution Team
Member



Justin Maschek
Scottsdale, AZ
ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY
Dean's Honor List - Fall 2025; Academic
Excellence Award - Commercial
Real Estate Transactions; Area of
Concentration: Business Law



Vivian Mason
Los Angeles, CA
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO

International Law Journal, Executive
Director of Symposia & Outreach; Latinx
Law Student Association, President; Pro
Bono Honors Society



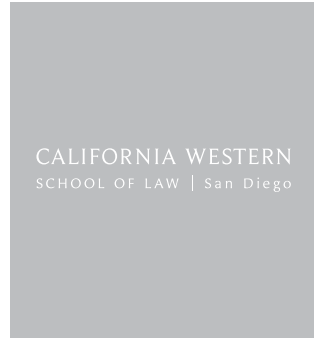
Kayla McCrindle
Simi Valley, CA
SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

Dean's Honor List Fall 2025; Dean's Honor
List Spring 2025; Academic Excellence
Awards; 3L Academic Merit Scholarship;
Moot Court Honors Board, Outreach
Coordinator 24/25



Gabriel McInnis
Mesa, AZ
ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

Academic Excellence Award Recipient; Wiley W. Manuel Certificate Recipient; Pro Bono Honors Society Award Recipient; CWSL Loma Club Mini Golf Champion



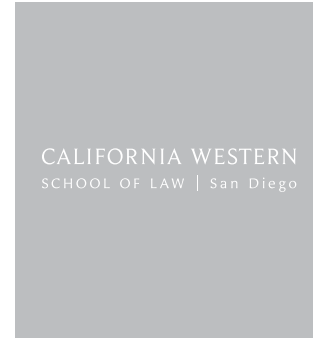
Nick McKeever
Carlsbad, CA
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FULLERTON

California Western International Law Journal, Executive Editor of Notes and Comments; Dean's Honor List



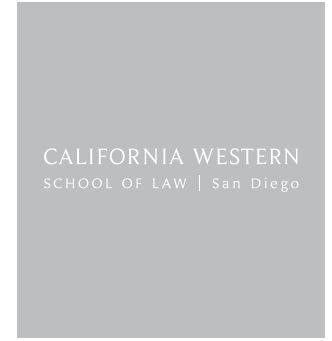
Justice Medina
Queen Creek, AZ
ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

San Diego County Bar Association - Diversity Fellowship Program '24, Fellow; Women's Law Caucus, Member; San Diego La Raza Lawyers Association, Member; Public Service Honors Society '26, Inductee



Bailey Mejia
Temecula, CA
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FULLERTON

Moot Court Honors Board - Appellate Coordinator; Distinguished Advocate Winner - Conte Cup



Camila Angela Milanes-Nuñez
Guadalajara, Mexico
SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY, SAN DIEGO



Jenna Miyahara
San Diego, CA
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, DAVIS

Academic Excellence Award - 4x; Senior Editor of Notes and Comments, California Western Law Review; Deans Honor List - 4x; Teaching Fellow, Contracts and Evidence; Dean's Honor Scholarship (Fall 2023-Spring 2026); Academic Merit Scholarship (Fall 2024-Spring 2026); California Innocence Project, Clinic Intern; San Diego County Bar Association 2024 Diversity Fellow; Pro Bono Honors Society



Raquel Montoya
Los Angeles, CA
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES

Distinguished Advocate, Gill Closing Argument Competition; Honorable Mention, Alternate Dispute Resolutions Competition; Women's Law Caucus, President; Latinx Law Student Association, Community Liaison; Public Service Honors Society



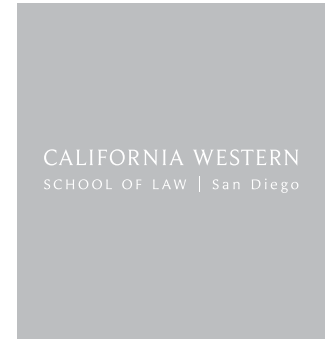
Andres Moreno III
Chula Vista, CA
UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO

Dean's Honor List



Arian Moshfegh
San Diego, CA
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, SAN MARCOS

Finalist in ABA Mediation Regional Competition; 1st Place Team - Alternate Dispute Resolution Intraschool Negotiation Competition; Dean's Honor List; Academic Excellence Award; Iranian American Bar Association Pro Bono Chair



Danielle Mota-Estrada
Los Angeles, CA
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, LOS ANGELES

Admissions Scholarship; Community Law Project



Madison H. Motsenbocker
Phoenix, AZ
SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY

