

# cua|lawyer

The Catholic University of America • Columbus School of Law 2018

Conversations with  
Six Alumni Public Servants



## A Community with a Commitment to Service



*Five and a Half Years: Reflections on  
Dean Daniel F. Attridge's Remarkable Tenure*



## From the DEAN'S DESK

*Dear CUA Law School Community,*

This issue of *CUA Lawyer* marks the final one of my deanship. It has been a privilege to serve as dean since February 1, 2013. The position has been a great opportunity to apply the skills and experience I developed in 32 years of private practice to an academic context. It has been honor to serve the Law School community and the University in a leadership role.

Over the past five years, we have successfully faced unprecedented challenges, and we have made many improvements to aid the high quality of the legal education we offer. We can be proud of our many shared accomplishments, including the numerous accolades our school has received.

By the time that this edition of *CUA Lawyer* reaches your mailboxes, we will have celebrated our 129th commencement at the Columbus School of Law. Our 2018 graduates are an accomplished and diverse group of day and evening program students who embody a wide array of backgrounds, talents, and interests. These graduates reflect our continuing focus on the CUA Law tradition of producing compassionate and practice-ready legal professionals.

This year, we want to share with you, our alumni and friends, what our accomplished and hard-working students are doing to become lawyers of conscience and character. Simply learning the tools of law isn't enough. If law is to serve a useful place in society, its practice must be woven with a compassion for



others and a commitment to service. Our *CUA Lawyer* feature article profiles just a few of the countless examples of students who embody **Knowledge, Faith, and Compassion in Action**. These students have organized peace marches, dedicated their time to pro bono work, and represented marginalized individuals in our clinics – to name just a few. All of the students highlighted within

these pages possess many of the qualities that set CUA Law students and graduates apart.

CUA Law has consistently been ranked as a top supplier of alumni who go on to pursue government and public interest jobs. The *American Bar Association* ranks the Law School #14 for the highest percentage of graduates landing government and public interest jobs. More than 12,600 individuals have earned degrees from CUA Law since its founding 121 years ago, with many of those graduates becoming top leaders in their fields. We were proud to be able to sit down with several CUA Law public servants – Machalagh Carr '05, Justice Peggy A. Quince '75, Judge Joseph F. Leeson Jr. '80, Brendan Carr '05, George E. Simms III, '82, and Cait Clarke '86 to discuss their career paths, greatest challenges, and favorite memories from CUA Law.

We also point to our tradition of service, a commitment shared by the student body, faculty, and alumni in "The CUA Law Pro Bono Program: Filling a Mission of Service." The CUA Law Pro Bono Program carries out this tradition of service by providing access to justice to those in need. From the first week on

campus, students are encouraged to give back to the local community. Our practical training is noted in "Evening Students Thrive and Problem Solve at The Veterans Advocacy and Estate Planning Clinic." Last year, the Columbus Community Legal Services launched a new clinic designed to fit the busy schedules of CUA Law evening students. The Veterans Advocacy and Estate Planning Clinic gives students in both evening and day divisions the opportunity to represent real clients in real cases under the supervision of Clinical Law Professor Michael McGonnigal.

While I will be stepping down as dean, I look forward to continuing my CUA Law affiliation as a tenured member of the faculty. I also intend to pursue other interests and devote more time to personal matters, especially with my family. The University has appointed CUA Law Professor Regina T. Jefferson as the Interim Dean. The appointment will be effective August 1, 2018, while the University continues its search for a permanent dean. I hope you will join me in supporting Professor Jefferson during her service as Interim Dean.

I would like to thank you for your support of CUA Law. Your time, talents, and contributions are appreciated. I wish you all a great summer and hope to stay in touch.

With best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Daniel F. Attridge". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Daniel F. Attridge  
*Dean and Knights of Columbus Professor of Law*

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## SERVICE

### 2 Knowledge, Faith, and Compassion in Action

The Columbus School of Law's embrace of community service encourages students to think about law in service to others from the day they matriculate. The students profiled in these pages are just some of the countless examples of law students who have risen above. These students each possess many of the qualities that set CUA Law students and graduates apart.

## PUBLIC SERVANTS

### 13 Conversations with Six Alumni Public Servants

CUA Law has consistently been ranked as a top supplier of alumni who go on to become public servants. CUA Law public servants have a unique grounding in government, leadership, and society. We sat down with several alumni leaders to discuss their career paths, greatest challenges, and favorite memories for CUA Law.

## REFLECTIONS

### 29 Five and a Half Years: Reflections on Dean Daniel F. Attridge's Remarkable Tenure

Attridge undertook the deanship with energy, vision, and a long list of goals across many fronts. His primary goal was to serve the Law School and all of its constituents — students, faculty, staff, alumni, and friends.

## ADVOCACY

### 36 Evening Students Thrive and Problem Solve at The Veterans Advocacy and Estate Planning Clinic

The Columbus Community Legal Services (CCLS) launched a new clinic designed to fit the busy schedules of CUA Law evening students. The Veterans Advocacy and Estate Planning Clinic gives students in both the Evening and Day Divisions the opportunity to represent real clients in real cases.



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# Knowledge, Faith, and Compassion in Action

## *A Student Perspective*

Simply learning the tools of law isn't enough. If law is to serve society, its practice must be woven with compassion for others and a commitment to fight the unjust. The Columbus School of Law's embrace of community service encourages students to think about law in service to others from the day they matriculate.

Students engage in intellectual and academic considerations at the intersection of justice and mercy, ethics and morality, and faith and reason. CUA Law not only prepares students to be competent and capable attorneys for practice, but also encourages them to become lawyers of conscience and character. CUA Law students have an appreciation for their future role as servant-leaders and their responsibility to contribute to a better society. Students at CUA Law are extremely diverse, but are interconnected through their achievements.

The students profiled in these pages are just some of the countless examples of law students who have risen above. These students each possess many of the qualities that set CUA Law students and graduates apart.



## Tamara West *(Class of 2019)*

“It is my turn now,” Tamara West, rising third-year student, said when asked why she decided to attend CUA Law. Since graduating from the Georgia Institute of Technology with a degree in applied mathematics, West, a mother of four, has lived in six different states. “My husband has been doing amazing things in his Air Force career, while moving our family across the country,” she said.

When her husband was given a three year controlled assignment in Washington, D.C., West knew the timing was right to pursue law school.

“After advocating for my daughter’s special education services, I realized I had all this extra passion and energy. It clicked that I could learn the law, which is something I have always wanted to do, and also pursue it as a profession,” she said.

*“CUA Law has been an incredibly accepting space where students are willing to learn from, edify, and encourage each other.”*

West was drawn to CUA Law because of the collaborative environment. “I was worried that ‘cutthroat’ was the only way law school could be. CUA Law has been an incredibly accepting space where students are willing to learn from, edify, and encourage each other,” West said. “It seems impossible not to succeed with this much support.”

As a student, West is a staffer on the *Catholic University Law Review*, member of the Law and Technology Student Association, the Women’s Law Caucus (WLC), the Military and National Security Law Student Association (M&NSLSA), and founder of The Parent Group.

West started The Parent Group with fellow colleague Jae Terry 2L, when a CUA Law professor pointed out that law school parents really need extra support, but struggle to find the time to organize. “We accepted this challenge and founded The Parent Group—a support group for people



who have children, live with children, or are responsible for children,” she said. “If there is a possibility you could be awakened in the middle of the night by a child then you should be in our group. We understand the ‘Where are your shoes?’ running car pools, and staying on top of your studies.”

Asked how she juggles being a full-time law student with extracurricular activities, and family life, West laughed. “There is a piece of playground equipment analogous to this situation. It is never balanced, but constantly tipping one way or the other,” she said. “One of the things you learn when you are a military spouse is that you have to jump in with both feet right away. This is one of the reasons why I didn’t wait to attend law school.”

After graduation, West hopes to work for the federal government, specifically in the field of defense. “I support the mission, and I want to contribute to it,” she said.

“CUA Law has given me the opportunity to learn the law, meet amazing people, and change the world, maybe just my little corner. My success in the legal field will be the best way I could express my appreciation.”



## Sydney Bryan *(Class of 2018)*

Like Tamara West, Sydney Bryan is a military spouse who was able to attend law school due to a controlled assignment in Washington, D.C.

“I was drawn to CUA Law because of the close-knit community and the one-on-one time with professors. It was a CUA Law professor who first told me about the Military Spouse JD Network (MSJDN) — a bar association that supports J.D. military spouses as they face the challenges of relocation and deployment, all while pursuing their own meaningful legal career.

“As a military spouse, you face unique challenges such as deciding which bar to take or what type of job makes sense for your family and your spouse’s military commitment,” Bryan explained. “A lot of people don’t think about the military spouse experience.”

Bryan, a Georgia native, always knew law school was in her future. “I always remember wanting to be a prosecutor. Personal and professional events have solidified this desire throughout my life.”

While pursuing her Master’s in Public Administration, Bryan worked as a sexual assault advocate at The Haven — a non-profit organization that provides 24-hour temporary shelter and services to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. She also served as a prevention education specialist working with survivors of domestic violence at the shelter and providing community awareness at local schools. “I have always had a strong sense of duty to keep my community safe. This experience fueled my desire to pursue law,” she said.

While at CUA Law, Bryan has continued her advocacy for survivors of domestic violence at The Families and the Law Clinic. She was able to gain hands-on experience while representing her clients. “I worked with clients to obtain emergency temporary and civil protection orders, find resources for housing, changing locks, obtaining counseling services, and child support services,” she said. “My first time in front of a judge was for an emergency protective order for a client. Personally, it was an extremely emotional experience to be addressing a judge and speaking on behalf of another who desperately needed my help.”

At present, Bryan has a lot more legal experience under her belt. After her 2L internship at the Office of the Loudoun County Commonwealth’s Attorney, she obtained her Third-Year Practice Certificate from the Virginia Supreme Court. This practice certificate has allowed her to appear before General District and Circuit Courts. Under the advisement of a supervising lawyer, Bryan has conducted misdemeanor appeals, jury trials, voir dire, and verdicts. “It is an invaluable experience. There are not many law students who can say that have done jury trials.”

On top of her impressive practical experiences, Bryan served as the Students for Public Interest Law (SPIL) auction chair. The auction raises money to provide students with stipends who pursue unpaid internships over the summer. “It was the biggest event I have ever hosted. I love the idea that people who want to pursue public interest are not discouraged due to financial reasons,” she said. Bryan received a SPIL stipend during her 1L summer as a judicial intern for Judge Rainey Brandt ‘95 at the D.C. Superior Court and during her 2L summer in Loudoun County.

*“One of the additional reasons I decided to attend CUA Law was because of the strong emphasis on service.”*

Furthering her passion for public service, Bryan has been heavily involved in the CUA Law Pro Bono Program. “One of the additional reasons I decided to attend CUA Law was because of the strong emphasis on service,” Bryan said, who did pro bono work for a human trafficking survivor during her 1L year. She also travelled to New Orleans, Louisiana to participate in the Legal Services Society (LSS) New Orleans Outreach Program through volunteering at the Orleans Public Defenders Office, where she spent a week assisting with research, listening to jail calls, and shadowing.

“It was a privilege to assist the talented and dedicated public defenders in meeting the legal needs of their most impoverished clients,” she said. “We saw firsthand how much of a difference a week of our work can make in the legal cases and lives of some of New Orleans’ most disadvantaged citizens.”

Despite her busy schedule, Bryan has placed a great importance on de-stressing and maintaining a healthy lifestyle. “I step away from the legal world by spending time with my husband Tanner and taking our Harley out for rides. I also box. It is a great stress relief for me, and it is something you can do in 30 minutes that will change your entire day.”

Bryan has accepted a clerkship with Judge John Tran on the Fairfax County Circuit Court and will begin working in August 2018.



## Elizabeth Carney *(Class of 2019)*

Like Sydney Bryan, Elizabeth Carney knew she was destined for the law. “My dad, a District Attorney, inspired me to go attend law school. As a child, I attended a mock trial of the big bad wolf at his office,” Carney said. “I love how the law impacts the everyday world. I wanted to be a part of something that is always changing.”

Carney worked as a paralegal at the Department of Justice’s Antitrust division for four years, handling mergers and acquisitions. “I knew I wanted to stay in D.C. for law school after working at DOJ,” she said. “After I met the faculty and staff at CUA Law’s Accepted Students Day, I immediately felt comfortable.”



“A big reason I decided to CUA Law was the financial support I received. I also knew that if I did well enough I would have the opportunity to work at a big D.C. firm for a few years,” Carney said. “CUA Law really gave me the best of both worlds.”

*“CUA Law fit all my needs.  
I wanted to be at a place where I felt  
comfortable and supported.”*

“You have to find a place that fits your needs. CUA Law fit all my needs. I wanted to be at a place where I felt comfortable and supported.”

During her 1L summer, Carney was awarded a SPIL stipend, which afforded her the opportunity to clerk at the United States Attorney’s Office for the District of Columbia, under United States Attorney Channing Phillips. She was placed in the Felony Major Crimes Unit, which is responsible for prosecuting most serious felony crimes, ranging from property offenses to serious assaults.

“The majority of my assignments involved writing briefs and motions, listening to jail calls, and assisting attorneys in the prosecution of assigned criminal cases. I also had the opportunity to watch body camera footage of police officers and write motions for these cases,” Carney said.

“Perhaps my favorite aspect of my summer experience was the people I met and those with whom I worked. I truly valued the relationship I developed with my mentor Marybeth Manfreda ’02.”

This summer, Carney secured a highly competitive summer associate position through CUA Law’s on-campus interview program (OCI) at Arnold & Porter Kaye Scholer LLP’s Washington, D.C. office. “The CUA Law Career office instilled in me the confidence I needed to get through the OCI process,” she said.

“I met with alumni, including Stanley Woodward ’08, all summer for coffees and informational interviews. After 55 hours of interviews, I now have the confidence to interview with anyone. This is just one of the many reasons why being at a small school is great.”

After graduating, Carney plans to work at a firm for a few years while engaging in pro bono work. Ultimately, she would like to work as a prosecutor at the DOJ in the criminal or civil rights division.

“I would like to be a sex crimes prosecutor. Sex crimes are some of the hardest to prosecute, and there is a need for dedicated people to work in this field,” she said.

“CUA Law Professor Mary Leary has also been very inspiring. I respect her as a professor and hope to follow a similar prosecutorial career path.”



## Kwambina Coker *(Class of 2018)*

A passion for service is one of many qualities the admissions team at CUA Law looks for in prospective students. “I decided to attend law school because I wanted to bring change to my community, other low-income communities, and to the criminal justice system,” Kwambina Coker said. “The community aspect of CUA Law drew me in. Everyone here respects each other.”

Before arriving at CUA Law, Coker attended Frostburg State University, where he studied Law and Society with a focus in criminal law. He played college basketball and worked at the Montgomery County Community Center as a camp counselor. “I thought about being a probation officer, but eventually decided that becoming a lawyer was the best way I could bring change.”

Advocating for diversity and inclusion throughout the Law School has been important to Coker, a first-generation American with West African roots. He serves as president of the Black Law Student Association

(BLSA) and has focused on helping all students feel comfortable attending BLSA events. Coker has also been instrumental in organizing Hot Topic Roundtables. The roundtable talks are part of an effort to help the CUA Law community come together from time to time to examine the law in the context of pressing social issues such as the Charlottesville events, NFL protests, and gun violence.

“Many of us decided to attend CUA Law because of the community presence. When pressing events happen we need to be able to sit down and talk about it. We wanted to give the students an opportunity to discuss what is going on,” Coker said.

*“It is important that I am able to relate to the kids, and it is important that they see a person who looks and talks like them doing something they have been told was unattainable.”*

Coker also makes time to teach a Law and Social Justice course at Archbishop Carroll High School as a member of the Street Law Association. “Street Law is really dear to my heart. It is important that I am able to relate to the kids, and it is important that they see a person who looks and talks like them doing something they have been told was unattainable,” he said.

Coker smiles when asked how he manages his volunteer work on top of law school. “I don’t believe in stress. If you stress you are wasting energy and that energy could be put towards something positive. I wake up in the morning, I look at my schedule, and I just get stuff done,” he said. “If I can make a positive impact on one person’s life a day, then I have a good day.”



### The Black Law Students Association’s Hosts Career Panel Discussion on Diversity in the Law

On November 1, 2017, the Black Law Students Association (BLSA) discussed topics such as finding federal government employment, running a private practice, working in tax law, and the importance of judicial clerkships during a career panel entitled “Diversity in the Law Career Panel.”

The President of BLSA, Kwambina Coker (3L), kicked off the evening by introducing the four panelists and moderating the event. The panelists included Andrew Yingling ’15, Renee-Lauren Ellis ’10, Mike Lyles ’94, and Mackenzie Sherman.

The panelists spoke about their career trajectories, advice on classes to take during law school, the importance of building relationships, and how law school prepared them for their jobs.

After graduation in 2018, Coker will be working as a prosecutor at the Philadelphia District Attorney's Office, the same office he interned for during his 2L summer. "You learn within the first week if this is something you want to do," he said. "They throw you in the water and see if you are going to sink or swim. There is minimal supervision, and they allow you to mess up to see if you can learn from your mistakes. I was surrounded by CUA Law alumni such as: Brendan W. Flynn '16, Alex Spanos '14, and Deb Watson-Stokes '90, who made sure I was on track."

Growing up, Coker associated prosecutors with locking individuals up in the criminal justice system. His experience at the District Attorney's office opened his eyes to what prosecutors can do. "I realize now that prosecutors have more of a hand in the community than most people realize. They are involved in recidivism programs and do a lot of community outreach. They are in full control of the criminal case, and have more control of how people are treated in the criminal justice system."

"When I first got to Philly I didn't go to the tourist stuff. I went to my friend's house on 63rd and Girard and saw the real Philly. I fell in love with the city and the people. Going back to Philly after graduation is divine intervention."



## Katherine Heise *(Class of 2019)*

*If you want something done ask a busy person* is a popular proverb that applies to Katherine Heise, mom of two boys, age 3 and 1.

"As a stay-at-home mom and law school student I have to make the most of my time. I can't procrastinate, and I always have to be ahead of what I'm doing because I never know what is going to come up with my children," Heise said. "Attending the evening program at CUA Law has given me the flexibility, and I have never felt like I was missing out by not being a day student."

Before attending CUA Law, Heise handled in-house insurance claims for Marriott. She followed the process through depositions, mediations, and trials. This exposure to litigation spurred her law school interest. "I

worked directly with outside counsel and was exposed to negotiating and understanding the process of litigation," she said. "I wanted to be on the other side."

Heise decided to attend CUA Law because of the alumni network and small class sizes. "I have yet to reach out to an alumnus and not get a response. The class size and access to professors also sets CUA Law apart," she said. "My professors know me by name and have all been accessible – not only in regards to the class they taught – but with providing guidance and assistance. The faculty is invested in ensuring that students succeed."

*"CUA Law cares about its evening students."*

As an evening student and active member of the Evening Law Students Association (ELSA), having support from faculty members outside of traditional business hours was really important for Heise. "CUA Law cares about its evening students. There are always accommodations being made for faculty and staff to meet after hours with students in the evening program."

Heise also participated in the CUA Law Advantage Mentor Program, where she was paired with Stanley Woodward '08. They met several times before school started. "Stanley has offered advice and suggestions along the way that have made my time at law school more valuable," she said. Woodward also helped Heise with her internship interview process. This summer, she will be working at Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP as a summer associate.

Throughout her time at CUA Law, Heise has made pro bono a priority. She is a member of the Pro Bono Advisory Board, and as a 2L she worked on a pro bono project with Kids In Need Of Defense (KIND). The individual in that case was seeking asylum in the United States, in fear of returning to El Salvador and facing gang threats.

Heise assisted the attorney at KIND with in-depth legal and country-conditions research, writing, and editing legal briefs. This allowed Heise to not only further her understanding of the doctrine, but also put it in practice. "The attorney I worked with was very knowledgeable, and I was able to learn about the asylum process and immigration law - a type of law I had not previously been exposed to," she said. Her client was eventually granted asylum.

"As an evening student, pro bono is great because I could go do things during off hours and on my own time. I can also learn about different areas of the law. It has allowed me to maximize my law school experience," she said.

Heise hopes to make pro bono a large part of her future career. "It is really important to be a great lawyer, but it is also really important that everyone has access to a great lawyer."



## Jennifer Brooker *(Class of 2020)*

Balancing a full-time job and law school is natural for students like Katherine Heise and Jennifer Brooker, in the evening division. “I’ve always done night school,” Brooker said, who completed her undergraduate degree while serving on active duty in the Army. “I even completed a class while I was deployed.”

Brooker’s journey began when she joined the Army during her junior year of high school. She served for 11 years, predominantly stationed in Germany, but also in Iraq and Washington state. Brooker worked as a military paralegal for nine years and as a military intelligence officer for two years. “As a soldier, you don’t necessarily specialize in just one field. You go wherever they need you. You keep building upon your knowledge. You are always busy, always doing something. Everyone works together to accomplish the mission. I love the collegiate environment [in the military],” she stated.

As an intelligence officer, she led a platoon of 20-30 soldiers doing mission support, intelligence gathering, and analysis 24 hours a day. “I was there for 16-18 hours, 7 days a week,” she said.

“As an intelligence officer, you are given a set of facts and you have to work with those facts to figure out the outcome. This training has been very helpful in law school,” Brooker said. Her paralegal background has also been a tremendous asset. “The terminology is not new, and the learning curve is not quite as steep.”

After leaving the Army in 2014, Brooker moved to Washington, D.C., because of the strong legal and intelligence presence. She got a job as a paralegal for the civil trial section of the Department of Justice, Tax Division and decided to finally pursue her dream of attending law school.

### CUA Law’s Moot Court National Trial Team Wraps Up Busy Year



The season began on a sad note when Hurricane Maria forced the team’s friends and colleagues at the Interamerican University of Puerto Rico to cancel their annual trial competition. Fortunately, they were able to reschedule for April 2018, and CUA’s team attended with a spirit of helpfulness and support for whatever their colleagues in Puerto Rico may need.

When the cancellation was confirmed, the four students who had spent weeks preparing to compete in Puerto Rico — Robbie Cain 3L, Mario LaTona 3L, Cloyd Smith 2L, and Kevin Tamul 3L — admirably switched gears and began scrimmaging against their teammates, who were preparing to compete at Golden Gate University’s In Vino Veritas trial competition in San Francisco, California.

With only weeks to prepare, trial team alumna Mary Thuell ’12 graciously agreed to coach the team. “Having a practice team separately coached and prepared proved to be incredibly beneficial to the four first-time advocates,” CUA Law adjunct professor and co director Lindsey Cloud Mervis said.

The weekend before the Golden Gate competition (team photo above), two consecutive rounds of intra-team competition between Team Puerto Rico and Team Golden Gate were held in Haislip Courtroom in front of guest trial judges Giovanna Miller ’13 and Victoria Kawecky ’14, who are both public defenders in the area. The students enjoyed the benefit of hearing feedback from their guest trial judges along with student juror/evaluators, who participated in open jury deliberations following each round.

On October 26-29, 2017, Jennifer Brooker 2E, Jordanne Miller 2L, Andrew Poliakoff 3E, and Vania Smith 2E represented CUA Law in San Francisco. CUA Law reached the quarterfinal round of the competition and was eliminated by the eventual competition winner, Loyola-Chicago.

Following the San Francisco competition, trial team members Katherine Culora 2L, Justin Ewaniszyk 3L, Adrianna Oddo 3L, and Callan Smith 3E immediately began preparing to scrimmage against the Buffalo team. U.S. Coast Guard Judge Advocate Brendan O’Shea ’09 and Victoria Kawecky ’14 served as guest trial judges. On November 10, the team traveled to Buffalo, New York, for the competition. The advocacy was spirited and intense. Defeating Cardozo and Drexel law schools, and losing to Western State, CUA lost to the eventual competition winner, the University of Denver, by split decision.

As a student, Brooker is very involved with CUA Law's Trial Team. "I really love being in the courtroom. It is truly dynamic. You really have to think on your feet. Oral advocacy is a skill I have been practicing with Trial Team," she said. "I tried out on a whim when we were doing oral arguments for the Lawyering Skills Program. I have done a lot of public speaking, but oral advocacy was a foreign skill to me."

*"CUA Law wants nothing but the best for each and every student."*

Brooker wants future law students to not be afraid of failing because if they are truly passionate they will succeed. "CUA Law wants nothing but the best for each and every student. The students are extremely supportive of each other – when one person succeeds, everyone succeeds. It's a really great learning environment!"



## Cloyd Smith *(Class of 2019)*

Cloyd Smith retired from the Army in 2016 after 20 years of service. He briefly took a job overseas before making the transition to full-time law student. "I spent 6 months in Africa training African military battalions through the State Department," he said. "I showed up in the U.S. the weekend before law school started."

"Education wasn't big in my world; all I ever wanted to do was join the military," Smith said. "I tried to enlist but I got permanently disqualified due to injuries and could not get a doctor's waiver. I decided to go to a leadership camp where I was looked at as a whole person, received a medical waiver, and ended up joining the military that way."

Despite not originally planning to pursue college, Smith has an impressive set of credentials. He went on to earn a bachelor's of science degree in secondary education at Slippery Rock University, a master's degree in history from Texas A&M, and master's degree in military history from the Command and General Staff School in Fort Leavenworth, Kansas.

Smith decided to attend law school after retiring from the military because he wanted to do something he would be passionate about. "I

thought about being a lawyer for a very long time, and I am at a point where I can still practice law for another 20-30 years if my mind stays sharp. It is a good time for a second profession," he said.

*"Erin always spoke of her time at CUA Law in glowing terms, and CUA Law did the best job of making me feel like I was going to be more than a number."*

He knew CUA Law was the right fit for him after visiting the campus and hearing about the experience of his wife, Erin Smith '11, as a student. "Erin always spoke of her time at CUA Law in glowing terms, and CUA Law did the best job of making me feel like I was going to be more than a number."

As a 2L, Smith has hit the ground running. He serves as the co president of SPIL, is a member of the Federalist Society, RNLA, and the Military & National Security Law Association, competes on the Trial Team, volunteers with Homeless Family Outreach and the Armed Forces Retirement Center, and actively participates in the Law School's Round Table discussions.

"I really enjoy the Round Table discussions. It is a chance to hear different viewpoints. I haven't met one person here that doesn't take the time to listen to another perspective."

Last summer, Smith had the opportunity to intern at the United States Attorney's office with CUA Law alumni John Dominguez '77 and Dineen Baker '02. "I was extremely lucky that John brought me in as part of their trial team. The trial lasted most of the internship and was presided over by Judge Kollar-Kotelly '68," he said. "Sitting at the prosecution's table all summer, I was able to watch two amazing lawyers battle in a courtroom in front of an incredibly respected Federal Judge. It was unbelievably educational and refueled my tank for the second year."

Currently, Smith is serving as a Moffit Fellow at the Alexandria, Virginia, Public Defender's Office. "I love it there," he said. "I sometimes end up working long hours a week on a project if a trial is coming up. I will have a lot of late nights and extra hours, but I have to get it done because someone's life is depending on it."



Not surprisingly, Smith plans to pursue a career in criminal law after graduation. “Criminal law ties closely to my military experience. As a leader in the military, my decisions affected lives of people on a daily basis. In criminal law, there is the same level of consequences, on both the prosecution and the defense.”

Smith credits his wife’s support in maintaining a sense of work and life balance. “She knows what it is like to go to law school, and does more at home than she should,” Smith said, who has two daughters. “I have everything on my calendar for the year, from when I finish finals and internship applications to when I fit in a family vacation.”

Smith also credits CUA Law professors for motivating him into the night to ensure he is prepared for class. “One professor in particular, Roger Hartley, has been more than a teacher to me,” he said. “Besides spending many hours in his office trying to drill constitutional law into me, he took the time to impart wisdom to handle a tough situation. He is an ultimate example of how many of the faculty of CUA Law truly care about the success of their students.”

For students thinking about attending law school, Smith advises: “Come prepared and inspired every single day and take advantage of the opportunity to learn from amazing professors. Realize your reputation will follow you beyond law school and start making valuable connections on day one.”



## Veda Rasheed *(Class of 2018)*

“I like to advocate,” Veda Rasheed said, Washington, D.C. native. “I want to improve my southeast neighborhood. Usually, when people are successful, they leave the neighborhood. I plan on staying.”

Rasheed has organized the annual Increase the Peace Rally in her neighborhood for the past two years. More than 200+ community members joined the march and rallied for an end to violence. The march was attended by D.C. Attorney General Karl A. Racine, Ward 7 Councilmember Vincent C. Gray, and At-Large Councilmembers Robert C. White Jr., David Grosso, and Elissa Silverman.



“From the young to the old we showed that violence would not be overlooked in our community any longer. Until violence is reduced or non-existent, I will continue to promote awareness and continue to foster commitment to social change,” Rasheed said.

During her 3E year, Rasheed was selected as the Mid-Atlantic Law Student of the Year by *The National Jurist* magazine. She is the first in her family to graduate from college and hopes to serve as an example for her two young sons, ages 9 and 13. Along with her day job at the D.C. Office of Attorney General, she has organized two annual back-to-school carnivals so local elementary schools would have school supplies and was invited by House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi to speak at a press event regarding reauthorization of the Child Nutrition Act.

## *“CUA Law has always felt like family.”*

Rasheed also organized a Record Sealing and Expungement Fair in partnership with CUA Law’s Pro Bono Program and the Neighborhood Legal Services Program. “CUA Law Pro Bono Coordinator Aoife Delargy has always pushed me and has been very encouraging. Everyone at CUA Law has touched me personally and driven me to succeed,” she said. “CUA Law has always felt like family.”

Rasheed’s law school career has not been without struggles. Both her mother and grandmother died during her time at law school. Each had been incredibly supportive and would help watch her sons. “Losing my mother after my first year of law school was devastating, but because of this I felt like I had to do it. My kids were watching.”

After graduating from Bowie State University in 2008, Rasheed worked at the D.C. Superior Court in the criminal division for nearly 10 years. “I have seen how the justice system has an affect on people’s daily lives. I see people coming into court every day.”

In December 2017, Rasheed was appointed by D.C. Mayor Muriel Bowser to serve on the Commission on African-American Affairs as a public member. The Commission advises the Mayor, the City Council, and the public on the views and needs of African-American communities with low economic, education, or health indicators in the District. The Commission also analyzes the decline in the percentage of African-American residents as indicated by the 2010 United States Census.

“I often get asked how I balance my time. I think if you are passionate about something you find the time. I often give up sleep.”

After graduation, Rasheed plans to stay at the Office of Attorney General for another year and then will seek a federal clerkship. Following the clerkship, she would like to engage in advocacy work within the community and eventually litigate. “I want to be a part of this process and use my skills to advocate for people,” she said.

“Law school taught me resilience and determination. I try to mirror the words ‘service, integrity, community, and conscience’ engraved in the Columbus School of Law building each and every day.”



## Willie Burden *(Class of 2019)*

Willie Burden’s drive for growth and service shines through each day. Like Veda Rasheed, Burden is inspired to create change in his community. The North Carolina native knew CUA Law was a good fit after visiting. “There was a close-knit family atmosphere,” he said. “I ultimately decided to attend law school because I wanted to expand my horizon and learn how to look at the world from a legal perspective. I also really enjoy helping those in need.”

Before arriving at CUA Law, Burden attended Georgia Southern University where he earned a Bachelor of Science and a Master in Sports Management while playing football on a scholarship and working as an academic coordinator. He later served as an academic coordinator at Georgia Institute of Technology. “I have always been passionate about helping people and looking at how I could best impact people’s lives. I

felt like law school was the perfect calling for me. I also wanted to do something that would allow me versatility for the future,” he said.

While at CUA Law, Burden has served as the SPIL co-president and class representative for the Student Bar Association. “I dedicate most of my extracurricular time to these roles,” he said. “I try to honor all my commitments. I always feel like I can contribute something so I chose to get involved. If I prioritize correctly and am responsible about the roles, I will be able to make an impact and help someone.”

Burden also serves as the community service chair for the Black Law Students Association. In this capacity he has been able to create service events for both BLSA and SPIL. “This has been a perfect role for me because I can create events for both organizations.” Last fall, Burden took part in organizing #HashtagLunchbag in which the Law School community came together to make lunches for the homeless. Each lunch bag had a sandwich, chips, applesauce, and a handwritten personal note from a student. He also organized a Potomac River clean-up and a book drive donation for local prisons.

On top of his other commitments, Burden also finds time to work three days a week at Bread for the City, a comprehensive front line agency serving the poor of Washington, D.C. At Bread for the City he does legal intake for landlord-tenant disputes and family law cases, coordinates referrals for clients, and writes memos and briefs.

“Bread for the City does a great job, but there are a lot of people who still need help,” he said. “I would love to put a bigger dent in this by working for a non profit or eventually opening my own non profit.”

*“For me, law school is not a labor. It is an opportunity to further my knowledge and understand new perspective.”*

Burden stays grounded by taking time for reflection. “I reflect in the mornings and before I go to bed. This gives me an opportunity to go forward into the next day with a positive attitude,” he said. “For me, law school is not a labor. It is an opportunity to further my knowledge and understand new perspective.”



### CUA Law Students and Staff Come Together for #HashtagLunchbag

On October 6, the Law School community came together to make lunches for the homeless during #HashtagLunchbag. The event was pulled together under the leadership of the CUA Black Law Students Association (BLSA) and was part of CUA Law’s #CUALawWellness month.

Each lunch bag had a sandwich, chips, apple sauce, and a handwritten personal note from a student. Coker also added, “We would like to thank all of the students who participated, the faculty and staff who made this event possible, and a special thanks to Latena Hazard (3L) and Willie Burden (2L) for their dedication and hard work in planning this event.”



## Kristin Mitcham *(Class of 2019)*

Kristin Mitcham has an impressive 10 years of career experience in commercial lending and insurance consulting. She returned to school to earn a law degree not only to advance her career but also to possess the capability to help clients solve legal problems. “I enjoyed helping business owners solve their problems by formulating and executing plans for them. I came to law school to learn how to help people or businesses solve legal issues,” she said.

During Mitcham’s law school search, she considered several schools close to her family. Mitcham’s aunt, Mary Reilly ’87, encouraged her to apply to CUA Law. As soon as she arrived on campus for a student tour, she knew CUA Law was the right fit for her. “The atmosphere was one of acceptance and benevolence. I was impressed that while on the tour, everyone we passed, smiled and said hello to the student tour guide,” she said.

Once she arrived at CUA, Mitcham delved right into student organizations and also professional legal organizations outside of the school. During her second year, Mitcham worked as a certified student attorney in the Columbus Community Legal Services (CCLS) Clinic and at the same time served as an associate for the *Catholic University Journal of Law and Technology*.

*“I was told I could contribute as much or as little as I wanted. I decided to jump in all the way.”*

As a 1L, Mitcham became involved with the CUA Women’s Law Caucus (WLC). “I was told I could contribute as much or as little as I wanted. I decided to jump in all the way,” she said.

In Spring 2017, she worked with attorneys from the Women’s Bar Association of the District of Columbia (WBA) and organized the “May She Please the Court” panel (photo to the right) discussion in honor of the WBA’s centennial celebration. The panelists spoke about the challenges they overcame in their careers regarding gender discrimination, managing anxiety when making oral arguments, and dealing with adversity.

“Students, faculty, and staff approached me for weeks to tell me how much the event meant to them. I was pleased to bring these leaders to CUA Law to serve as role models for the student body,” she said.

After that event, Mitcham applied for the WLC co president position for her 2L year. Additionally, she was asked to serve as co chair for the WBA Amicus Committee as a result of the contacts she made from the “May She Please the Court” event.

As WLC co president, Mitcham organized a presentation by author Marlene Trestman on her book, *Fair Labor Lawyer: The Remarkable Life of Bessie Margolin* for the CUA law school community. Mitcham also coordinated for 15 students to tour the Supreme Court of the United States and for a private meeting with Pamela Talkin, the first female Marshal of the Court. Further, Mitcham has scheduled a private meeting for the WLC with Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg during the 2018 - 2019 school year. During the 2017 - 2018 school year, Mitcham, her co president, and the WLC Executive Board delivered nearly one dozen events and service projects to earn the Melissa Hamann Award for Outstanding Community Service by a Student Organization, which was presented by the CUA Student Bar Association.

“The WLC has made a positive impact on both women and men students as they embark on their legal professions,” said Mitcham.

As a WBA Amicus Committee co chair, Mitcham reviewed United States Supreme Court and Federal Court cases and made recommendations to the WBA Board of Directors regarding which cases to support as amici. The legal issues presented usually involved employment law, administrative law, or civil rights law. The resulting case law creates a more just and moral community for all Americans.

Mitcham works in the CCLS Veterans Advocacy and Estate Planning Clinic where she serves clients with administrative law and transactional law issues. She has worked with various agencies and courts to deliver solutions to the clients. “I knew from day one I wanted to be in the Clinic to gain the educational experience and to help others,” Mitcham said.

Mitcham’s hectic schedule is balanced with a great support system. “I couldn’t have done any of this without the strong support of my family,” she said.

After graduation, Mitcham plans to stay in Washington, D.C. or relocate to the Southeast. She would like to either work as a trusts and estates lawyer or in a corporate general counsel’s office. She is driven to ethically serve her clients and to remain a leader in community service organizations.



# Conversations with Six Alumni Public Servants



The Catholic University of America Columbus School of Law has consistently been ranked as a top supplier of alumni who go on to become public servants. More than 12,600 individuals have earned degrees from CUA Law since its founding 121 years ago, with many of those graduates becoming leaders in their fields. Current and former CUA Law alumni in government public service jobs have visited the Law School several times this year to speak with students, faculty, staff and alumni. CUA Law public servants have a unique grounding in government, leadership, and society. Their success is a testament to the applied power of a CUA Law degree and their willingness to share is a testament to the power of our community.

The alumni interviewed in these pages stand out for their exceptional leadership skills. Each took time out of their busy schedules to discuss their career paths, greatest challenges, and favorite memories from CUA Law.



## Machalagh Carr, '05

*Oversight Staff Director for the U.S. House of Representatives  
Committee on Ways and Means*

### *Can you tell us a little bit about your background?*

I was raised in Reno, Nevada, and always thought I would return there. I grew up loving the mountains and Lake Tahoe and everything that included: hiking, camping, skiing, playing at the lake in the summer. I had a wonderful childhood with lots of dirt, mud pies, and free time.