Dean's Honor List; Distinguished Advocate Award; Conte Cup Second Place Award; SDDL Trial Team; The Commentary, Senior Editor and Co-Editor-in-Chief; International Law Society, Jr. President and Sr. President; Pro Bono Honors Society; Public Service Honors Society; Wiley W. Manuel Certificate, LASSD; Outstanding Service Award, LASSD; Dean's Community Service and Leadership Scholarship; Dean's Honor Scholarship



Akeel Najimudeen
San Diego, CA
THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA

CWSL 1L, 2L, and 3L Merit Scholarship; Dean's Honor's List Spring, Summer, Fall 2024, Spring, Fall 2025; Academic Excellence Award Trial Skills; Moot Court Honors Board, Chairman; Criminal Law Assoc., President; South Asian Law Soc., Treasurer; UCLA Premier Trial Competition, Top Advocate, 4th Place Team; UC Davis MLK Jr. Civil Rights Trial Competition, Semi-Finalist



Zulaykha Nazar
San Diego, CA
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO

Academic Excellence Award



Adriana Ninci
Johnson County, KS
SONOMA STATE UNIVERSITY

Academic Excellence Awards - 3; Specialized Legal Research Business Resources, New Media Rights, Alternative Dispute Resolution; Dean's Honor List - 3; Dean's Honor Scholarship Recipient: 1L, 2L, 3L



Brenden Nugent
Honolulu, HI
OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY



Taylor Oliphant
Reno, NV
UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA, RENO

Pro Bono and Public Interest Society; AI Governance Research Assistant; Business Law Society; Student Intellectual Property Law Association



Emil Onanian
Los Angeles, CA
CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY,
SAN LUIS OBISPO

Pro Bono Honors Society; Moot Court Honors Board, Trial Coordinator; Distinguished Advocate Award, First Place Finisher in Closing Argument Competition; Competitive Advocacy Program, Trial Team Member; San Diego Association of Business Trial Lawyers Competition, Second Place Finisher



Connie Pasha
San Diego, CA
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO

Justice Anthony Kennedy Scholarship Recipient; SDCBA Diversity Fellow; California Western Law Review: Senior Board Director of Symposia and Outreach; Teaching Fellow; Honors Instructor; Distinguished Advocate Award; Conte Cup: First Place; Academic Excellence Awards: 9; Dean's Honor List: Spring 2024, Fall 2024, Spring 2025, Fall 2025



Lexie Patterson
Temecula, CA
POMONA COLLEGE

Dean's Honor List; Academic Excellence Award; Honors Instructor



Kaitlyn Nicole Peabody
Safford, AZ
ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

Womens Law Caucus - Member; Criminal Law Association - Member; Cannabis and Psychedelic Law Student Society - Spring 2024/ Fall 2025 Secretary - Spring 2026 President; Public Service Honors Society Inductee 2025; Pro Bono Honors Society Inductee 2026

CALIFORNIA WESTERN
SCHOOL OF LAW | San Diego



Christian Peralta
Vista, CA

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY,
SAN MARCOS

Academic Excellence Award -
Employment Discrimination; Distinguished
Advocate Award Winner; Indigenous
People Law Student Association, Vice
President; CAP Trial Team Member,
National Criminal Trial Competition, San
Diego Defense Lawyers Competition



Rebecca Patricia Perez
San Diego, CA

SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY

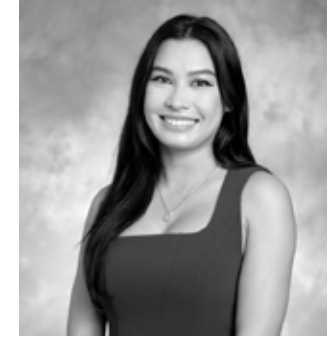
Student Bar Association, 3L
Representative; Carolyn H. Popp Summer
Internship Assistance Fund; Pro Bono
Honors Society



Emma Peters
Visalia, CA

CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC STATE
UNIVERSITY, SAN LUIS OBISPO

Dean's Honor List; First-Generation Law
Student, 3L Representative



Erin Peterson
La Habra Heights, CA

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FULLERTON

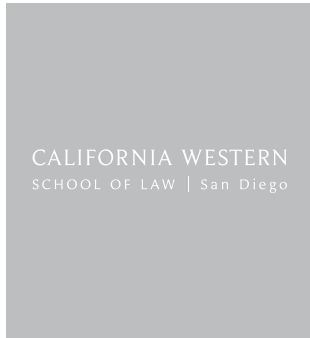
Academic Scholarship; President,
Environmental Law Society