### *Why did you decide to attend CUA Law?*

I was the first person in my family to attend law school. After graduating from college at University of Nevada, Reno, I applied to law schools that were small and decided to attend the school that offered me the largest scholarship. I really loved the idea of moving to Washington, D.C., and experiencing life on the East Coast, but I ultimately chose CUA Law because of the support the school provided – both in terms of financial assistance, as well as student and career development.

### *Can you discuss your early career developments?*

After graduation, I clerked at the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces. I was surrounded by smart, hardworking, and kind lawyers and sought to replicate that experience after the completion of the clerkship. I practiced at a large law firm in the White Collar Defense, Litigation, and Appellate practice groups and later worked in-house at a multinational corporation where I focused on anticorruption and compliance measures.

### *What caused you to want to be involved in public service?*

While I had great experiences in private practice, and received excellent training, I think going to school at CUA Law really drove a desire to give back to the community and to be a part of a solution where possible. Our constitutional democracy is a great social experiment and having an opportunity to be part of the inner workings while living in D.C. is a tremendous gift.

**OCTOBER 19 AND 20, 2018**



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*What is the most rewarding part of your job?*

*What are the biggest challenges?*

My job includes conducting congressional oversight of the Executive Branch – which is an important Constitutional obligation necessary to preserve the separation of powers. It is incredibly rewarding to help members of Congress demand transparency and answers from an often recalcitrant Executive Branch and to shine a light on alleged wrongdoings.

*Are you where you expected to be at this stage of your career?*

As the first person in my family to go to law school, I don't know that I had significant or clear expectations of where I would be more than a decade out of law school. I am incredibly happy to have fulfilling work that I enjoy and a family that I love.

*What advice would you give to young lawyers or law students who have public service aspirations?*

Find something to do that you are passionate about – it is not enough to be good at something if you don't enjoy it. We lawyers spend many hours in our craft, away from our friends and families. Make sure it's something worthwhile.

*Do you have a favorite memory from CUA Law?*

CUA provided a great community of smart, energetic, enthusiastic attorneys-in-training. I felt very lucky to be attending school and having my primary responsibility be to learn and study in the capital city. I had come a long way from Reno and really appreciated being surrounded by intellectually curious and hardworking students who never took one minute of this education for granted.

*How do you balance your work and personal life?*

I married the best person I have ever met, fellow CUA grad and FCC Commissioner Brendan Carr '05. In my experience, this has made all the difference in my ability to pursue my career with passion and enthusiasm and build a home life full of love and respect. Choose your life partner wisely.

### Women's Law Caucus Hosts "Dare to Ask: Negotiating for a Higher Salary and Other Benefits"



On January 23, 2018, the CUA Women's Law Caucus and The Office of Career and Professional Development hosted an event entitled "Dare to Ask: Negotiating for a Higher Salary and Other Benefits" with Cait Clarke '86.

"We are here today to talk more about your opportunities and skill sets," Clarke told the audience.

Clarke provided an overview of her negotiation course and discussed three big ideas for students to keep in mind during negotiations: reframing the process, controlling the process, and being prepared. "I want to help develop your internal resourcefulness, and this can be done by reframing the process of negotiations," she said.

She stated a negotiation should be a conversation between both parties. "Reframing a negotiation as a collaborative conversation changes the dynamics from a win-lose situation to a mutual decision between both parties."

Despite the financial commitment of law school students, Clarke maintained they should not be hindered from pursuing their "authentic self" during interviews. "Write down your skill sets before you go into a collaborative conversation. Think big and ask for what you want," she said.

Lastly, she discussed the importance of preparation. "Be prepared. Talk to your professors, colleagues, and other people you trust. You have resources at Catholic University. You can even cold call a firm," she said. Before taking questions from the audience, Clarke reminded students to think big, create a ritual, and practice self-care. "You will be a better negotiator and collaborator because of this."



## Catherine T. Clarke, '86

*Chief of Defender Services  
in the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts*

### *Can you tell us a little bit about your background?*

Throughout high school and college I went to Catholic schools and was drawn naturally to people who cared about social justice, the ones who embraced the liberation theology branch of the Church. The nuns who did direct service particularly impressed me. At Villanova I studied at the Business School, majoring in marketing, but I stayed grounded teaching children in inner-city Philadelphia. The high school where I taught embodied the horrors of inner-city education: no books to take home; crumbling walls; bars on the windows.

This was the time of MOVE (a Philadelphia-based black liberation group founded by John Africa who preached against technology and promoted communal living). The MOVE movement ended when police bombed its headquarters in a residential neighborhood in 1985, killing 11 people (including five children) and destroying 60 homes in a neighborhood I knew. The severe overreaction of police in a poor neighborhood had a lasting impact on me.

### *Why did you decide to attend CUA Law?*

It took me a few post-grad years in the “real world” to get to law school. When I got there, I knew that service — giving back directly — was a life thread that kept me grounded. I volunteered in a soup kitchen my first semester where I met a Spanish nun, Sister Rosa Alvarez, who changed my life. Sister Rosa has a powerful presence.

I had heard about the number of homeless women who hung around the D.C. Superior Court and neighboring Chinatown. With a little research I found out that several Spanish Carmelite Sisters of Charity had recently opened a women’s shelter and weekend soup kitchen for women in an unused rectory down a foreboding alley near the courthouse. When I went there the first time I noticed there were no lines at the door of people waiting to get in and be fed. Instead, the sisters sat their guests at tables, and places were set with real (not plastic) silverware and napkins; we cleared their plates so they didn’t have to get up with trays. In a word, these folks were welcomed with the same civility as one would receive important guests. Which, the sisters taught me, they were. From this experience I learned that perhaps the most important thing one can give to others is dignity. It was a lesson that would shape my career in the law.

A few words about Sister Rosa Alvarez. When I met her over 25 years ago she was a “take charge” woman who never took “no” for an answer — from D.C. City government officials to the highest power players in the Catholic Church. She was literally on a mission to serve the poor. Sister Rosa established Mount Carmel House in D.C. with her sisters and it continues to operate today. Rosa questions hierarchies, and when needed, she challenges power, always in service of the needy and voiceless. She remains a sprightly, feisty spirit in her 80s, now ministering to the immigrant women who work in the chicken processing plants of lower Delaware. She is the best public interest advocate I know.

### *Can you discuss your early career developments?*

I had entered law school thinking I wanted to be an international lawyer. After working as a summer law clerk at a prestigious Japanese law firm and living in Tokyo, however, I knew this was not right for me. After law school, I went to Georgetown Law Center for an E. Barrett Prettyman Fellowship. The professor who was responsible for my admission, Bill Greenhalgh, the founder of Georgetown’s Criminal Justice Clinic, would have a huge impact on me. The competition for the Fellowship was steep and my credentials on paper — Villanova Business School and Catholic Law School — lacked the Ivy League pedigree of other applicants, and I also did not have any direct criminal defense experience. But, as I was later to learn, Bill saw the spark of service in my résumé and went to bat for me. He noticed that I had worked at the soup kitchen, had written résumés for prisoners, and had repeatedly reached out to small communities as a volunteer. He saw that I had experience with the poor and powerless and that I understood service.

Following Georgetown, I moved to Louisiana as a tenure-track teacher at Loyola University New Orleans, College of Law. It was a wonderful job and, in retrospect, I sometimes wonder if I might not have been best-served in an academic setting. I was a young, untraditional law professor. Of course I published articles (still the only credential that the legal academy really counts) and loved teaching in the classroom receiving high marks in all of my teaching evaluations (even winning the “best professor” award from students). In hindsight, I may have “upset” the stately decorum of my colleagues by starting a Street Law program in a

few New Orleans public schools and the Ninth Ward Jackson Barracks while taking my students into larger prisons to spend time, most notably at the fabled Angola penitentiary. Someday, I believe the circles of life will take me back to the classroom.

As is likely apparent, along with “service,” the other strong current running through my career is a love of ideas and intellectual activity. This would lead me to Harvard after several years at Loyola, where I again became a student and earned an S.J.D. at the Law School. Without getting lost in the past, let me simply note that I ended up, post-doctorate, at Harvard’s Kennedy School of Government in the Program in Criminal Justice Policy and Management. This, in turn, would lead me to the National Legal Aid & Defender Association (NLADA) in Washington, D.C.

### *What advice would you give to young lawyers or law students who have public service aspirations?*

Law students who want to enter public interest work are advised to take related courses and participate in the clinical offerings. Which is what I didn’t do at Catholic University Law School. No Criminal Justice nor Civil Legal Aid Clinic. I was competitive for glory, at the top of my class and Editor-in-Chief of the Law Review. But I also worked once a week at a soup kitchen because I knew that I would not feel grounded unless I was doing some hands-on work with the poor. That was my internal compass then and it remains so today. But it isn’t easy. There’s always gravitational pull away from hands-on-service.

### *What caused you to want to be involved in public service?*

My draw to public interest began in childhood. I grew up in a very white, very privileged pocket of Northwest D.C. with an African American caregiver named Maxine Fralin. Cliché though it may be, she really was part of our large Irish-Catholic family; it was she who effectively raised me and my five siblings. At night she left our enclave to return to a part of the city I had never seen, Anacostia. I’d ask her about her neighborhood. Mostly she’d shrug off my questions, but occasionally she’d describe the scene: gunfire, violence, drug deals, abandoned buildings. In rare moments she’d even let me see her fears and I began to understand why it was always so important for her to get home before dark.

Knowing and loving Maxine and wanting to find out about her life, I now realize in retrospect, has been the driving force of my legal life. Unlike me, she was largely unprotected from the cruelties and inequities and random violence of the world. She was a beautiful woman with an enormous heart, and showed me that there were so many like her with rich, full lives that were deserving of respect and dignity yet lacked opportunity. And, as I took up my profession in public interest law, I grew more passionate that so many, who were equally deserving of legal services and protection, could not access it.

### *What is the most rewarding part of your job? What are the biggest challenges? Are you where you expected to be at this stage of your career?*

As a Prettyman Fellow at Georgetown Law Center, teaching in New Orleans and working with Chief Public Defenders from all over the country, I saw an area where my service could have an impact – protecting the right to counsel. At NLADA my “public service compass” focused on leadership development in public defense. With the help of the Open Society Foundation I became the founding director of the National Defender Leadership Institute. It was incredibly rewarding to convene educational seminars all over the country and provide on-site technical assistance to public defense leaders. Service to public defender managers and leaders who struggle against enormous odds each day continues to be my passion.

The “big idea” I want to underscore in the unfolding of my career, however, is not the stuff of a curriculum vitae. Rather, it is the notion that my life as a lawyer has largely — for better or worse — been an on going expression of the things I had learned from Maxine and Bill and keep learning from Rosa. Their “truth” is that justice is ultimately best served by rendering acts of help and respect to people who need them.

That’s not always easy or rewarding. My “innocence” in that respect has long since been worn away. Alas, public service and non profit organizations are subject to the same kinds of ambitions, rivalries, jealousies, and competition for resources as other less self-consciously lofty fields. Lawyers, however, are uniquely qualified to serve. We are trained to listen; we are empowered to act.

So my soup kitchen days of the first semester of law school have brought my life full circle — we have a gifted son whom his grandfather used to watch intently and say: “What isn’t he good at?” Neil and I sometimes watch William helping out a child who is sad and then see him do some hip-hop move with incredible ease. William has also given us a connection to a Guatemalan community only two hours from Washington, D.C. We now run a safe house in Delaware for women like his birth mother. The house is called Gardenia House, a circle of safety that spun out of those soup kitchen days because Sister Rosa now runs it with us. I realize with our son William, Gardenia House, and my public interest career that those volunteer days would always give me much more than I ever gave for a few hours a week. My days there led to our son coming home to us and to a fulfilling (though challenging) legal career.



## The Honorable Joseph F. Leeson Jr. '80

*United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania*

### *Can you tell us a little bit about your background?*

I was born and raised in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, and on graduation from CUA Law in 1980, I returned to Bethlehem to join my father and brother in the practice of law. I practiced with the family law firm for 34 years until being appointed a United States District Judge in 2015. The focus of my practice was on civil litigation matters involving the building and construction industry, municipal law and religious and non profit law. I am happily married with five adult children. The United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, where I serve as a district judge, has jurisdiction over nine counties in southeastern Pennsylvania, including the City of Philadelphia.

### *Why did you decide to attend CUA Law?*

There were three reasons: the location of the law school being in our nation's capital and the opportunities that provided; the school was known for having a friendly atmosphere where the professors and students knew each other; and the Catholic affiliation of the University.

### *Can you discuss your early career developments?*

My father, who was an accomplished trial lawyer, had a major influence on me. Within a short time after graduating from law school, he encouraged me and mentored me in handling of civil litigation and trials. I had a very busy trial schedule. I also became active in governmental and civic affairs. This led to my representation of local governmental entities as clients later, representing a number of major political figures.

### *What caused you to want to be involved in public service?*

I believe that responsible citizenship is a virtue and that participation by all citizens in public life is important in promoting the common good. At a minimum, each citizen should exercise the right to vote in elections and become informed about the candidates and the issues. In my case, I had the opportunity to serve in both appointed and elected public office, before becoming a judge, as part of my own efforts to contribute to the common good.

### *What is the most rewarding part of your job?*

#### *What are the biggest challenges?*

Trial courts are the single most important part of our entire judicial system and trial judges are the most visible representatives of that system. Parties who are in federal court typically have very serious legal problems and are seeking a just and expeditious resolution of their cases. I find it rewarding to bring resolution to cases in a manner that is fair, just, and expeditious. The biggest challenge is in the area of sentencing — to try to devise sentences that will not only provide punishment but also promote rehabilitation rather than recidivism.

### *Are you where you expected to be at this stage of your career?*

I had expected to be practicing law at this stage of my career — becoming a judge was an unexpected honor and privilege for which I am very grateful.

### *What advice would you give to young lawyers or law students who have public service aspirations?*

Become active in civic and government affairs, and give the best of what you have to offer in terms of time and talent to those involvements. If you approach your responsibilities with a clear focus on serving your community, you may be presented with opportunities to become involved in matters with greater responsibility and wider exposure. Public service can be rewarding, but balance it with the realization that there will be ups and downs, advances as well as setbacks. The key to meaningful public service is persistence, focused on promoting the common good.



*The Honorable Joseph F. Leeson Jr. with his family at the Celebration of the Judiciary where he and other alumni joined 270 fellow graduates currently inscribed on the Judges Wall.*

*Do you have a favorite memory from CUA law?*

There are two. The first is I made many great friends both at the law school as well as at Theological College, where I resided during my law school years. The second is meeting members of Congress, a number of federal judges, and Pope John Paul II when he visited the campus in 1979.



*The Honorable Joseph F. Leeson Jr. volunteering his time as a judge at the 2018 Seigenthaler-Sutherland National Moot Court Competition Semi-Finals at the Newseum on March 24, 2018.*

*How do you balance your work and personal life?*

Balancing work and personal life has always been a challenge, but whatever success I have had in this area is largely due to the influence of my loving wife. When things start to get out of balance, she helps guide me towards making appropriate adjustments.

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## The Honorable Peggy A. Quince '75

*Justice of the Supreme Court of Florida*

### *Can you tell us a little bit about your background?*

I was the second oldest child of five brothers and sisters raised by my father, Solomon Roosevelt Quince Sr., who worked as a stevedore at the Norfolk Naval Base. He stressed the importance of education among his children, who grew up in a humble home, rich in love. I took my father's dedication to education seriously. As a child, I rode the school bus in rural Chesapeake to a segregated school, where my teachers, as well as my father, encouraged me to excel. I participated in numerous academic programs during my elementary and high school years, including the local and state science fairs. I graduated second in my class at Crestwood High School in Chesapeake, Virginia. After receiving numerous scholarship offers to a variety of colleges and universities, I decided to attend Howard University in Washington, D.C., where I majored in zoology. My plan was to attend medical school or get a Ph.D. in genetics. However, during my time at Howard, I became interested in law because of events taking place in our country during that time, events such as the Civil Rights Movement, the Vietnam War, and the killing of the students at Kent State University.

### *Why did you decide to attend CUA Law?*

Because of the aforementioned events and others that I was witnessing firsthand, I developed an interest in the law and applied to law school. I was somewhat settled and wanted to stay in Washington, so I was happy when I was accepted and received a scholarship to study law at The Catholic University of America. In addition, I was interested in the fact that Catholic had a legal services clinic that could give me some practical experience in representing clients. As a student, I helped poor clients through Columbus Community Legal Services. It was at Catholic University as a member of the Phi Alpha Delta International Law Fraternity and the Black American Law Students Association that I met my husband the late Fred Buckine '75.

### *Can you discuss your early career developments?*

At that time, there were few Black attorneys and even fewer Black female lawyers. I, even then, understood the need to have diversity in the courtrooms. I understood how disconcerting it could be to walk into a room where there were no other Black people. I faced the same struggles most Black people in the U.S. did at the time. Some professors didn't think Black students should be studying law. A judge on one of my first cases asked me if I was the defendant as I approached the bench. After law school, I was a hearing officer with the Rental Accommodations Office in Washington, D.C., administering the city's new rent control law, and served in private practice in Norfolk before moving with Fred to his hometown of Bradenton, Florida. I practiced general civil law in Bradenton for two years before I began my 13-and-a-half year tenure with the Florida Attorney General's Office. During those years, I represented the State in criminal appeals before the Florida district courts of appeal, the Florida Supreme Court, the United States District Courts, the Fifth and Eleventh Circuit Courts of Appeal, and the United States Supreme Court. I was a part of the criminal division. I researched and wrote briefs involving death penalty cases, as well as other criminal cases, including ones involving the constitutionality of statutes.

### *What caused you to want to be involved in public service?*

I learned at an early age through the "hands on" experience of caring for my three younger siblings the meaning of responsibility and the importance of caring for others who are less able to care for themselves. I also learned the quiet satisfaction that comes with putting the welfare of others before the welfare of one's self. Ours was a closely knit and loving family which, with God's help, managed to pull itself through many difficult early years. Under my father's watchful eye and loving guidance, my siblings and I learned the importance and dignity of honest work, faith in God, and service to others, especially those less fortunate than ourselves.

As a student at Howard University where I graduated in 1970, I earned a coveted spot in the scholarship dorm. As a young zoology student who was preparing for a medical degree during the late 1960s, I saw protestors go to jail during the Civil Rights Movement and the Vietnam War. In college at Howard, I served with the Angel Flight auxiliary ROTC program, often taking the bus to visit soldiers injured in the war. I became focused on how the rule of law brings about social change and justice. The Vietnam War, Kent State student massacre, and the murder of Martin Luther King Jr. all inspired me to go to law school instead of medical school. Following the Civil Rights Movement, I chose to pursue the law to help affect societal change and represent the interest of the people.

After my experiences at the Rental Accommodations Office and the Attorney General's Office, I wanted to continue public service and affect a wide segment of the population, so I applied to become an appellate court judge. I was appointed by the late Gov. Lawton Chiles to the Florida Second District Court of Appeal, to a tenure that began in January 1994, becoming the first Black female to hold such a position. For the same reasons, I applied to and was jointly appointed by the late Gov. Lawton Chiles and then governor-elect Jeb Bush to the Florida Supreme Court to a term beginning in January 1999.

*What is the most rewarding part of your job?*

*What are the biggest challenges?*

The most rewarding part of being a member of the Florida Supreme Court is positively impacting the lives of the millions of citizens in the state. The challenges are probably much like those faced by most judges; that is, making sure that the decisions that are made accurately reflect the law and the Constitutions and that those decisions are in the best interest of the people.

*Are you where you expected to be at this stage of your career?*

I am in a wonderful place in my career — a justice on the Florida Supreme Court. But in all honesty, I did not expect my career to take this turn. When I was a law student, I did not know any lawyers and certainly no judges. My goal was to make sure that the law worked for all people. One of the first cases I handled as a lawyer, I had to appeal the defendant's conviction to the Virginia Supreme Court. Thus began my interest in the appellate process. From private practice I began my tenure with the Florida Attorney General's criminal appellate division. I expected to continue to practice appellate law with the Attorney General's Office or in private practice. So being a judge has exceeded my expectations for myself.

*What advice would you give to young lawyers or law students who have public service aspirations?*

Get a good formal education and continue to learn from each experience. Remember that education is not just formal, but is gleaned from all that we do and experience.

The best advice I got as a young lawyer came from my teachers from the elementary school level to the graduate school level, who told me I could do anything I wanted, as long as I prepared myself. They said you prepare yourself by studying, by making good grades, by doing well in whatever job you are doing so you can move up to the next level - because everyone is going to be looking at how well you've done at the level before that. That was great advice. I have gone back and talked to some of those teachers and thanked them for all the good advice and assistance that they gave me.

*Do you have a favorite memory from CUA Law?*

I will never forget my first few weeks at Catholic, especially the pig roast on campus. It was a great opportunity to meet classmates in a less formal, less competitive environment. I brought my nephew with me. He was so cute and a lot of people came by to see him so I met others that I might not have encountered otherwise. It was a great opportunity to get a "feel" for the campus and the students. It was my first time I was the "minority" in a setting and I did not know what to expect from the majority students.

*How do you balance your work and personal life?*

I was fortunate during the early stages of my career to have both a supportive husband and father. After law school, I married fellow student, Fred L. Buckine, and we had two daughters. My father had retired from the Naval Base after working there for over 30 years. He came to live with us, and after I had my first child, he took care of her while Fred and I pursued our careers. I asked my father once why he would spend his retirement years taking care of children. His answer to me was, "I worked so much that I did not have a real opportunity to watch my children grow and develop, now I will have an opportunity to see that with my grandchildren." My husband and I had an agreement that we would come home most days at an early hour to have dinner with the children and my father. If we had additional work, we would do it after the children were in bed. My husband and I also shared and divided the cooking and other household chores. That kind of shared responsibilities worked for us.



## Brendan Carr '05

*Commissioner of the Federal Communications Commission*

### *Can you tell us a little bit about your background?*

I grew up in Virginia and went to undergrad at Georgetown. My wife, Machalagh, and I met while we were both attending law school at CUA. We now live in D.C. with our two terrific boys – Quinn, who is four years old, and Emmet, who just turned one. It's a busy time in our lives, but we would not have it any other way.

### *Why did you decide to attend CUA Law?*

After graduating from Georgetown, I spent a year working as a paralegal at a law firm in D.C. I worked in the firm's energy practice and really enjoyed the regulatory and administrative law aspects of the job. So when I thought about applying to law school, I was attracted to CUA's telecom institute. I thought it would be a great way to prepare for a career in regulatory law and gain practical experience – through internships and specific telecom classes – while still in law school. It turned out to be a great decision for me.

### *Can you discuss your early career developments?*

I started out as an associate at Wiley Rein working in their telecom practice. I learned a tremendous amount from the lawyers in the firm, and the work helped sharpen my legal research and writing skills.

After three years, I left the firm for a clerkship with Judge Shedd on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit. Getting the chance to work for Judge Shedd was a wonderful experience. It provided me with exposure to many different areas of law and improved my analytical skills.

After the clerkship, I returned to Wiley Rein for another three years where I worked on many telecom, litigation, and appellate matters.

### *What caused you to want to be involved in public service?*

I believe in public service and in the FCC's mission. The American public has much to gain from telecom policies that promote their interests, that create good-paying jobs, that grow the economy, and that help unleash new innovations. I wanted to work at the FCC to help put those types of policies in place.

So I applied for a staff position in the FCC's Office of General Counsel in 2012. It was an honor to get the chance to work at the agency. In that job, I focused on providing legal advice to FCC staff in the agency's wireless, public safety, and international bureaus. I learned a lot about the agency's processes and procedures.

Following that experience, I served for nearly three years as an advisor to then FCC Commissioner Ajit Pai on wireless, public safety, and international issues. That job allowed me the chance to work on policy issues in addition to the legal aspects of the agency's work. I then returned to the legal side of the shop in January 2017 when I got the chance to serve as the General Counsel of the FCC. I really enjoyed the chance to lead the FCC's Office of General Counsel and help guide the agency through a number of complex legal proceedings.

The White House then reached out to me and asked if I had any interest in being considered for one of the open seats on the Commission. Ultimately, President Trump nominated me, and the United States Senate voted unanimously to confirm me, to serve as a Commissioner. I was sworn into office in August 2017. I am tremendously grateful for this opportunity to serve.

### *Are you where you expected to be at this stage of your career?*

No, I never expected to serve as a Commissioner of the FCC. I have always tried to think five or more years down the road and plan next steps in my career. And I envisioned trying to work at the FCC as a staffer at some point in my career. But I never thought I would have the chance to serve as the General Counsel of the agency and now serve as a Commissioner. It has been a tremendously rewarding time in public service.

*What is the most rewarding part of your job?  
What are the biggest challenges?*

The best part of this job is getting to help put policies in place that are going to spur investment, create jobs, and help grow the economy for the benefit of all Americans. We are at such an interesting point in time in telecom where new technologies and next-generation networks can help bring broadband and all of the opportunities that it entails to more Americans than ever before. The challenge is ensuring that we put the regulatory frameworks in place that will incentivize the massive amount of private sector investment needed to make this transition and serve the best interests of consumers.

*What advice would you give to young lawyers or law students who have public service aspirations?*

One of the great things about public service is that if you are willing to work hard you will get noticed. You will get opportunities to take on more responsibilities. So focus on getting your foot in the door somewhere and then working your way towards new opportunities. I started at the FCC as a staffer in the Office of General Counsel in 2012, and I have had the chance to work in many interesting roles since then — from legal advisor to General Counsel to Commissioner.

The other piece of advice I would give is to think about where you want to end up in your career, but be flexible. There were times in my career that I was convinced I would work as a lawyer's lawyer, focusing on pure legal issues, such as litigation and appellate work. There were other times that I had more interest in working on policy issues. So far, I have worked in many different areas, and it has been helpful to develop these different skill sets.

*Do you have a favorite memory from CUA Law?*

One of the great things about CUA and the telecom institute in particular is the chance to gain practical experience through internships while you are still in law school. I interned twice at the FCC — once in the FCC's Enforcement Bureau and a second time for then FCC Commissioner Kathleen Abernathy. I also had the chance to intern in Congress for the telecom subcommittee on the House side. These experiences provided me with contacts and relationships that continue to prove valuable to this day.

*How do you balance your work and personal life?*

Both my wife and I work in government in D.C., and so we understand the demands that are placed on each other's time. That said, we make every effort to pick up our kids together from school each day and spend time with them. That is always the highlight of our day.



*Members of the 2018 Graduation/Class Gift Committee pose for a picture at Commencement*

***Congratulations to the Class of 2018  
for achieving 50% participation and  
raising over \$2,000 in support of the Law  
School during their Class Gift Campaign!***

The CUA Law Class Gift campaign, led by the Graduation Committee, gives the graduating class the opportunity to support the student programs and activities, which shaped their time at CUA Law.

This year, students pledged their support to a number of programs including, the Innocence Project Clinic, Law Review, Columbus Community Legal Services, the Journal of Law and Technology, Democratic Law Students Association, Students for Public Interest Law and Black Law Students Association.

Through their support, the Class of 2018 left a legacy for future students. Many thanks to the members of the Graduation Committee for their leadership and support, and to all members of the graduating class who made a lasting gift to the Law School and continue the CUA Law alumni tradition of commitment and generosity.

***Special thanks to our  
Graduation/Class Gift Committee!***



Sydny Bryan  
Kwambina Coker  
Latena Hazard  
Marcos Holguin  
Casey Hughes  
Raymond Magorien  
Constance Ricketts  
Frank Russo  
Amanda Stirone  
Breck Story  
Kayla Stuart



## George E. Simms III, '82

*Deputy Assistant State's Attorney for Montgomery County, Maryland*

### *Can you tell us a little bit about your background?*

I graduated from Columbus School of Law in May of 1982. I have a Bachelor of Arts Degree from the University of Dayton in 1978. Before that, I attended high school locally in the District of Columbia, graduating from St. John's College High School and from Nativity Elementary School in the Brightwood neighborhood, in Northwest Washington, D.C.

### *Why did you decide to attend CUA Law?*

I was aware that the Law School had and continues to maintain an excellent reputation. My father also graduated from Catholic University's School of Architecture, so I was familiar with the school, its reputation, and its commitment to high standards.

### *Can you discuss your early career developments?*

After graduation from law school, I worked for the Maryland General Assembly, drafting legislation. That was a great experience, being close to the legislative process and working with legislators, helping craft laws. Following that experience, I clerked for the Honorable DeLawrence Beard, in the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, Maryland. Judge Beard is a great jurist and an outstanding mentor and role model. I was very fortunate to get a job working for him. At the end of my clerkship, I was hired by the Honorable Andrew Sonner, then State's Attorney for Montgomery County, Maryland, who is one of the most innovative prosecutors in the nation. Mr. Sonner implemented groundbreaking programs like community prosecution, which is now employed nationwide and worldwide. I also had an opportunity to observe great trial lawyers, like John McCarthy, the current State's Attorney.

### *What caused you to want to be involved in public service?*

For part of the year between college and law school, I worked for a Maryland State Legislator, named Idamae Garrott. Ms. Garrott was a true public servant, committed to serving the people, and she was a very effective legislator. My grandparents were also career educators in the public school system, in the City of Baltimore, Maryland. Based on these examples and others, I developed a desire to be helpful, useful, and to serve the public.

### *What is the most rewarding part of your job?*

#### *What are the biggest challenges?*

The most rewarding part of being a prosecutor is the opportunity to meet and help people who have found themselves cast into the criminal justice system as victims. They did not ask to be victimized, yet they find themselves as participants in the trial process. It is rewarding to help them resolve the situation in the best possible manner.

The biggest challenge with being a prosecutor is combating certain misconceptions some people have about prosecutors. For example, the role of the prosecutor is not to obtain convictions. The role of the prosecutor is to work to achieve justice.

### *Are you where you expected to be at this stage of your career?*

I would have to say no, in that I never expected to be a career prosecutor. When I was in law school, I studied a lot of tax and corporate laws and took courses in various forms of taxes, for example, corporate tax, partnership tax, etc. I never expected that my career would focus in the field of criminal law. However, while working for Judge Beard, I saw a lot of trials. The trials that I found most interesting were the criminal trials, which is why my career moved in that direction.



*On August 26, 2015, CUA Law students and alumni gathered together for the first program in the CUA Law Advantage In Action Series focused on criminal law. The evening began with a career panel featuring CUA alums George E. Simms III '82, Deputy Assistant State's Attorney for Montgomery County, Maryland and Todd Petit '97, Public Defender for Fairfax County, Virginia, and was moderated by Professor Mary Leary. Students not only learned about careers in criminal law from the prosecution and public defender points of view, but were treated to the nuances of practice in two very different jurisdictions.*

### *What advice would you give to young lawyers or law students who have public service aspirations?*

My advice would be to accept opportunities to obtain experience in the field the student thinks they are interested in pursuing. For example, if a student is interested in trying cases, either for the state or for the defense, the student should go to a local state or federal court and observe what goes on there. That way, two things are accomplished. First, the student will have a better idea of whether this is a field they wish to pursue. Secondly, if the student is still interested in being a trial lawyer, after having observed trial lawyers in action, then the experience of having watched courtroom proceedings will aid the student in their job-seeking pursuits.



### *Do you have a favorite memory from CUA Law?*

My favorite memory from CUA Law actually occurred on the very first day of school. I arrived on campus and I remember being welcomed and greeted by Dean Natividad Garcia and Law School Admissions Director Tometta Dendy in Leahy Hall, which housed the Law School at that time.

The warm and welcoming greeting I received from them was so memorable to me, because as a new student, they made me feel at home and helped settle those concerns I had about whether I could succeed in law school.

### *How do you balance your work and personal life?*

I recognize that much of my work life is influenced by my personal life and vice versa. For example, I was introduced to my wife, Nina, by a mutual friend of ours, who had once worked with me and then worked with Nina. Also, I remember that certain ideas, ideals, and principles apply both to work and to my personal life. Principles like asking God for wisdom before I answer the phone or open a letter or respond to an email. Also, remembering that I am actually doing my work as unto the Lord and also for the people that I am helping, is a principle that applies both to work and to my personal life.

# Fulfilling a Mission of Service



The Columbus School of Law has a unique mission of service that is exemplified by the school's dedication to pro bono work, a commitment shared by the student body, faculty, and alumni. The CUA Law Pro Bono Program carries out this tradition of service by providing access to justice to those in need. From the first week on campus, students are encouraged to give back to the local community through the annual Community Service Day.

During this year's Community Service Day, students spent the day volunteering at St. Anthony Catholic School, Washington Yu Ying Public Charter School, the Armed Forces Retirement Home, Carroll Manor Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, and Ronald McDonald House Charities, where they cleaned, gardened, baked, fixed up properties, and spent time with the elderly. Evening students also had a chance to participate in Community Service Day by sorting school supplies and packing backpacks for local children in need. The school supplies were donated by faculty, staff, and students and were given to children at the Second Annual Back to School Carnival organized by Veda Rasheed 4E.

Aoife Delargy, Associate Director for the Office of Career and Professional Development, stressed that the day is designed to highlight the importance of service to the community and the need to continue serving the community even after students begin their professional legal careers.

After the initial Community Service Day experience, first-year law students are encouraged to take part in pro bono opportunities as soon as they feel ready. "If a student feels passionate about public interest law and is motivated to dedicate their time to pro bono they can take the Pro Bono Pledge. This means a student commits to complete varying levels of pro bono service (50, 100, or 150 hours) during their three or four years of law school," Delargy said.

Currently, the Law School has more than 100 students who have registered for the CUA Law Pro Bono Program and students have volunteered close to 5,500 hours for no academic credit or compensation. Many pro bono projects can also be completed remotely, which makes it easier for evening students to participate.

"Pro bono work is rewarding because you are directly helping a group of people who need accurate legal information quickly, and you are providing that information to them in their time of need," commented Christian Litwiller 3E, who completed a project in partnership with the Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc. (CLINIC).

Throughout the year, students complete projects and volunteer with organizations such as: CLINIC, D.C. Bar Advice and Referral Legal Clinic, Veterans Consortium Pro Bono Program, the Columbus Community Legal Services' Income Tax Assistance Clinic, D.C. Bar Landlord Tenant Resource Center, and The Unaccompanied Minors Pro Bono Project.

"It was a tremendously rewarding experience to help provide legal services to veterans who have served our country," Jamie O'Donohue 2E remarked. O'Donohue worked with the Consortium to conduct research related to cases that have been appealed from the Court of



### The Michael F. Curtin Pro Bono Award was presented to Sydyn Bryan (L) and Veda Rasheed (R) at the 2018 Commencement ceremony.

Michael F. Curtin Pro Bono Award recognizes a law student from each division, day and evening, who has honored the highest ideals of the Columbus School of Law by voluntary pro bono service to others.

The award is named in tribute to alumnus Michael F. Curtin, 1965, in recognition of his more than 40 years of leadership and selfless dedication to the Law School and the legal profession. The range of his pro bono work and his significant portion of his professional life that he has devoted to the causes of justice, compassion, and opportunity for all have set a new standard for what it means to serve others.

Appeals for Veterans Claims (CAVC) to the Federal Circuit Court of Appeals. Specifically, she documented the outcomes of cases appealed to the Federal Circuit and analyzed trends of more detailed outcomes for those that have been appealed.

During National Pro Bono Week, held October 22–28, 2017, CUA Law teamed up with the Veterans Consortium Pro Bono Program and the Washington Legal Clinic for the Homeless to host two volunteer training sessions for students on campus. During the training sessions students were able to gain advocacy skills and prepare for future service. Many students also chose to participate in the D.C. Alternative Spring Break Pro Bono Service Project, held from March 3–8, 2018, with events taking place from March 3–March 24, 2018. Students were tasked to assist on a variety of projects, including staffing a detention hotline, assisting with clinic intakes and naturalization workshops, conducting an evaluation project for legal clinics and criminal record sealing

motions, and participating in an expungement project. These projects ranged from a single morning or afternoon commitment to a weeklong placement.

“Helping the applicants through the intimidating process of becoming citizens was very rewarding. The smile on the clients’ faces when they realized they qualified for a waiver was touching,” Larry McCammon 2E said, who participated in the DC Alternative Spring Break Pro Bono Service Project.

The legal profession is one of service. Students who participate in CUA Law Pro Bono Program are able to demonstrate to employers a commitment to serving the community and an enhanced practical legal experience. “My time volunteering has been one of the most fulfilling experiences I’ve had in law school. I truly feel as if I am helping people achieve a better life and reach success,” Taliesin Gabriel 3L said.



### CUA Law Honors Students, Faculty, and Staff for Pro Bono Service

The Columbus School of Law paid tribute to its longstanding tradition of service to others during the Pro Bono Reception, held on March 27, 2018. The reception honored CUA Law students, faculty, and staff who volunteered their time and effort to pro bono causes during the past year. CUA Law Dean Daniel F. Attridge introduced the program’s speaker, the Honorable Vytas Varekojis Vergeer ’93.

“Our speaker today is an alumnus who has gone well beyond what is expected.

Judge Vergeer has dedicated his life to public service in Washington D.C. Before he became an Administrative Law Judge to the District of Columbia Office of Administrative Hearings, Vergeer worked for 20 years at Bread for the City. He served as a staff attorney and later as a legal director. His work focused on low income housing issues and public benefits,” Attridge said.

During his remarks, Judge Vergeer discussed what he has gained from a career in public interest. “My legal career has been an honor because of what I chose to do with it, which is to work with impoverished people and try to assist them in gaining as much justice as possible,” he said.

Judge Vergeer discussed how he helped people navigate a complicated and intimidating legal system to obtain income, safety, and shelter. “I was enriched by the opportunity to try to help someone without asking anything in return. I went into my clients’ homes, met their children, heard their stories, and not just *their* legal stories, but their stories.”