Karissa Philapil
San Ramon, CA

SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY

Moot Court Honors Board, Networking
Event Coordinator



CALIFORNIA WESTERN
SCHOOL OF LAW | San Diego

Nolina Pink
San Diego, CA

STANFORD UNIVERSITY

Pro Bono Honors Society; Art and
Law Society, Founder; Muslim Student
Association



Samuel Pirozzi
Boca Raton, FL

INDIANA UNIVERSITY

Distinguished Advocate Award; Academic
Excellence Award; Deans Honor List;
Premiere Trial Competition Participant



CALIFORNIA WESTERN
SCHOOL OF LAW | San Diego

Jason Pitha
Reno, NV

SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY

Academic Excellence Award; Academic
Merit Scholarship; Distinguished Advocate
Award; Jessup International Moot Court
Competition, Octofinalist and Memorial
Awards; Thomas Tang Moot Court
Competition, Regional Champion and
Best Brief Awards



Ashlyn Plant
San Jose, CA

UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO

Distinguished Advocate Awards - 1;
Academic Excellence Awards - 2; 1L
Representative, Student Bar Association;
Secretary, Criminal Law Association;
Networking Event Coordinator, Moot
Court Honors Board; Texas Young
Lawyer's Association National Trial
Competition; MLK Civil Rights National
Trial Competition; Premiere Trial
Competition; Conte Cup; Pro Bono
and Public Service Honors Society;
Concentration in Criminal Prosecution and
Defense Practice



Tyler Porter

Mesa, AZ

NORTHERN ARIZONA UNIVERSITY

Dean's Honor List 2024 & 2025; Academic Excellence 2024 & 2025; Father of four daughters (the 4th born in Fall 2025); Ecclesiastical Leader of San Diego Congregation



Jennifer Prater

San Diego, CA

TEXAS WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY

Academic Excellence Award; Pro Bono Honors Society; SBA 1L Representative; Military Veterans Legal Society

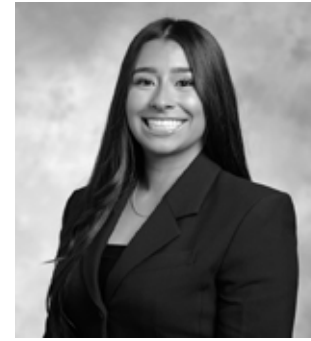


Miguel Renteria

Las Vegas, NV

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT MANOA

International Law Journal, Executive Editor; Dean's Honor List; Pro Bono Honors Society; Merit Scholarship; Dean's Community Service and Leadership Scholarship



Belen Reyes

Los Angeles, CA

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA CRUZ



Z Rose Rigamer

New Orleans, LA

LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY

Dean's Honor List; Academic Excellence Awards - 3



Emily Rivera

San Diego, CA

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES

Pro Bono Honors, Society Summer 2024; Dean's Honor List Fall 2025

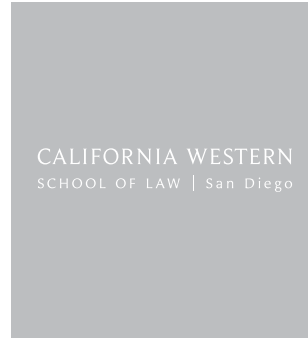


Savannah Brieza Rodriguez

West Covina, CA

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, LOS ANGELES

Distinguished Advocate Award - 1; Conte Cup 1L Competition Winner; AAJ Trial Team Competition; SDDL Trial Team Competition; Online National Championship Trial Team Competition



CALIFORNIA WESTERN
SCHOOL OF LAW | San Diego

Miguel Alejandro Roman

San Diego, CA

SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY

Founder and Treasurer of the California Western School of Law Chapter of the Federal Bar Association; Gold Level Member of the Pro Bono Honors Society



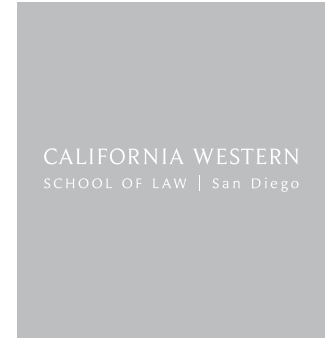
CALIFORNIA WESTERN
SCHOOL OF LAW | San Diego

Johana Roque

Hawthorne, CA

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, IRVINE

Academic Excellence Award; Criminal Prosecution and Defense Concentration; Public Service Honor Society