# Time-out with Aoife Delargy



## How do you get busy law students to participate in your pro bono program?

*Our students are incredibly dedicated to the pro bono program. They understand how important it is to give back to our community by doing pro bono work for those who need it the most. In addition, the program allows students to gain hands-on legal experience and put to use what they have learned in the classroom in the real world. It is also an opportunity to explore areas of the law that they might be interested in building a career in after they graduate.*

## How do you locate and manage pro bono projects and service events?

*The national public interest community is open and willing to invite our students to assist in pro bono work, whatever it may be, from a legal research project to a one-day clinic. Showing that our pro bono program is open to trying new things and helping legal service providers in their work is very important to managing and organizing pro bono projects. In addition, student's initiative and engagement are vital to ensuring the success of our pro bono projects.*

## How did you develop an interest in pro bono service?

*I have always been motivated to volunteer to serve the community. Before passing the bar, I volunteered with an Irish suicide prevention charity and with the Employment Justice Center (now the Washington Lawyers Committee). In the 1980s my own parents received pro bono assistance from Catholic Charities in New York to apply for their lawful permanent residence status. Once I began practicing, I felt compelled to take on pro bono immigration cases.*

## New York now mandates pro bono service as a condition for bar admission. Should pro bono be required of all lawyers?

*I believe pro bono service should be a condition for all graduates applying for bar admission. The ABA already recommends that a lawyer dedicate 50 hours a year to pro bono work. Even if pro bono isn't made mandatory, I believe that the recommended pro bono hour guidelines should be increased.*

## Can you discuss some of your own pro bono projects?

*I have focused my pro bono work on affirmative removal defense cases.*

Aoife Delargy previously served as the CUA Law Pro Bono Coordinator during the 2017-2018 school year. Delargy is now the Associate Director for the Office of Career and Professional Development Staff at CUA Law. Kiva Zytznick is currently the CUA Law Pro Bono Coordinator.

# Five and a Half Years: Reflections on Dean Daniel F. Attridge's Remarkable Tenure

*Dean Attridge meets legal education's challenges with real-world experience*



The selection of Daniel F. Attridge as the dean of the Columbus School of Law garnered attention because it was notably different: Attridge was not a career academic, but a highly experienced practitioner and a senior partner of one of America's most distinguished law firms, Kirkland & Ellis LLP. Attridge spent more than 32 years practicing law before he decided to apply his skills in a new academic context.

Attridge undertook the deanship with energy, vision, and a long list of goals across many fronts. His primary goal was to serve the Law School and all of its constituents — students, faculty, staff, alumni, and friends. “In my experience, the best leaders are those whose objective is to serve,” he said. Attridge embarked on his deanship during a time where law schools continued to face unprecedented challenges. Throughout his tenure, Attridge successfully tackled priorities such as enrollment, job placement, and fundraising.

Dean Attridge officially steps down on July 31, 2018. On June 27, 2018, a grateful law school community hosted an official farewell for the dean and paid tribute.



*CUA Lawyer: Five and a half years as dean of the law school is a lengthy tenure of service, when you consider the median tenure of deans serving at ABA accredited law schools is only three years. What are some of the major accomplishments that have taken place over that time?*

We have overhauled the first-year curriculum to integrate more practical learning into our courses, enhanced the upper division curriculum by adding six new areas of concentration to increase career marketability, and added a transition-to-practice requirement to assure a greater readiness to practice. To add rigor to our program, we have mandated that students take more core courses that will prepare them for the bar examination and boosted the minimum GPA required to remain in good standing.

We have added new clinical opportunities, expanded our externship program, and have initiated an academic excellence program.

We have started a student-alumni mentoring program, launched a new alumni association, attracted many notable alumni to join our Board of Visitors, and held scores of events annually to stimulate alumni engagement.

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*“Dan has been the ideal Dean: a lawyer’s lawyer, a practical mindset, an appreciation for the broad role of lawyers in business and society, a desire to equip our students with the tools they actually need, and an inspiring leader and friend. His devotion to the law school, the students and faculty, and our alumni has been unflagging. We have been fortunate indeed.”*

**– Ambassador Charlene Barshefsky ’75**

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We have conceived and are launching three new “Path Forward” initiatives -- on compliance, investigations, and corporate responsibility; criminal justice reform; and religious liberty -- that will capitalize on the strengths of our Washington, D.C., location, mission, and faculty’s expertise.

We have moved our law journal and other scholarship online, upgraded our website with a new look, features, and content, initiated monthly newsletters to alumni and students, attracted appellate advocates to campus for moot court preparation, and established a student-centric relationship with the Newseum.

We have launched a new Master of Legal Studies program. It now offers six tracks: compliance and corporate responsibility, criminal justice, employment and human resources, intellectual property, political law, and general U.S. law.

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*“One of the wonderful things about Dan being our Dean is that, in addition to having many professional skills and broad expertise, he is a fun guy to be with. Dan is good-natured, good-humored, modest, and positive in outlook. He sometimes shows an almost boyish enthusiasm for things. He relates well with people, from the youngest school applicant to the oldest alum. These qualities (together, I think, with his skills as a sailor) have served him well in steering the school through the troubled waters legal education has faced during his tenure. Thanks, Dan, for being our Dean! We are delighted that you will remain as a faculty member.”*

**– Donald W. Farley ’69, BOV Chair, 2010-13 Member,  
Dean Search Committee 2011-12**

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We have received reaccreditation by the American Bar Association, without any conditions or reservations. This came after a 20-month, strict-scrutiny review during which time the ABA took adverse actions against some other law schools.

We have developed and implemented a new strategic plan. It has served as a roadmap to lead the Law School with clear statements of our vision and our goals relating to our mission, admissions, curriculum and degree programs, student and alumni experience, and management of financial and other resources.

CUA Lawyer: *Your top priorities as Dean have been enrollment, job placement, and fundraising. How have you addressed these priorities?*

We have improved our approach to admissions with better targeting of potential applicants, faster decision-making on applications, and more aggressive follow-up with admitted applicants. With greater financial support, we have been offering greater tuition assistance to the strongest applicants for the incoming class, including offers of free tuition for the very top applicants. These steps have enabled us to outperform other ABA accredited law schools in attracting new students in the midst of a down market.

*“Over the last five years, Dean Attridge has brought tremendous energy and fresh perspective to the law school. His many years of experience in the private law firm world shaped an agenda that was geared to make Columbus Law School students “practice ready” when they graduate. He made a positive impact not only on students, but also on the many alums in our broader law school community who became his friends and admirers. We owe the Dean a debt of gratitude and wish him all the best.”*

— **Agnes P. Dover '81**, BOV Chair

We have upgraded our career placement office by providing students with mock interview opportunities, coaching on writing samples, and assistance with cover letters. We are bringing more employers to campus and offering more expert panels with career advice. These steps have helped boost our students' prospects for employment in a difficult market.

*“Dean Attridge has provided a hands-on approach as leader of the Columbus School of Law. Whether he is introducing a guest speaker, hosting students on his boat or welcoming faculty into his home, his warmth, genuineness, intelligence and humor is always present. He is a true example of a renaissance person and is ever-present, ever-engaged and everything one might expect a Dean to be. We have been lucky to have him as Dean, and I look forward to working with him on the faculty.”*

— **Elizabeth Winston**, Associate Professor of Law and Co-Director of the Law and Technology Institute

We have renewed our focus on maximizing our students' prospects for success on their post graduate bar examinations. Aided by new specially designed courses and workshops, as well as individualized counseling, our students' bar exam success rate has increased dramatically over the past few years.



We have achieved record-breaking success in our fundraising efforts, with gifts and commitments of up to \$5.5 million in the past year, more than three times the previous level of donations. We have also taken major steps to reduce our expenses. Actual expenses have decreased by \$7 million or 36%. These cuts have involved the elimination and consolidation of numerous faculty and staff positions. Despite these cuts, we have maintained the very high quality of the legal education we offer

*“Dean Attridge’s tenure as dean of the law school has been very successfully in many areas. I’ve been fortunate to have witnessed his tireless efforts in reinvigorating our alumni through his constant engagement with us—countless events have been held over the past five years both locally and around the country. Dean Attridge’s work with the Board of Visitors and his encouragement of the establishment of the Alumni Council, which was launched soon after Dean Attridge arrived at the Columbus School of Law, have laid the groundwork to ensure that our alumni will remain an active and vital part of the law school community for years to come.”*

— **James C. Anagnos '96**, BOV Member,  
President Alumni Council 2014-16



## CUA Lawyer: *What are some of the accolades CUA Law has received under your leadership?*

Together, we have successfully faced unprecedented challenges over the past five years, and we have made many improvements to raise the high quality of the legal education we offer. We can be proud of our many shared accomplishments, including the numerous accolades our school has received such as:

- *PreLaw* magazine rated CUA Law #5 in their list of best schools in the country for Public Defender/Prosecutor Careers.
- American Bar Association ranks CUA Law #14 for Highest Percent Of 2016 Graduates in Government and Public Interest Jobs
- *National Jurist* selected Veda Rasheed as the 2017 Mid-Atlantic Law Student of the Year.
- *American Lawyer* survey of midlevel associates ranks CUA Law in the top 15 for preparation for firm practice.
- *PreLaw* magazine lauds CUA Law's building as #19 for beauty, convenience, and amenities.
- Study ranks CUA Law 26th nationally as one of the best schools for associates obtaining Big Law jobs.
- *Forbes* ranks CUA Law in the top 30 for recent graduates who earn the biggest paychecks.
- A comprehensive study ranks our school #32 for the number of alumni who are partners at the largest law firms.
- *LAW.COM* ranks CUA Law #38 for associate jobs at the top 100 firms in the country
- *National Jurist* rated CUA Law's International Business and Trade Summer Law Program as a top externship.

*"The best illustration of leadership is someone thinking outside the box so as to make a positive change for an organization and its people, and then to be willing to be held accountable for that change. The legacy of Dan Attridge is one of positive change to match the reality of each situation."*

— Rev. Raymond C. O'Brien



## CUA Lawyer: *What are your plans for the future?*

I look forward to continuing my CUA Law affiliation as a tenured member of the faculty. I also intend to pursue other interests and devote more time to personal matters, especially with my family.





# CUA Law Path Forward Initiative



On September 12, 2017, The Catholic University of America publicly announced that the Law School received gifts and commitments totaling \$1.4 million that will provide initial funding for three new initiatives supporting research and educational opportunities for faculty and students.

“We are very appreciative of the support we have received for these programs,” said law school Dean Daniel F. Attridge. “We’ve selected three initiatives that we think are very consistent with our strengths — our location here in Washington, D.C., our mission as part of The Catholic University of America, and the expertise of our faculty.”



Among the new initiatives is an enhanced program in compliance, investigations, and corporate responsibility that was conceived by Professor Sarah Duggin. This program, which launched in spring 2018, will be a direct response to a growing business demand. In recent years, the field of compliance has become critical in the business world. Though compliance issues are independent from corporate legal departments, those who work in the field still require specific legal knowledge and expertise.

According to numbers from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, there are presently 257,000 compliance positions in the United States, with more growth expected in the coming years. This area of expansion for the law school will include enhanced curricular offerings, allowing students to gain much-needed experience and expertise in this expanding field.

“As Pope Francis has said, business, finance, the economy — work in these areas truly is a vocation. And it becomes a noble vocation when leaders in this field think about the moral and ethical aspects of what they do and embrace a culture of corporate integrity,” said Duggin.

“Our overall goal is to create a center of national excellence where we can help provide the academic background for new thinking in compliance and corporate responsibility from a legal perspective.”



The second initiative is the creation of a center for religious liberty led by Professor Mark Rienzi. Already known as a stalwart in the defense of religious liberty and freedom of expression through his work with the Becket Fund, Rienzi has represented clients in some of the most high-profile cases related to the freedom of religious expression. This center will build upon the Catholic Church’s fundamental belief in religious freedom for all people, while attracting high-caliber legal scholars to the school and expanding the body of research available.

“The goal of the program of religious liberty is to present an authentic Catholic voice talking about the importance of religious liberty,” Rienzi said. “Creating a center where we’ll build up scholarship about the importance of religious liberty and making sure the government leaves room for religious freedom and diversity is a really important thing to do at this time.”



The final initiative to be funded is the criminal justice pilot program. This program, which will be led by Professor Cara Drinan beginning in fall 2019, is designed to document the lack of effective representation for poor criminal defendants in the United States. While everyone accused of a crime is entitled to a lawyer under well-established Supreme

Court precedent, too often defendants who can't afford to pay legal fees are left with poorly prepared and ineffective counsel. This pilot program will involve field work and research regarding public defenders — looking specifically at their caseloads, training procedures, and accountability mechanisms — in order to take an accurate assessment of the problem nationwide.

Drinan states: “Not only does this project afford the law school a chance to serve the most vulnerable members of society, but it addresses on a larger scale the Church’s call for us to exercise a preferential option for the poor and to meet the needs of those who have been marginalized.”

To learn more about these initiatives, please visit [law.cua.edu/pathforward](http://law.cua.edu/pathforward).

## Inaugural Lecture for the Center for Religious Liberty

On April 23, 2018, CUA Law hosted the inaugural lecture for the Center for Religious Liberty with United States Ambassador-at-Large for International Religious Freedom, Sam Brownback. The Center for Religious Liberty is a part of the CUA Law Path Forward Initiative. The Center seeks to attract top legal scholars, provide important public commentary, and to fully engage in the important ongoing discussion about the proper role of individual and organizational religious liberty in a diverse democracy.

CUA Law Professor and Director of the Center for Religious Liberty Mark Rienzi offered welcoming remarks. “The Catholic Church teaches that human beings have a fundamental right to religious liberty, and the Church believes this human right belongs to all people,” Rienzi said.

President of The Catholic University of America John Garvey also provided remarks and introduced Sister Constance Viet of the Little Sisters of the Poor who spoke briefly about the HHS federal contraception mandate battle. “Through the Becket Fund’s legal representation, we Little Sisters have experienced the issue of religious liberty as something much bigger than ourselves. We have met people from different faiths who share our convictions about the right to liberty being grounded in the very dignity of the human person,” Sister Viet said.



*(L to R) William Saunders, John Garvey, Sister Constance Viet, Sam Brownback, Mark Rienzi, and Daniel Attridge*

Co-Director for the Center for Religious Liberty and Law Fellow at the Institute for Human Ecology William Saunders introduced Ambassador Brownback. “I am honored and privileged to be here for this inaugural lecture. I believe this is a dominant topic in the world today,” Brownback said.

Ambassador Brownback discussed genocides and violence around the world due to religious persecution. He also suggested that America should take a “whole of government approach” to pursuing religious freedom by seeking partnerships with the defense, security, and foreign aid communities. “I want to see religious liberty embedded in our understanding of national security, economic strategies, and aid strategies,” he said.

Ambassador Brownback ended by urging the audience to become active in the fight for religious liberty. He suggested hosting meetings or seminars on religious freedom topics and using social media as a tool to spread awareness.

Brownback was sworn in as Ambassador at Large for International Religious Freedom on February 1, 2018.



## Evening Students Thrive and Problem Solve at The Veterans Advocacy and Estate Planning Clinic

In May 2017, the Columbus Community Legal Services (CCLS) launched a new clinic designed to fit the busy schedules of CUA Law evening students. The Veterans Advocacy and Estate Planning Clinic gives students in both the Evening and Day Divisions the opportunity to represent real clients in real cases under the supervision of clinical law Professor Michael McGonnigal.

“This clinic, which has been fully enrolled for the past three semesters, is one of the few in the country that is designed for evening division students. Most of the student attorneys who work in this clinic have demanding full-time professional positions during the day as well as family obligations and other classes. Despite the demands on their time, the work they do for their clients is first-rate,” Professor McGonnigal said.



### Veteran's Advocacy and Estate Planning Clinic Hosts Pro Bono Legal Advice Pop-Up Clinic

On Saturday, August 5, 2017, the students of the Veteran's Advocacy and Estate Planning Clinic hosted a Limited Legal Advice Pop-Up Clinic at U.S. Vets, a transitional home for homeless veterans.

Under the guidance of Professor Michael McGonnigal, the student attorneys provided brief legal advice to homeless veterans in various areas of law including family law, bankruptcy law, medical malpractice, and record expungement.



## Students Participate in Veterans Pro Bono Initiative

On November 9, 2017, CUA Law students, participated in “Wills for Veterans,” a new pro bono initiative of the Federal Bar Association where local chapters provide will drafting and signing services to veterans in their area. In observance of Veterans Day, students spent a full day at the VA Medical Center in Washington, DC, assisting pro bono attorneys to draft wills. Thanks to overwhelming participation by CUA Law students, and those from other local area law schools, no veteran seeking assistance that day was turned away.

Throughout the semester, students work closely with their clients from the initial interview onward and receive a thorough grounding in both administrative law and appellate practice. They also have the opportunity to learn and carry out the practical aspects of fact investigation, legal research, legal drafting, negotiations, and oral and written advocacy.

*“As a former Marine, troop welfare is one of our priorities.”*

“The transition from military life to the civilian life can be a hard transition for many of us, especially combat veterans. Many of us struggle with finding significance comparable to our military service, and many of us return to civilian life with physical and mental wounds that make it harder to achieve the same level of success we were once accustomed to achieving. Some veterans are denied benefits that would make the transition and subsequent success a reality. As a former Marine, troop welfare is one of our priorities,” Erik Lopez 3L said.

“In addition to filing VA Claims, we have been helping veterans with other legal problems, including child support, landlord-tenant disputes, alleged over-payment of benefits, problems with Social Security, and even correcting birth records,” Professor McGonnigal said. “These cases have taken students to D.C. Superior Court, Prince George’s County District Court, Prince George’s County Circuit Court, and the United States District Court for Maryland.”

This past semester, the Clinic was granted a remand by the United States Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims on behalf of a seriously disabled Navy vet who lives just outside of Chicago. “We won this case thanks to the persuasive legal brief that was researched and drafted by Ben Volpe 2L, Michael Pee 3E, Ashley Fingarson 4E, and Darria Turner 2E,” Professor McGonnigal said.

“As a veteran, I thought participating in the clinic would be a great opportunity to share my experiences and give back to the portion of the veteran community who found difficulty, financially or otherwise, in taking advantage of the benefits available to them,” Michael Pee 3E said. “The two most rewarding things I took away from the clinic were the development of the attorney-client relationship and the development of professional relationships.”

Professor McGonnigal also recently argued before the Federal Circuit on behalf of two EMTs who suffered catastrophic injuries while tending to the wounded and dying at Ground Zero on the morning of September 11, 2001. Both men have been denied benefits under the Public Safety Officers Benefits Act because they were working for private ambulance companies. The panel asked both McGonnigal and opposing counsel to file supplemental briefs in the case. This will be the third brief McGonnigal has submitted in this matter. “If we are able to prevail, it will be due to the hard work and dedication of Kayla Stuart 3E, Patrick Pase 3E, Erik Lopez 3L, Jocelyn Moore 3L, Jae Terry 2L, Victoria Verfuss 3L, Cynthia Chang 3E, and Paul Boulette 3E who have assisted me in preparing this case,” Professor McGonnigal said.

*“Participating in the Clinic was one of the main driving forces in my decision to attend CUA Law...”*

The Clinic also offers estate planning services to both veterans and non-veterans alike. Each student is expected to draft a complete estate plan for a local, low-income client, including a will, powers of attorney and, where appropriate, a trust.

“Participating in the Clinic was one of the main driving forces in my decision to attend CUA Law. I think the diversity of legal issues our clinic was willing to take on really helped to stretch and test my research and problem solving skills. It has been far and away the most practical and useful class I have taken at CUA Law,” Angela Redmond said. “I had the opportunity to assist veterans in estate planning and other legal issues, and I really appreciated getting to know them and ease their stress a little.”

“The time spent collaborating with fellow students about cases and law practice management I found to be the most rewarding during the clinic. Regardless of background, I would recommend the clinic to any evening student,” Pee said.