CALIFORNIA WESTERN
SCHOOL OF LAW | San Diego

Ryan Kai Rousta

Orange County, CA

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FULLERTON

Dean's Honor List; Academic Excellence Award; Pro-Bono Honors Society; Middle Eastern Law Student Association, President; Labor and Employment Law Concentration

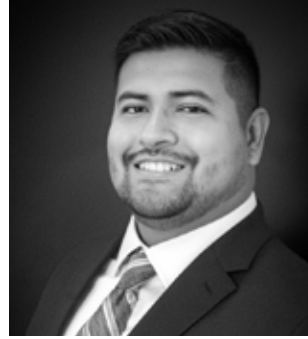
CALIFORNIA WESTERN
SCHOOL OF LAW | San Diego



Nicki Saddic
San Diego, CA

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES

Dean's Honor List Summer 2024, Spring 2025; Three Academic Excellence Awards



Arman Sadighian
San Diego, CA

BOSTON UNIVERSITY

Dean's Honor List; Academic Excellence Awards - 4; Public Service Honors Society; Moot Court Honors Board, Executive ADR Coordinator; California Western Law Review, Executive Notes & Comments Editor and Published Writer; Competitive Advocacy Program, ADR Team Member; ABA Regional Mediation Finalist; American Inns of Court, Welsh Chapter



Cruz Salas
San Diego, CA

PURDUE UNIVERSITY GLOBAL

Dean's Honor List; Academic Excellence Award; MVLS President; Pro Bono Honors Society; CAP Trial Team Member

CALIFORNIA WESTERN
SCHOOL OF LAW | San Diego

Jacob Matthew I. Sanchez
Hanford, CA

NATIONAL UNIVERSITY

Academic Merit Scholarship; Dean's Community Service and Leadership Scholarship; Dean's Honor List; Public Service Honors Society; Student Equity, Justice, and Engagement Committee Member; Pride Law, Community Liaison; Student Bar Association, 3L Representative; Business Law Concentration

Mike Sapp
San Diego, CA

SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY

Dean's Honor List; Academic Excellence Award x2; Academic Merit Scholarship; New Media Rights Clinic; The Conte Cup; The Gill Competition; Student Bar Association



Nora George Salti Sayegh
Phoenix, AZ

ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY, PHOENIX

Pro Bono Honors Society; Business Law Society, President; Middle Eastern Law Students Association, Arab American Representative; Business Concentration; Dean's Honor Scholarship Recipient



Erica Maren Scott
Raleigh, NC

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY, WASHINGTON D.C.

Dean's Honor List; Academic Merit Scholarship; International Law Journal, Editor; Distinguished Advocate Award, Appellate Competition; Published in California Western International Law Journal



Kristena Lateef Shamoon
San Diego, CA

SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY

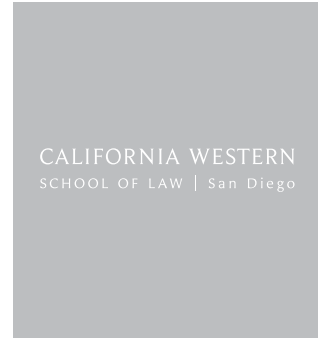
Academic Excellence Awards - 2; SDFLBA Bonnie Nelson Reading Memorial Scholarship; Academic Merit Scholarship; Dean's Honor List; Women's Law Caucus, Senior Vice President; Middle Eastern Law School Association, Secretary; CWSL Alternative Dispute Resolution Competition Finalist



Efrain David Sharkey
San Diego, CA

CARDINAL STRITCH UNIVERSITY

Dean's Honor List, Academic Excellence Awards - 2



CALIFORNIA WESTERN
SCHOOL OF LAW | San Diego

Michael Sherriffs
Janesville, CA

EMBRY-RIDDLE AERONAUTICAL UNIVERSITY, DAYTONA FL

Academic Excellence Award, Spring 2025



Anastasia Sergeevna Shiryayeva

San Diego, CA
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO

Student Intellectually Property Law
President; 2026 National Patent
Application Drafting Competition Team



Mahak Sabrina Singh

Brea, CA
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FULLERTON

Family Law Society, Social Chair



Izabel Singh

Sacramento, CA
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA DAVIS

South Asian Law Society, President



Ania Kira Skowron

Bialystok, Poland
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, IRVINE

Dean's Honor List; Academic Excellence
Award; Pro Bono Honors Society,
Business Law Area of Concentration



Jordan Smith

Marshfield, MA
SUFFOLK UNIVERSITY, BOSTON, MA

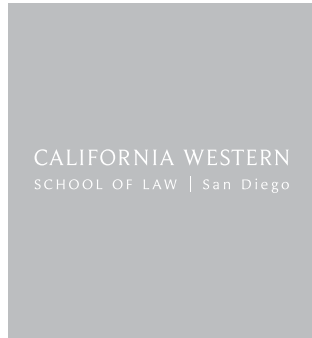
Dean's Honor List Spring 2024 - Fall
2025; Academic Excellence Awards -
9; Distinguished Advocate Award - 1;
California Western Law Review, Executive
Director of Symposia & Outreach;
Kennedy Scholarship Recipient; Teaching
Fellow - Property Law and Con Law I.



Madison Smith

Joshua Tree, CA
GENEVA COLLEGE, BEAVER FALLS,
PENNSYLVANIA

Fall 2024 Dean's Honor List; Academic
Excellence Award (1); Homeless Outreach
Legal Society, Treasurer; The Commentary
Magazine Editor; Fall 2025 New Media
Rights Clinic Student Fellow

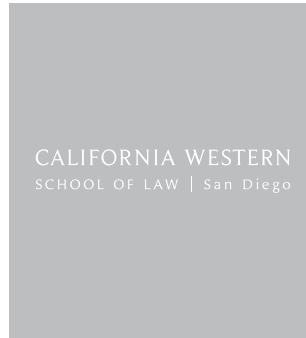


CALIFORNIA WESTERN
SCHOOL OF LAW | San Diego

Zachery Spiegel

Stillwater, OK
OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY

Academic Excellence Awards; Dean's
Honor List



CALIFORNIA WESTERN
SCHOOL OF LAW | San Diego

Thomas Tamayo

Oceanside, CA
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA,
SANTA BARBARA

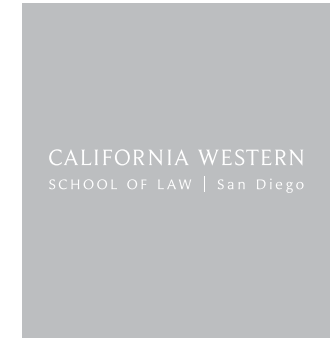
Dean's Honor List; Cannabis and
Psychedelic Law Student Society, Vice
President



Natalie Thomas

Yuba City, CA
MISSOURI STATE UNIVERSITY

Academic Excellence Awards - Torts II,
Con Law I; Distinguished Advocate Award
- ADR Negotiation; Women's Law Caucus,
Community Liaison; AAJ Student Trial
Advocacy Competition Advocate; Dean's
Honor List; Legal Skills I & II Honors
Instructor; Dean's Honor Scholarship
Recipient



CALIFORNIA WESTERN
SCHOOL OF LAW | San Diego

Anton Turcich

San Diego, CA
SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY

Member of the Public Service and Pro
Bono Honors Societies; Academic
Excellence Award



Louisa Jane Twitchell-Allen
Kaysville, UT
BRIGHAM YOUNG UNIVERSITY

Executive Editor, California Western Law Review; Community Law Project Student Leader; ADR Competition Honorable Mention; Lourine Twyman Scholarship Recipient



Alaina Leigh Valdespino
San Antonio, TX
REGIS UNIVERSITY

Pro Bono Honors Society; Public Service Honors Society; Student Intellectual Property Law Association, Copyright Representative; Entertainment and Sports Law Society; Federalist Society; XONR8; Wiley W. Manuel Pro Bono Legal Services Certificate Recipient



Danielle Akemi Vallejo
Danville, CA
BIOLA UNIVERSITY

Pro Bono Honor Society; Wiley W. Manuel Certificate Recipient



Chase Van Wey
San Diego, CA
UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO



Raymond Alexander Vasquez
Anaheim, CA
WESTMONT COLLEGE

Academic Excellence Awards - 2; Distinguished Advocate Awards - 2; Dean's Honors List; International Law Journal, Associate Editor; Federal Bar Association, President; Art & The Law Society, Vice-President; Cardozo FAME Center Intellectual Property Law Moot Court Competition; Thomas Tang Moot Court Competition; Public Service Honors Society; Pro Bono Honors Society; Intellectual Property, Privacy, and Media Law Concentration with Honors