# Inspiring Tomorrow's Leaders

*at The Catholic University of America Columbus School of Law*

## Fear 2 Freedom: CUA Law students support survivors of sexual assault

**September 2017** — This past fall, CUA Law students dedicated their evening to assembling Fear 2 Freedom After Care Kits filled with clothes, toiletries, resource cards, "freedom bears," and personal notes for survivors of sexual assault. The Fear 2 Freedom Celebration Event, hosted by the global non profit Fear 2 Freedom, aims to bring awareness and education about sexual assault, child abuse, domestic violence and sex trafficking on college campuses. The foundation partners hospitals and community organizations with universities to provide F2F Aftercare Kits for victims in their community.



CUA Law students **Katlyn Dulles 2L**, **Sandra Sawan 2L**, and **Caitlin McClay 2L** organized the event as part of a service project with the help of the following organizations: Republican National Lawyers Association, Women's Law Caucus, Students For Public Interest Law, Democratic Law Student Society, Delta Theta Phi, Black Student Association, Phi Alpha Delta, Military and National Security Law Association, Federalist Society, Criminal Law Society, and Irish American Law Association. CUA Law Professor **Mary Leary** provided a legal perspective regarding how sexual assault victims are treated differently in our legal system and in our society. Despite improvements in our country's sexual assault laws, we still suffer from what Leary refers to as a "de facto system of obstacles."

## Scalia Speaks: Reflections on Law, Faith, and Life Well Lived



**October 2017** — "You see in Justice Scalia's speeches his love for the The Catholic University of America. Justice Scalia believed the University had a special responsibility to stand strong and to be distinctively Catholic through faith, education, and moral formation."

These were some of the words spoken by Ed Whelan, co-editor of *Scalia Speaks: Reflections on Law, Faith, and Life Well Lived*, during an Oct. 10 event co-sponsored by the Federalist Society and the Saint Pope John Paul II Guild of Catholic

Lawyers. CUA Law Dean **Daniel F. Attridge** led a conversation between **Ed Whelan** and CUA Law Professor **Mark Rienzi** regarding the collection of Justice Scalia's speeches covering topics such as the law, faith, virtue, and pastimes.

Attridge posed questions such as: "Did the book give you any new insights into the Supreme Court's or the Justice's constitutional jurisprudence?" The discussions also covered the role and key characteristics of lawyers. "Lawyers in many ways do really set up the structure in which all the rest of life can function," Rienzi said.

## CUA Law Hosts Third Annual Family and Friends Day



**October 2017** — CUA Law hosted the third annual Family and Friends Day on Friday, Oct. 20, 2017. The day allowed for family and friends of CUA Law students to experience a day in the life of a law student. Following the two morning presentations in the Slowinski Courtroom, guests of the first-year students were able to attend a torts class with Associate Dean **Marin Scordato**. The upper division students and their guests had the option of taking a campus tour. After the torts class and the tour, students and their guests as well as faculty, staff, and alumni congregated in the Byron Auditorium for a chance to hear from former Maryland Governor **Robert L. Ehrlich Jr.**

Ehrlich's speech, "Crime, Clemency, and Politics," detailed the relationship between politics and clemency. "This is about imperfect people, an imperfect system, and imperfect results. This is also about a governor or the president who has extraordinary power to even the playing field and achieve justice," Ehrlich said.

## A Conversation with The Honorable Noel J. Francisco

**January 2018** — **The Honorable Noel J. Francisco**, the 48th Solicitor General of the United States, spoke to students during the Brendan F. Brown Lecture on Jan. 24. Organized as a conversation between **Henry W. Asbill**, of counsel with Jones Day, and the solicitor general, the discussion covered topics including memories from clerkships, favorite Supreme Court cases, the importance of public service, and the current state of legal education.

Asbill asked Francisco if he had a favorite Supreme Court case argument. “In many ways, each case is my favorite. *NLRB v. Noel Canning* is a favorite because it was my first, and it was such an important case. *Zubik v. Burwell* is a favorite because the principles of law were so near and dear to my heart. *McDonnell v. United States* was the first time I represented an individual criminal defendant. To have somebody entrust their liberty to you is both a burden and a privilege,” Francisco said.

Francisco also recommended that students consider public service and commended the current state of legal education. “It is important to give back to a country that has given so much. Public service gives you that opportunity,” he said.



## Irish Ambassador Daniel Mulhall Visits CUA Law

**February 2018** — The Irish Ambassador to the United States, **Daniel Mulhall**, spoke at Columbus School of Law at the Catholic University of America. The event was hosted by the Irish American Law Students Association in partnership with the Irish Network DC (IN-DC) and Catholic University of America Program in Irish Studies. The event was organized as a conversation between CUA Law Dean **Daniel F. Attridge** and Ambassador Mulhall, with CUA Law Pro Bono Coordinator **Aoife Delgaty** providing an introduction.

Attridge asked Mulhall how important the European Union has been to Ireland. “The climb from being one of the poorest of the Member States to being one of the richest Member States is because we took advantage of the opportunities of EU membership,” Mulhall said.

Mulhall then discussed Brexit and the peace that was created in Northern Ireland thanks to the Good Friday Agreement and how the agreement needs to be preserved and used to guide negotiations. Finally, Mulhall spoke about his experience in America and the amazing strength and diversity of the Irish American community.



## Mark Shriver Delivers Faith in Action talk on Pope Francis’s Message of Faith, Love, Humility, and Mercy: Does It Really Matter?

**March 2018** — CUA Law’s first Faith In Action event of the semester featured **Mark Shriver**, CEO of Save the Children Action Network, who gave a talk entitled “Pope Francis’s Message of Faith, Love, Humility, and Mercy: Does It Really Matter?”

Pope Francis has breathed new life into the Catholic Church and revitalized the faith of millions, including Shriver, who traveled to Argentina to meet with the people who knew Francis as a child, as a young Jesuit priest, and as a reforming bishop. Shriver visited the confessional where Francis first felt called to a faith-based life and the humble parish where he answered Christ’s call to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, and shelter the homeless.

During the event, Shriver shared what he learned on that journey and discussed how Francis’s message faith, love, humility, and mercy are relevant in today’s world. “Pope Francis built his life on the principal of faith, humility, and mercy. His life in faith was instilled in him by his grandmother, who was an immigrant from Italy,” he said.

# Commencement 2018

*Congratulations to our newest alumni*



New graduates emerged strong and confident on May 25, 2018, as students concluded their law school careers to the cheers of family and friends during the Law School's 129th Commencement at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C.

The commencement address was offered by The Honorable Brett M. Kavanaugh, judge on the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia since May 2006. Professor Suzette Malveaux introduced the class of 2018 candidates, with conferral of the degrees by Dean Daniel F. Attridge and President John Garvey.



## Professional Activities



Professor **Marshall Breger** lectured on “Nationalism, Politics, and Religion: The Backdrop to Conflict Over Holy Places in Jerusalem” on March 27, 2018, at the Center for Religious Studies (ISR) at the Bruno Kessler Foundation (FBK) in Trento, Italy. Breger lectured on “Introduction to American Law” on April 17, 2018 and “Regulation in the Age of Trump” on April 23, 2018, at the University of Lisbon in Portugal. He also spoke at the Centro Pro Unione, Rome, Italy regarding “The Place of the Land of Israel in Jewish Thought” on March 21, 2018. In March 2018, he spoke at the G20 Advisory Council on Religion and Economics in Rome, Italy. In February and March 2017, he was a visiting professor at the Angelicum (University of St. Thomas Aquinas) in Rome. In May 2018, he spoke at the ‘Abrahamic Dialogue,’ an inter-religious group meeting in London. Breger spoke to the Council of Independent Regulatory Agencies on “Recent Events in Administrative Law Affecting Independent Agencies” on Sept. 12, 2017. He also participated in the Abrahamic Dialogue meeting in Oslo, and spoke on “The Role of Law in Messianic Times” during Nov. 29, 2017-Dec. 3, 2017.



Professor **Stacy L. Brustin** was appointed to the D.C. Access to Justice Commission by the D.C. Court of Appeals during June 2017.



Professor **Roger Colinvaux** presented his paper “Social Welfare and Political Organizations: Ending the Plague of Inconsistency” at the National Center on Philanthropy and the Law conference held on Oct. 26-27, 2017. He also gave a presentation at the AALS law professor recruiting conference in October 2017. As Chair of the AALS Section on Nonprofits and Philanthropy, he convened and moderated the panel “The Use of Nonprofit Organizations in Political Campaigns,” at the AALS annual meeting on Jan. 4, 2018.

Professor Colinvaux presented at a conference sponsored by the D.C. Bar on the recent tax reform legislation: “The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act: A Conference with Government and the Private Sector to Discuss the Legislation,” Panel on Tax-Exempt Tax Reform, on Jan. 25, 2018. On March 16, 2018, he presented at a conference for journalists who cover the non-profit sector titled “Nonprofits and Advocacy”. The conference was sponsored by Boston College Law School’s Forum on Philanthropy and the Public Good.



Professor **Cara Drinan** provided the keynote speech, “The War on Kids: How American Juvenile Justice Lost Its Way,” at the third annual Catholic University Research Day held on April 19, 2018. Drinan gave a lecture at Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health on May 1, 2018. Drinan spoke about her book *The War on Kids: How American Juvenile Justice Lost Its Way* as part of the Dean’s Distinguished Lecture Book Presentation. Drinan also spoke at the 2018 Association of American Law Schools (AALS) Annual Meeting’s opening panel, which addressed the AALS 2018 theme, “Access to Justice,” on January 4, 2018.



Clinical Associate Professor **A.G. Harmon** held a reading for his short story collection, *Some Bore Gifts*, on Nov. 15, 2017, at CUA Law. The event was hosted by the CUA Contemporary Catholic Writers.



Professor **Roger Hartley** was the featured CUA Law Reunion Speaker on Oct. 28, 2017. Hartley provided an examination of the political significance of the constitutional amendment process. In his recent book, *How Failed Attempts to Amend the Constitution Mobilize Political Change*, Hartley demonstrated that proposed amendments often mobilize support and influence laws even when they do not succeed in being added to constitutional law.



Professor **Regina Jefferson** gave an oral presentation entitled “Let Them Eat Cake,” where she examined the United States retirement savings policy through the lens of international human rights, at the third annual Catholic University Research Day held on April 19, 2018.



Professor **Megan M. La Belle** was a speaker at a conference entitled “The Power of PTAB: The New Authority in Patent Law” on Oct. 20, 2017. The one-day conference examined the rise of the Patent Trial and Appeal Board, which was on pace in 2017 to set a record of deciding over 2,000 inter partes reviews (IPRs) initiated by parties challenging the validity of existing patents. La Belle also spoke at a conference co-organized by the Project on the Foundations of Private Law at Harvard Law School and the University of Texas School of Law on March 29, 2018.



Professor **Mary Leary** spoke at the Coalition to End Sexual Exploitation Global Summit 2018 on April 7, 2018. Her topic was “The Third Dimension of Victimization: How Victimization of Our Digital Selves is Victimization of the Person.” She also spoke on the panel “How To Stop Human Trafficking” at Harvard Law School on March 23, 2018; the panel “Issues with Enforcement: Human Trafficking, Pornography and Prostitution” at The 2018 Randolph W. Thrower Symposium held at Emory Law on Feb. 8, 2018; and a panel regarding the source of human rights at the United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities on October 20, 2017.

**Leary** testified before the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Oct. 3, 2017 regarding online sex trafficking and the need to amend the Communications Decency Act.



Professor **David A. Lipton** received the “Amicus Poloniae” (“Friend of Poland”) award from Ambassador Piotr Wilczek, the Polish Ambassador to the United States, at the Polish Ambassador’s Annual Constitution Day Ceremony on May 3, 2017. Lipton was one of three panelists who spoke at the North American Securities Administrators Association Public Policy Conference on Investor Protection and Market Confidence held in Washington, D.C., on May 9, 2017. On Feb. 1, 2018, Lipton debated whether the SEC should adopt a new Fiduciary Duty Rule at an alumni gathering at the Dechert firm. His negative position against a new rule was in part adopted by the SEC in mid-April.



Rev. **Raymond C. O'Brien's** scholarship program, the Charles and Louise O'Brien Endowment, which provides grants to incoming and current students for work in connection with religious perspective, exceeded \$1,000,000 in endowment value.



Professor **J.P. “Sandy” Ogilvy** was a panel member of the opening Plenary Session of the 7th Annual Southern Clinical Conference, October 19-21, 2017, held at Louisiana State University Law School in Baton Rouge, La. The topic of the panel was “Identifying Our Roots: The Social Justice Foundation of Clinical Legal Education.” He spoke about the historical social justice roots of clinical legal education. Ogilvy also was a panel member of the opening Plenary Session of Externships 9: Coming of Age, March 9-11, 2018, at the University of Georgia School of Law in Athens, Ga. The topic of the panel was “How Far We Have Come & How Far We Need to Go.” He presented an historical overview of legal field placement programs. Externships 9 came on the 20th anniversary of the first Externship conference hosted by Columbus School of Law, March 5-8, 1998.



Professor **Antonio F. Perez** moderated a panel entitled “The Changing Landscape -- Efforts to Re-Shape Surveillance Law” at the *The Catholic University Law Review* Symposium on Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act: A Review of the 4th Amendment Implications in Foreign and Domestic Surveillance in Washington, D.C., on Jan. 26, 2018.



Professor **Suzette M. Malveaux** was elected to The American Law Institute on December 14, 2017. The American Law Institute is the leading independent organization in the United States producing scholarly work to clarify, modernize, and improve the law. ALI membership is highly selective, comprising 4,400 lawyers, law professors, and judges, out of over a million lawyers nationwide.



Professor **Veryl Miles** gave an oral presentation entitled “Consumer Financial Protection: A Common Good,” at the Third Annual Catholic University Research Day held on April 19, 2018. Miles was also reappointed to serve a third two-year term on the Standards Review Committee of ABA Section on Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar. In the summer of 2017 she traveled to Chicago to participate in an Invitational Roundtable Discussion on Accreditation Standards that was co-sponsored by the Section and the Committee.



Professor Emeritus **Ken Pennington** gave a lecture entitled “Pope Innocent III and Pietro Collevaccino Beneventano in the History of Classical Canon Law” on Oct. 9, 2017 at Università degli Studi Giustino Fortunato in Benevento BN, Italy.



Professor **Mark Rienzi** spoke at the Federalist Society’s National Convention on Nov. 16, 2017. The panel was regarding religious liberty and the administrative state. It was moderated by Judge O’Scannlain. Rienzi also spoke at a U.S. Senate press conference regarding the nomination of Amy Coney Barrett to the 7th Circuit Court of Appeals on Oct. 30, 2017. Rienzi was named president of the Becket Fund for Religious Liberty, a non profit law firm dedicated to protecting the free expression of all religious faiths, and he launched the new Center for Religious Liberty at the law school. Professor Rienzi has also served as a visiting professor at Harvard Law School, teaching a course on religious liberty.



Professor **Lucia Silecchia** spoke at the “Environmental Justice in the 21st Century” event on April 16, 2018. The event was cosponsored by the Environmental Law Institute, ABA Section on Civil Rights and Social Justice, the D.C. Bar Association, and Georgetown Law School.



Professor Emeritus **George P. Smith** received The Albert Nelson Marquis Lifetime Achievement Award from the editorial board of *Who's Who in America*. Smith also participated in a value-based care program entitled “Will Value-based Care Save the Health Care System?” on March 3, 2018. The program was held at Harvard Law School.



Professor **Geoffrey Watson** gave a lecture entitled “Balfour Declaration in International Law: A 100th Anniversary Perspective” on Nov. 2, 2017, at CUA Law. The event was hosted by CUA Law Comparative and International Law Institute (CIL). Watson chaired a panel discussion, The Balfour Declaration in International Law, at Princeton University on May 8-9, 2017. The discussion was part of the Balfour Declaration: 100 Years in History and Memory Conference.

*Professional Activities*



Professor **Elizabeth Winston** discussed Sovereignty ‘Sham’ on Native America Calling, a daily call-in show funded by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting on Oct. 24, 2017. She discussed the benefits and drawbacks of using tribal sovereignty to provide immunity for patentees. Winston also spoke at an Internet of Things security roundtable on October 23, 2017.



Professor **Emerita Leah Wortham** gave a presentation and briefing on U.S. Legal Education and Admission to the Bar to a group of Ukrainian government officials and legal educators as they commenced a one-week study visit in the United States on August 28, 2017. She was awarded the Plus ratio quam medal from Jagiellonian University

on June 12, 2017. The Plus ratio quam medal was first awarded to Pope John Paul II, an alumnus and honorary doctor of Jagiellonian University. **Wortham** also presented The Susan Campbell Oration: The Transformative Nature of Clinical Legal Education held at Monash University on April 16, 2018.

*Publications*



Professor **Marshall Breger** was quoted in a Dec. 5, 2017 *Jewish Press* article entitled “Trump Missed Deadline for Jerusalem Embassy Waiver But No Moving Vans Hired.”

The article referenced Breger’s 1995 *National Review* article, “Jerusalem Gambit: How We Should Treat Jerusalem Is a Matter of U.S. Constitutional Law as Well as Middle Eastern Politics.” In December 2017, he was an invited contributor to The Berkeley Forum blog of the Berkeley Center for Religion, Peace and World Affairs writing on “Trump’s Jerusalem Decision Creates More Problems Without Changing the Facts on the Ground.” In March 2018, he was an invited contributor to the Israeli-Palestinian Magical Zoo blog writing on “Symbolic But Destructive: How Trump’s Jerusalem Initiative Changes Nothing – And A Lot.” In April 2018, he was featured in an article in the *Jewish Free Press* (Canada) in an obituary of Samuel Belzberg. Breger also contributed his regular columns to *Moment* magazine, “Symbolic, But Destructive”; “How Trump’s Jerusalem Initiative Changes Nothing - and a Lot”; “Can Jared Succeed Where Others Have Failed?” and “Jeremy Corbyn and the Jewdas Seder.”



Professor **Roger Colivaux** wrote *The Chronicle of Philanthropy* op-ed entitled “The House Tax Bill Could Be the End of Charities as We Know Them” on Nov. 16, 2017.

He also published a June 1, 2017, op-ed in *The Conversation* entitled “Hillary Clinton is starting a social welfare group. What does that mean?” Colivaux wrote a letter on tax reform with Boston College Law Professor Ray Madoff to Senator Hatch, Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee. The letter was in response to Senator Hatch’s call for comments from stakeholders on tax reform. This letter was published in *Tax Notes Magazine* (2017 TNT 145-9) and mentioned in the *Chronicle of Philanthropy* on Aug. 8, 2017.



Professor **Robert A. Destro** co-wrote a July 26, 2017 op-ed in the *Washington Times* entitled “Kurdistan: A proven sanctuary and ‘safe haven’ for refugees.”



Professor **Cara Drinan**’s book *The War on Kids: How American Juvenile Justice Lost Its Way* was published by Oxford University Press in June 2017.

**Drinan** also published an Oct. 19, 2017 opinion piece entitled “We failed Robert Pruet from childhood on. Then Texas executed him” in *USA Today*.



Professor **Roger Hartley**’s book *How Failed Attempts to Amend the Constitution Mobilize Political Change*, was published by Vanderbilt University Press in July 2017.



Professor **Mary Leary** published a March 19, 2018, op-ed entitled “Misinformation campaign is at the center of opposition to common sense sex trafficking legislation” in *The Hill* regarding pending SESTA legislation. Leary also published an article entitled “Religious Organizations as Partners in the Global and Local Fight Against Human Trafficking” (2018) in *The Review of Faith & International Affairs*. Leary co-authored a Sept. 19, 2017, *Huffington Post* op-ed entitled “Who Will Win in Congress – Trafficking Victims or Special Interests?” Her Dec. 13, 2017 op-ed entitled “A Chance for Congress to Side with Women and Not with the Powerful” was published in *The Huffington Post*. She also co-authored a Sept. 7, 2017, *The Hill* op-ed entitled “In bid to amend Communications Decency Act, Congress must side with trafficking victims.” Leary’s following articles were published: “The Indecency and Injustice of the Communications Decency Act,” *Harvard Journal of Law and Public Policy*, Vol. 41, No. 2 (2018); “Religious Organizations as Partners in the Global and Local Fight Against Human Trafficking,” *Cambridge Institute on Religion and International Studies* (2018) and *The Review of Faith and International Affairs* Vol. 16, No. 1

(2018); “Touch DNA and Chemical Analysis of Skin Trace Evidence: Protecting Privacy While Preserving Security,” *William and Mary Journal of Constitutional Law*, Vol. 26, No. 2 (2017); “Dear John, You are a Human Trafficker,” *University of South Carolina Law Review*, Vol. 16, No. 3 (2017); and “Affirmatively Replacing Rape Culture With Consent Culture,” *Texas Tech Law Review*, Vol. 49, No. 1 (2017).



Professor **Suzette M. Malveaux**’s article “The Modern Class Action Rule: Its Civil Rights Roots and Relevance Today” was published in the *University of Kansas Law Review* 66 U. Kan. L. Rev. 325-398 (2017).

This article was presented at the Faculty Workshop Series at University of Iowa College of Law. Malveaux’s *Harvard Law Review Forum* essay on nationwide injunctions was featured on SCOTUSblog. This article was also cited in an Amici Brief of 16 states and District of Columbia, in *Trump v. Hawaii*, and before the United States Supreme Court. She also published a Dec. 11, 2017, *JOTWELL* article entitled “A Prescription for Overcoming Gender Inequity in Complex Litigation: An Idea Whose Time Has Come in Courts Law.”



Professor **Veryl Miles**’s article “Faith-Based Law Schools: Making Mission Matter” was published in *The Catholic University Law Review* 66 *The Cath. U. L. Rev.* 795 (2017).



Rev. **Raymond C. O’Brien** published *Domestic Relations: Cases and Materials* (with Professor Walter Wadlington and Professor Robin Fretwell Wilson) (8th ed. 2017), Foundation Press (with Teachers’ Manual) and *Domestic Relations: Selected Uniform Laws, Model Legislation, Federal Statutes, State Statutes, and International Treaties* (with Professor Walter Wadlington and Professor Robin Fretwell Wilson) (5th ed. 2017), Foundation Press.



Professor **Antonio F. Perez** co-authored the book *War: International Law, International Relations, and Just War Theory* (Vandeplas 2017). Perez’s article entitled “Democracy Clauses in the Americas: The Challenge of Venezuela’s Withdrawal from the OAS” was published in *33 American University International Law Review* 391-476 (2017).



Professor **Mark Rienzi** published a March 22, 2018 article in the *National Review* regarding *NIFLA v. Becerra*. Rienzi also published a Dec. 14, 2017 article entitled “Symposium: NIFLA v. Becerra — A Supreme housecleaning continues:” on SCOTUSblog.



Professor **Heidi Mandanis Schooner**’s article “Big Bank Boards: The Case for Heightened Administrative Enforcement” was published in *68 Alabama Law Review* 1011 (2017).



Professor **Lucia Silecchia** published a paper entitled “Conflicts and Laudato Si’: Ten Principles for Environmental Dispute Resolution” in the *Journal of Land Use & Environmental Law* (Vol. 33, No. 1). Her book chapter “The When and the Where of Love: Subsidiarity as a Framework for Care of the Elderly,” was published in the book entitled *Agape, Justice and Law: How Might Christian Love Shape Law* during May 2017. The chapter explores the practical and moral challenges of providing loving care to the elderly. Silecchia published a June 15, 2017 op-ed on UN World Elder Abuse Awareness Day entitled “Who are the victims of elder abuse? The disabled, cognitively impaired and poor,”

in the *Washington Post*. She also published a second op-ed on the same topic entitled “Elderly at special risk in a ‘throwaway culture’” in *Crux Now*. Silecchia published a short essay entitled “Duty to Protect” on the website for The Catholic University of America Institute for Human Ecology. She also published an April 18, 2018, commentary entitled “Recalling Pope Benedict XVI’s Human-Rights Appeal” in *National Catholic Register*.



Professor and Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and Research **Marin Scordato**’s article, “Innocent Threats, Concealed Consent, and the Necessary Presence of Strict Liability in Traditional Fault-Based Tort Law,” *37 Pepperdine Law Review* 205 (2010), has been cited by two University of Chicago law professors in their lead article in the April 2018 issue of the *Harvard Law Review* (Huq & Lakier, “Apparent Fault,” 131 *Harvard Law Review* 1525 (April 2018)).



Professor Emeritus **George P. Smith II**’s article, “Human Dignity as a Normative Standard or as a Value in Global Health Decision making?” was published in the *North Carolina Journal of International Law*, Vol. 42, Pp. 275-305 (2016). Smith is currently undertaking research for a book on International Human Rights with the Solomon Center for Health Law & Policy at Yale Law School.



Professor Emerita **Leah Wortham**’s book, *Learning from Practice: A Text for Experiential Legal Education*, was reviewed in the *Journal of Legal Education* Vol. 67, No. 1 (2017).

Recent Media



Professor **Roger Colinvaux** was quoted in a Feb. 9, 2018, Politico article entitled “Charities brace for giving plunge in wake of new tax law.” He was also quoted in an Oct. 11, 2017, *Washington Post* article entitled “The GOP plan to simplify taxes could put charitable giving at risk.”



Professor **Robert A. Destro** was quoted in a Jan. 18, 2018, *National Catholic Register* article entitled “Children’s Health Insurance Program Becomes Political Football.”

He was also quoted in the *National Catholic Register* article entitled “Health Care Bill Awaits Senate Scrutiny,” on May 19, 2017.



Professor **Cara Drinan’s** book, *The War on Kids: How American Juvenile Justice Lost Its Way* officially launched on Nov. 1, 2017. Drinan has been promoting her book across the country.

She appeared at Grounded Coffee Shop in Alexandria, Va on Nov. 4, a book event at the Seattle Town Hall on Nov. 8, and a book event at Busboys & Poets in Shirlington, Va. on Nov. 12, 2017. The National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers’s podcast series, “The Criminal Docket,” also featured Drinan reading part of the book.

Drinan served as an editor for *Reforming Criminal Justice, Reforming Criminal Justice* is a four-volume report authored and reviewed by leading scholars in criminal law and other disciplines. The contributions to this report describe the need for reform in particular areas of American criminal justice and suggest policy recommendations to achieve such change.



Professor **Roger Hartley** was quoted on line-item veto legislation in the *Washington Post* on March 26, 2018.



Professor **Mary Leary** was a guest on the Oregon Public Radio (NPR) show Think Out Loud on April 24, 2018. She discussed the “Allow States and Victims to Fight Online

Sex Trafficking Act” which was signed into law. Leary was quoted in an April 12, 2018, *Catholic News Agency* article entitled “New US law aims to prosecute websites that facilitate sex trafficking.” She was also profiled by *The Arlington Catholic Herald* for her work to stop online sex trafficking in a January 31, 2018, article entitled “CUA professor works to stop online sex trafficking.”

She was quoted in an Aug. 11, 2017 *Law 360* article entitled “Chamber Joins In Opposition of Sex Trafficking Bill” and an Oct. 3, 2017 *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* article entitled “Wagner’s crusade against online sex trafficking gets push - and pushback - from powerful quarters,” on the same issue.



Professor Emerita **Lisa G. Lerman** was quoted in a February 14, 2018, *New York Times* article entitled “Trump Lawyer’s Payment to Porn Star Raises New Questions.”



Professor **David A. Lipton** was quoted in the Jim Hamilton’s World of Securities Regulation blog post entitled “Experts express skepticism over proposals for deregulation,” May 15, 2017. Lipton was also quoted by *Bloomberg News* regarding his position against an SEC Commissioner from using opposition to gun control as a basis for ruling upon bank regulation issues that arise before the Commission.



Rev. **Raymond C. O’Brien’s** article *Obergefell’s Impact on Functional Families*, 66 *Cath. U. L. Rev.* 363 (2017) was quoted in the recent Vermont Supreme Court opinion in *Sinnott v. Peck*, 2017.



Professor **Antonio F. Perez** appeared on EWTN News Nightly on July 5, 2017, to discuss the situation in North Korea and the Just War theory. Perez said a military response to North Korea could not be justified simply in response to North Korea’s missile tests alone.



Professor **Mark Rienzi** was quoted in a Nov. 24, 2017, *Catholic News Agency* article entitled “Little Sisters face new lawsuit over their HHS mandate exemption” and he

was quoted in an op-ed from *The Washington Examiner* regarding the same topic. Rienzi was quoted in an Oct. 6, 2017 *Washington Post* article entitled “Trump administration narrows Affordable Care Act’s contraception mandate” and he was quoted in an article from *The Blaze* regarding the same topic. Rienzi was asked for his view on this decision by various other media outlets.



Professor **Lucia Silecchia** was interviewed on “Morning Glory” on EWTN radio on June 20, 2017. Silecchia discussed World Elder Abuse Awareness Day and the dignity of life in our culture. Silecchia was a guest on EWTN Pro-Life Weekly on June 30, 2017 where she discussed the care and respect for the elderly.

*Faculty News* collects professional activities, publications and recent media from May 1, 2017, through April 30, 2018.

To read more faculty and Law School news visit [law.edu](http://law.edu).

# CUA Law Featured at 3rd Annual Research Day *featuring keynote speaker Cara Drinan*



Ending on a positive note, Drinan highlighted the value of using research as a tool for promoting the common good. “Without the research of neuroscientists we would not understand adolescent brain development as we do and without the research of social scientists we would not see with clarity the impact that our correctional practices are having on poor, minority communities.”

Members of the CUA Law faculty were prominently featured at the Third Annual Catholic University Research Day held on Thursday, April 19, 2018. Research Day brings students and faculty out of their classrooms and labs to share their work and learn about the breadth of scholarly endeavors taking place beyond their own areas of study.

CUA Law Professor Cara Drinan provided the keynote speech based on her new book, *The War on Kids: How American Juvenile Justice Lost Its Way*. Drinan addressed how the United States went from being a leader on juvenile justice matters to being an international outlier; recent Supreme Court decisions surrounding juvenile justice sentencing; the brain science behind these decisions; and reform measures she believes should take place.

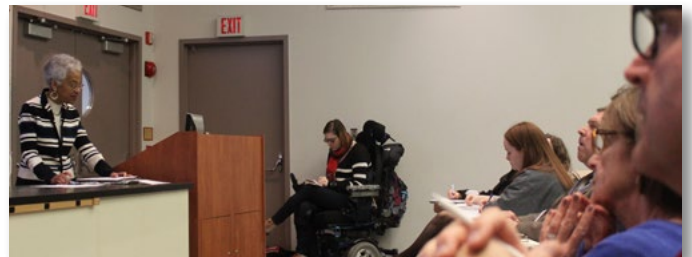
“It helps to think of the war on kids as a subplot of mass incarceration in the United States ... There are more than 2 million children and adults behind bars in this country and this is a new phenomenon. Today, we lead the world in our rate of incarceration. Even though we only have 5 percent of the world’s population, we have 25 percent of the world’s prisoners,” Drinan said.

Until 2005, Drinan explained, children convicted in America’s courts were subject to the death penalty and despite changes in the law, still sentenced to die in prison, no matter what efforts they make to rehabilitate themselves.

“The process of implementing new rules announced by the Supreme Court is incredibly slow and often bumpy,” she said.



CUA Law Professor Regina Jefferson gave an oral presentation entitled “Let Them Eat Cake,” where she examined the United States retirement savings policy through the lens of international human rights.



CUA Law Professor Veryl Miles also gave an oral presentation entitled “Consumer Financial Protection: A Common Good.” The presentation focused on the Consumer Financial Protection Act of 2010 (CFPA) and the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (Bureau) and how the law and the work of the Bureau, respectively, mirror concepts of Catholic social teachings on economic justice. Professor Miles included references to several Church documents to describe the evolution of contemporary Catholic social teachings on economic justice and highlighted aspects of the CFPA and the work of the Bureau through 2017.

## What's new with your fellow alumni?

### Class News Submissions

Did you recently get a promotion? Win an Award?

The Columbus School of Law encourages you to stay connected with your classmates and welcomes your Class News submissions.

#### Send news and photos to

The alumni office at [cualawalumni@law.edu](mailto:cualawalumni@law.edu) or contact Kate Smith, Director of Alumni Relations at 202.319.5670.

Please note: If you would like to submit a photo for possible inclusion in Class News, please send a high resolution image of at least 300 dpi. An equivalent file size is about 1MB.

Notes may be edited for style space considerations, and some photos may not appear in the magazine.

### 1952

C **William F. Sondericker** celebrated his 93rd birthday, 65th anniversary of graduation and 65th anniversary of marriage with Mary Gene (Voss). Sondericker has been a partner at Carter Ledyard & Milburn LLP in New York since joining the firm in 1991. He previously served 40 years with the Olwine Connelly Chase. He served in the U.S. Navy Pacific Theater 1942-46, was a member of the CUA Law varsity basketball team (1948-50), Comment Editor of the *Law Review* (1951-52) and received the University Distinguished Alumni Award in 1982 under the aegis of University President William J. Byron, S.J.

### 1968

**The Honorable Colleen Kollar-Kotelly's** judicial portrait was presented to the United States District Court for the District of Columbia Circuit.

### 1971

**Michael A. Caldwell** was sworn in as an Executive Board Member and Parliamentarian of the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP).

### 1974

**Kathleen M. Kundar** authored a chapter that appears in *International Aspects of U.S. Litigation*, a two-volume set recently published by the American Bar Association. Kundar's chapter is entitled "Res Judicata and Collateral Estoppel a/k/a Claim Preclusion and Issue Preclusion." It focuses on the finality of judgments, and how and when U.S. courts preclude relitigation of adjudicated claims and issues decided in courts outside the U.S. The chapter reflects Kundar's extensive and successful involvement in cross-border business litigation for her law firm, Fox Horan & Camerini LLP, New York City.

Kundar served as a member of the law school's Board of Visitors, 2013-2016.

**Renato E. Merolli**, of Northfield Falls, Vt., retired in 2010 from National Life Group in Montpelier, Vt. He is currently adjunct professor at Norwich University, the Nation's oldest private military college, teaching professional responsibility to architecture graduate students. He also teaches taxation and personal financial literacy to undergraduates.

**Peter Quijano** received the 2017 American Inns of Court Professionalism Award for the Second Circuit. The award was presented by Judge Denny Chin during a special ceremony at the Thurgood Marshall U.S. Courthouse in New York City on September 26, 2017.

### 1975

**Ernest W. "Ernie" DuBester** was recently re-nominated as a Member of the Federal Labor Relations Authority.



**Roberta Liebenberg** was appointed by the president of the American Bar Association to serve as co chair of the ABA's Presidential Initiative on Achieving Long-Term Careers for

Women in Law. Her appointment was held at the National Summit at Harvard Law School on November 8, 2017, which examined the reasons for the disproportionately high rate of attrition of senior women lawyers from the profession and formulated best practices to ensure their retention.

Liebenberg is a partner at Fine, Kaplan and Black, and focuses her practice on antitrust litigation, class actions, and white collar criminal matters.

## 1977

**The Honorable William T. Newman Jr.** starred as Oedipus, the lead character, in Avant Bard's theatrical production of the musical play *The Gospel at Colonus* in Arlington, Va.



Judge Newman read an excerpt of the legal thriller *Daingerfield Island* by John Adam Wasowicz '84 on April 5, 2018 at One More Page Books in Arlington, Va. He received the 2017 Distinguished Alumni Service Award. Judge Newman is a member of the Board of Visitors for The Catholic University of America Columbus School of Law, and has continued his support of the Law School by volunteering for lectures and actively engaging in the Law School's Black Law Students Association



**James P. Ulwick**, principal at the full service law firm Kramon & Graham, has been recognized by *Maryland Super Lawyers* 2018 for his work in business litigation, criminal defense, civil litigation, and intellectual property litigation.



2018 Philadelphia CUA Law Alumni Event

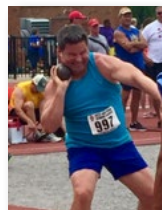
## 1980

**Mary Anne Gibbons** has been appointed to the D.C. Public Employee Relations Board.

**The Honorable Joseph F. Leeson Jr.** delivered the commencement address for the May 20, 2017, commencement exercises for DeSales University and was awarded an honorary L.L.D. degree.

Judge Leeson is the father of two CUA graduates — Robert P. Leeson (B.M.E. 2016) and Patricia A. Leeson (J.D. 2017).

## 1982



**Eric P. Bernard** competed in eight track and field events (hammer, shot, discus, javelin, 50 meter, 200 meter, and 400 meter sprints) representing New Hampshire at the National Senior Games in Birmingham, Ala. He finished 7th place in hammer throw.

When not hurling heavy objects, he continues to defend workers' compensation and tort claims.

**Naomi Churchill Earp** was nominated as Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights at the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

## 1983



**Adrien W. Helm** borrowed regalia from the Development and Alumni Relations Office for the Convocation at the 50th reunion of her graduation from Mills College in Oakland, Calif. Helm, who practiced in Washington, D.C., and Florida, is now retired. She expressed her gratitude to CUA for assuring she was properly "decked out" for this once in a lifetime event.

**Kathleen Q. Abernathy** is returning to Wilkinson Barker Knauer. Abernathy's combination of top-level government and corporate experience makes her uniquely suited to counsel WBK's clients throughout the media, communications, energy, and technology sectors. Abernathy will provide strategic guidance on business, legal, and policy issues, navigating the firm's clients through a fast-changing regulatory environment, both domestically and around the world.

Abernathy is also on the Advisory Committee on Diversity and Digital Empowerment, Federal Communications Commission.

## 1984



**John A. Wasowicz** is the author of *Daingerfield Island*. The book features an attorney and former Alexandria prosecutor named Elmo Katz who represents a man accused of murdering a Congressional aide on Daingerfield Island, just south of Reagan National Airport.

1986

**Tara M. Giunta** was recently profiled in an article entitled “Global Risk, Wrapped In Complexity For Many Companies,” in *Forbes* magazine. Giunta is a partner in the Washington, D.C., office of Paul Hastings LLP, and is a vice chair of the Investigations and White Collar Defense Practice and Chair of the firm’s Women’s Initiative.



**Patrice S. O'Brien** participated in the evaluation of research applications submitted to the Breast Cancer Research Program sponsored by the Department of Defense. O'Brien was nominated for participation in the program by the Susan G. Komen organization in Philadelphia, Pa.