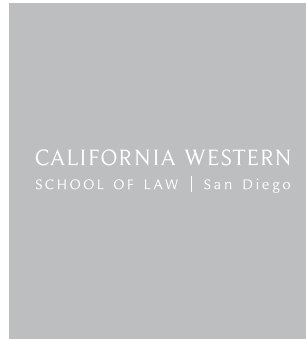


Andrew-Ryan Vitug
Los Angeles, CA
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, NORTHRIDGE



Riley Michael Wagstaff
San Diego, CA
SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY

Dean's Honor List; Academic Excellence Award; International Law Journal, Executive Director of Notes & Comments; Trial Team Member, The National Trial Competition

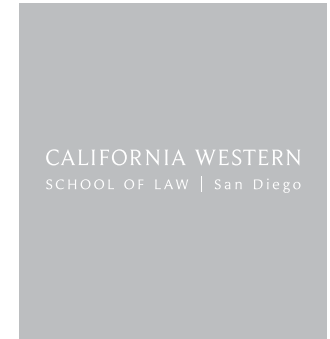


Grace Walter
Napa, CA
CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY, SAN LUIS OBISPO



Xingxue (Sherry) Wang
Wuhan, China
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA BARBARA

International Law Concentration



Hiba Waqas
Toronto, Canada
MCMASTER UNIVERSITY

Dean's Honor List; Academic Excellence Award



Caroline Wilhelms
St. Louis, MO
UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI



Joshua Wilkey
Chicago, IL
PURDUE UNIVERSITY GLOBAL

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



Ajna Rain Wilson
Sarasota, FL
FLORIDA GULF COAST UNIVERSITY

Dean's Honors List; Wiley W. Manuel Certificate for Pro Bono Legal Services; Legal Aid Society Outstanding Service Award



Aidan Winter
Santa Fe, NM
SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY

Editor-in-Chief, California Western Law Review; Research Assistant for Professor Simon; Evidence Teaching Fellow for Professor Kaye; Honors Instructor for Dean Vavasour; Judicial Extern to United States District Judge Schopler and United States Magistrate Judge Chu; Dean's Honor List (every semester eligible); Academic Excellence Awards - 7; Public Service Honors Society; Academic Merit Scholarships



Diana Wong
San Diego, CA
SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY

Dean's Honor List; Academic Excellence Awards- 6; Distinguished Advocate Award; Academic Merit Scholarship



Steven Wong
Gilroy, CA
SAN JOSE STATE UNIVERSITY, SAN JOSE

Dean's Honor List; Academic Excellence Awards - 3; Public Service Honors Society; Business Concentration



Robert James Wood III
Sacramento, CA
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO

CWSL Dean's Honor List - 2024-26; CWSL Outstanding Service Award for Pro Bono Work 2024; CWSL Outstanding Legal Research Award 2024; Academic Excellence Awards 3; Distinguished Advocate Awards 2; President, Student Bar Association; Competitions - National Patent Application Drafting Competition; Founding Member, San Diego IP Inn of Court; Degree Concentration: Intellectual Property; Teaching Fellowships 6



Sarah Yee
La Puente, CA
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO

Academic Excellence Award, International Legal Research; International Law Journal, Editor in Chief; Asian Pacific American Law Students Association, President; Pan Asian Lawyers of San Diego, Student Representative; International Law Journal S. Houston Lay Award; Lawyers Club of San Diego Janeen Kerper Scholarship



Sadaam Yousufzai
Toronto, Canada
NORTHEASTERN STATE UNIVERSITY

Muslim Student Association, Vice President; Competitive Advocacy Program, Trial Team Member

JD/MBA Candidate

The JD/MBA Dual-Degree Program
California Western School of Law
San Diego State University, College of Business Administration

The J.D./MBA program is an intensive, integrated curriculum specifically designed for students interested in working in the interdisciplinary field of law and business. Complex issues requiring this expertise arise in the context of business planning, employment and labor law, and trademark and bankruptcy, among numerous others.



Nicholas Olamendi Smith
Chula Vista, CA
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, IRVINE

Distinguished Advocate - I; Moot Court Honors Board, General Member; Research Assistant to Professor Behzadi; Research Assistant to Professor King; Public Service Honors Society

Wherever you go,
remember this:
excellence in law is
not measured solely
by wins or prestige,
but by integrity,
humility, and service.

— Ania Kira Skowron



CA Western
School
of Law

DOWNTOWN

Our role will be to stand steady when others can't. To bring order where there is chaos. To advocate when someone else feels powerless.

— Riley Wagstaff

The spirit of California Western is not about standing above each other- it is about standing with each other.

— Robert Wood

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.





CALIFORNIA WESTERN
SCHOOL OF LAW / San Diego

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