1987

**John J. Siemietkowski**, a Justice Department trial lawyer in Washington, D.C., served as an Army JAG Colonel and strategic leader of an international coalition advising the Afghan Anti-Corruption Justice Center (ACJC) from October 2016 to September 2017.

1988

**Lisa G. Carreño** was awarded the *North Bay Business Journal's* Latino Business Leadership Award.



**Brian J. Moran** was appointed as Virginia Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security.

1989



**Linda R. Carlozzi** has been selected for inclusion on the 2018 list *Leading Women Lawyers* in New York City published by *Crain's New York Business*.

**John C. Kalavritinos** was named the Associate Administrator of the FDA for External Affairs. He served on the Presidential Transition Team after the November 2016 election and also on the “Beachhead Team” at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

**John F. Ring** was appointed to the National Labor Relations Board.

1990

**Julie A. Bowen** has been promoted to Senior Vice President at the MITRE Corporation.

**Ellen Jessen** is a Domestic Relations Hearing Officer with the 12th Judicial District Court in New Mexico.

1991

**Patrick T. Clendenen** has been named vice chair of the American Bar Association’s Business Law Section, as well as editor in chief of Volume 73 of *The Business Lawyer*, the Section’s highly regarded law review.

**Gregory R. Faulkner** has accepted a fellowship with the Construction Lawyers Society of America (CLSA.) Faulkner has served as local, national, and international counsel in all aspects of construction law for over 25 years.



**Amy L. Pfeiffer** was featured in the latest edition of *Best Lawyers in America*.

1992



**Alice S. Fisher** received the 2017 Distinguished Alumni Award. As a member of the Board of Visitors for The Catholic University of America Columbus School of Law, Fisher supports the Law School by hosting receptions, committee work, mentoring, and speaking engagements.

**Gordon P. Giampietro** will serve as a District Judge on the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Wisconsin.

1993

**Beth A. Haddock**, of Warburton Advisers, the boutique firm for governance and compliance solutions, participated in a ForbesBooks Radio in Podcasts.

**William H. Hoch** was ranked in the top 10 *Oklahoma Super Lawyers* 2017 list.

OCTOBER 19 AND 20, 2018

# REUNION WEEKEND 2018

## REUNITE *and* RECONNECT at CUA LAW

CELEBRATING CLASSES OF 1963, 1968, 1973, 1978, 1983, 1988, 1993, 1998, 2003, 2008, 2013

### 1994

**Alexandra Dapolito Dunn** presented a 2017 ECOS State Program Innovation Award to D.C. Department of Energy and Environment (DOEE) Director **Thomas C. Wells** '91. The award recognizes DOEE's successful green workforce programs: Solar Works D.C., The Green Zone Environmental Program, and River Corps.

**D. Michael Lyles** was featured in the *Washington Post* regarding his bid for State's Attorney in Prince George's County Md.

### 1995

**Michael C. McGarrity** was named the assistant director of the Counterterrorism Division at FBI Headquarters in Washington, D.C. McGarrity most recently served as the special agent in charge of the Criminal Division of the New York Field Office.

### 1996

**William D. Duhnke** was appointed by the Securities and Exchange Commission to serve as Chairman of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board.

**Andrew K. "Drew" Maloney** was confirmed by the United States Senate as Assistant Secretary of the Treasury Legislative Affairs.



### 1997

**Jennifer S. Lubinski** has joined the Heyman Firm as a principal, where she practices in the areas of employment, business, and family law litigation. Additionally, Lubinski attended the Writers Workshop at *The Kenyon Review* during the summer of 2017.



**Richard G. Poulson** was selected for inclusion in the 2018 edition of *The Best Lawyers in America*.

**Lee G. Petro** was elected to serve as President-Elect of the Federal Communications Bar Association. Lee will serve as President of the FCBA from July 2018 to June 2019. Previously, Lee served as an officer of the FCBA's Executive Committee for four years.



**S. Jenell Trigg** received Dialogue on Diversity's "Diversity Award" on September 15, 2017. Trigg was honored for her pro bono work with the organization, and her generous service to the law, economy, and the field of privacy and data security.



She also received the 2017 Distinguished Alumni Award. Trigg is a member of the Board of Visitors for The Catholic University of America Columbus School of Law, and has continued her support of the Law School as a former President of the CLIAA/Law and Technology Alumni Association, as well as through her participation in many student and alumni related activities.



2018 Mass of Thanksgiving

# Staying connected is worth it!



There is so much happening within the CUA Law community, and as a member of the CUA Law Alumni Community, you won't miss a beat. Whether you're interested in CUA Law alumni events in your region, lectures from influential figures, or networking with others in your practice area, your membership keeps you connected.

*Log into the online community at [community.law.edu](http://community.law.edu).*

*We invite you to participate in our community.*



## Features include:

- Search the Alumni Directory by Practice Area, Class Year, Geographic Region, Name of Firm or Company
- Update Your Information
- Manage Your Profile
- Register for Events
- Share Your Class News
- Request a Transcript

*Only CUA Law alumni have access to the online alumni community.*

## Other alumni benefits include:

**Employment Opportunities:** CUA Law's Office of Career & Professional Development is available to assist alumni throughout their career. Contact [jobs@law.edu](mailto:jobs@law.edu).

**Law Library:** CUA Law alumni are welcome to use the Judge Kathryn J. DuFour Law Library to take advantage of its extensive collection, services, and access to online databases, including HeinOnline remote access. Our librarians will be happy to help you in your research. Please contact the reference librarians at [csl-ref@cua.edu](mailto:csl-ref@cua.edu) or see the Law Library Alumni Guide (<http://libguides.law.cua.edu/alumni>) for more information.

*Get Involved - Visit [community.law.edu](http://community.law.edu) to login or register.*

Questions? Contact the Law Alumni Office at 202.319.5670 or email [cualawalumni@law.edu](mailto:cualawalumni@law.edu)

## 1998

**Julie M. Kearney**, vice president of regulatory affairs for the Consumer Technology Association, was elected president of the Federal Communications Bar Association. Formed in 1936, the FCBA is a voluntary bar and it is the leading organization for communications lawyers and other professionals.

## 1999

**Cory M. Chandler** was recommended for a D.C. Superior Court vacancy.

**Sean M. Connolly** ran for Governor of Connecticut.

**Shannon M. Heim** joined Moss & Barnett's regulated industries and communications law teams.

## 2001

**Peter J. Carman** is currently in his 16th year of practice. In 2013, he opened the Law Office of Peter J. Carman, S.C. in Appleton, Wis. continuing his civil personal injury defense work and expanding his practice into plaintiff's personal injury and employee worker's compensation representation.



**Christopher M. Candon** has been named to Sheehan Phinney Bass & Green's management team.

**Travis P. Nelson** was elected chair of the New Jersey State Bar Association's Banking Law Section. Nelson represents financial institutions and their directors and officers, in mergers and acquisitions, regulatory compliance, and litigation, and is also co-chair of Reed Smith's Anti-Money Laundering and Trade Sanctions Group.

## 2002

**Keeshea Turner Roberts**, former managing attorney at Neighborhood Legal Services Program (D.C.), has joined D.C. Law Students in Court as a supervising attorney and adjunct clinical law professor in LSIC's criminal law division.

## 2003

**Conrad J. DeWitte** was promoted to assistant director of the Intellectual Property Staff in the Civil Division of the U.S. Department of Justice.

**Tammy T. Nguyen-O'Dowd** was appointed by Connecticut Gov. Dannel P. Malloy as judge of the Superior Court.

**Christopher M. Netram** joined the national Association of Manufacturers as the Vice President of Tax and Domestic Economic Policy. He was featured in *The Hill* regarding his position.

Netram has been a lecturer at the Law School since 2014.

**M. Sean Ruff** has been elected to partner at global law firm Morrison & Foerster, as a member of the Financial Services Group and co-head of the FinTech Group. He is based in Morrison & Foerster's Washington, D.C. office.

## 2004

**AnnaLisa E. Nash** has been named General Counsel for Border States Electric. In this role, she is responsible for leading and developing the corporate legal strategy for the company, as well as providing legal counsel, advice, and oversight to the board of directors and employee owners in complex aspects of the business.

**Matthew D. Rak** was promoted to equity member at Metz Lewis Brodman Must O'Keefe LLC. Rak's practice centers on counseling business owners and their families to create succession plans.

**Armstrong M. Robinson** joined the Association for Advanced Life Underwriting as vice president of Legislative Affairs. Robinson will play a primary role in helping lead AALU's advocacy efforts on Capitol Hill, with a focus on House and Senate Republican policymakers.

**Robert J. Salzer** has co-authored a book designed to help anyone considering or in the midst of a divorce identify and overcome common obstacles to as smooth a resolution as possible. Entitled *Stress-Free Divorce*, the book is structured as a series of conversations with leading divorce professionals. Salzer contributed a chapter to the book.



2017 CUA Law Securities Alumni NYC Luncheon

2005

**Brendan T. Carr** is a commissioner at the Federal Communications Commission.

**Amanda Makki** is a partner at K & L Gates LLP, in the firm's Washington, D.C., office. She focuses her practice on health care legislative and regulatory issues and advocacy including drug pricing, health care provider payment and audit issues, and medical device reimbursement, Medicare Part D, and federal appropriations for public health care programs.

**Jessica A. Springsteen** was named *the Next Generation Lawyer* by *The Legal 500*.

**Craig W. Trainor** was selected for inclusion by the 2017 New York Metro *Super Lawyers* list.

2006

**David J. Redl** was appointed by President Trump to be Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information of the Department of Commerce.

**John A. Nader** has joined McGlinchey Stafford's Washington, D.C., office as of counsel in the Commercial Litigation and Consumer Financial Services Litigation groups. He represents financial institutions and servicers in mortgage- and consumer lending-based financial services litigation in state and federal courts and regularly counsels clients on compliance issues.



2007

**Jeoyuh Lin** has joined Harness Dickey in the firm's Metro Detroit office. Lin is a former patent examiner and judicial intern with the United States Patent and Trademark Office. He also served most recently as in-house counsel to an automotive supplier in Nagoya, Japan.

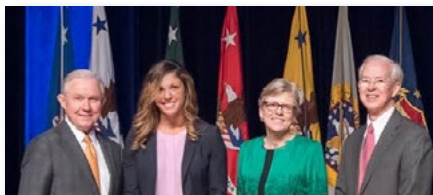
**Judith E. Malka** was recommended for a D.C. Superior Court vacancy.

**Rudy H. Rouhana** co-authored a book entitled *Fintech: Growth and Deregulation*.

2008

**Katherine E. Acuff** was named Associate Vice President for Advancement at Tulane University.

**Maureen S. Lawrence**, attorney at Hangley Aronchick Segal Pudlin & Schiller, has been elected a shareholder of the firm.



**Rebecca A. Magnone** was recognized at the Attorney General's 65th Annual Awards Ceremony where she received a John Marshall Award. The John Marshall Awards are the Department of Justice's highest honors offered to attorneys, for contributions and excellence in specialized areas of legal performance. She received the award for "Support of Litigation."

**Meredith C. Swartz** was named a *Lawyer on the Fast Track* by *The Legal Intelligencer* and was profiled in the publication's June 13, 2017, supplement. She was also listed as one of the *Philadelphia Business Journal's* "25 Young Lawyers on the Rise," which profiled the city's notable millennial attorneys.

Swartz is now a partner at Ballard Spahr LLP in Philadelphia.

2009

**Aliza A. George Carrano** is now a partner at Finnegan, Henderson, Farabow, Garrett & Dunner, LLP.



**Jeffery P. Langer** joined Stites & Harbison, PLLC in Alexandria, Va.

**Matthew Peurach** is now partner at Morris, Manning & Martin, LLP.



2010



**Matthew R. Keller** and his wife Suzy had a daughter on April 21, 2017. Her name is Juliette Ryan Keller.

**Cartwright “Cart” R. Reilly** has been named to the 2017 class of “Up & Coming Lawyers” by *Virginia Lawyers Weekly*. The awards program recognizes top attorneys within their first 10 years of practice.



**Alexis “Ali” A. Zayas** and her husband, Richard, welcomed Sofia Grace Zayason July 28, 2017, weighing in at 7lbs, 4oz.

2011



**Yanbin Xu** is now a partner at Finnegan, Henderson, Farabow, Garrett & Dunner, LLP.

2012

**Noah K. Cherry** joined SES Networks (formerly O3b Networks) as Regulatory Counsel. He will be working on U.S., international and maritime regulatory issues for SES, a global satellite telecommunications company.

**Leah Q. Curran** was promoted from staff attorney to managing attorney of the Family Law Unit at Neighborhood Legal Services Program in Washington, D.C.



**Michelle Lynn Curth** received the 2017 Distinguished Recent Alumni Award. Curth continues to support the Law School with her work on various committees and her mentoring of students, alongside her other community involvements and professional organizations. She has coached the Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot Court Team, advised a number of current and former students on job searches, assisted the Securities Moot Court Team.

**William J. Haun** joined the antitrust and litigation practices of Shearman & Sterling LLP in the firm’s Washington, D.C. office.

**Jacqueline “Jacqui” F. Kappler** is now legislative director at the Office of Representative Hank Johnson.

**Evan P. Shanley** has been elected to the Rhode Island State Legislature (24th district).

**Rebecca B. Whitaker** joined North Carolina Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission staff as a policy and research associate.

2013

**Constance Boutsikaris** joined the copyright/trademark practice group of Morgan Lewis & Bockius as an associate.

**Michael P. Ellement** joined the law firm of Bernabei & Kabat where he practices plaintiff side employment law and civil rights litigation.

**Alexander L. Harisiadis** joined the Office of the Attorney General of Maryland as an Assistant Attorney General to the Maryland State Retirement and Pension System.



Annual CUA Law Alumni Christmas Party

2014

**Petar Dimtchev** filed to run as an independent to challenge Mary Cheh for the Ward 3 District of Columbia Council seat.

**Gabriele Ulbig** joined Hannon Law Group, LLP, as an associate attorney.

2015

**DeCarlo S. McLaren** (LLM graduate), Special Counsel in the Office of Clearance and Settlement, Division of Trading and Markets, and his team received the Jay Manning Award.

2016

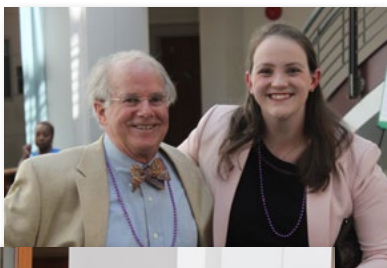


**Caitlin Conroy '16, Daniel Horner '15, Benjamin Williams '15, Christian Curran '11, Matthew Keller '10, Andres Crosetto '06, Anne M. Donahue '98, Michael Francesconi '97, Scott Flesch '97, Alexander Brittin '84, and William "Bill" Walsh '68** participated in the ABA Public Contract Law Section's Federal Procurement Institute in Annapolis Md.

2017

**Debbie K. Chu** has been accepted for publication in an upcoming issue of *The Journal of the Patent and Trademark Office Society*. Her article, "The Future of the Compulsory License: Tick Tock and It's Time to Eliminate It," was part of our Student Scholars Series presentations last year and was also selected third prize winner in The University of New Hampshire's Intellectual Property Article Contest.

**John P. Vivian** will be clerking for Judge David Sentelle (D.C. Cir.) after he finishes his clerkship with Judge Titus.



**Brady P. Gleason** is a law clerk position in Judge Joseph Goodwin's chambers at the Southern District of West Virginia for the 2017-2018 term.

The Alumni News Class Notes collects notes sent to CUA Law from May 1, 2017, through April 30, 2018. To read more Class Notes visit [law.edu/alumni/information/where.cfm](http://law.edu/alumni/information/where.cfm).



**Alyson Parker-Kierzewski** is an associate at Karpinski, Colearesi & Karp, P.A. in Baltimore, Md.



**Daniel Lechner** is an Assistant State's Attorney for Montgomery County, Md.



2018 Certificate Ceremony Reception

## In Memoriam

*The Columbus School of Law expresses its condolences to the families and friends of the following alumni who have recently passed away.*

### 1962

**Robert “Bob” James Woods Jr.**, 84, passed away on October 29, 2017. Bob was the beloved husband of Charlotte Woods for 60 years, devoted father of Cynthia Manley and Robert Damien Woods, and doting grandfather of Jake, Alex, Kyle, Mary and Zachary Manley, and Peter and Paula Woods, and great-grandson, Thomas Flynn Kelly Manley.

### 1964

**Frank J. Danyi Jr.**, 81, of Palmer Township, Pa., passed away on July 21, 2017. Frank was married to his high school sweetheart, Lillian (Long) Danyi, for 59 years. He served in the U.S. Army from 1959-1962, earning the rank of First Lieutenant. Frank was a founding partner of the law firm Maloney, Danyi Goodman, Hensel and Center from 1969-1978. In 1979, Frank and Thomas J. Maloney co-founded the law firm of Maloney and Danyi, currently named Maloney, Danyi and O’Donnell.

### 1968

**J. James Gallagher**, 79, a resident of Mercer Island, Washington, and Tucson, Ariz., passed away on Nov. 5, 2017.

### 1969

**Val J. Halamandaris** passed away on July 23, 2017. He is survived by his wife Kathleen M. Brennan, three sons, their wives, and six grandchildren, and one brother. Often referred to as the “leader of the last great civil rights movement”, Val worked tirelessly for 50 years to improve the lives and secure the rights of America’s elderly and infirm. A self-described “small-town boy who came to Washington, D.C. many years ago, full of ideals,” Val responded to President John F. Kennedy’s call to public service by joining the staff of Senator Frank E. Moss (D-UT).

### 1972

**Richard G. Kozlowski**, 78, a resident of Silver Spring, Md., passed away on Jan. 10, 2017. He was the beloved husband of Nancy Kozlowski; father of Michele (Edward) Wojtan and Rick (Marie) Kozlowski; grandfather of Eddie, Nicole, Kelly, Joe, and Steven; brother of Betty Wieske, Jeri Kulick, and Denise McDonnell.

### 1980

**Ollie P. Anderson Jr.**, 79, of Fort Washington, Md., passed away on Dec. 14, 2016.

### 1992

**Anne E. Schneiders**, a resident of Washington, D.C., passed away on Oct. 15, 2017. Anne was the third child of Glen Elizabeth and Alexander Schneiders. She was predeceased by her oldest sibling, Cheryl, and is survived by Sr. Sandra Schneiders, IHM, Paul (Mary Jane) Schneiders, Sr. Mary Schneiders, OP, Eileen (William) Paglia and Gregory (Marie) Schneiders.

### 2000

**Jin Nan Kim**, a resident of McLean, Va., passed away on April 20, 2018. She is survived by her loving husband, Richard P. Prichard, parents Chun Hoe Kim and Byong Il Kim of Annandale, Va., brother Tae Son Kim of Seoul, Korea, brother Tae Kuk Kim of Centreville, Va., sister Helen Kim Lange of Miami, Fla., and a large extended family.

### 2014

Retired USMC and graduate of the Law and Public Policy Program, **Evan van Regenmorter**, 46, passed away after a short battle with cancer on Oct. 29, 2017, surrounded by friends and family.

## FRIENDS OF THE LAW SCHOOL

**Professor Isaac C. Hunt Jr.** passed away on Oct. 29, 2017. After teaching at our law school, he served as dean and professor of law at the former Antioch School of Law and as dean and professor of law at the University of Akron School of Law. He also served as a Commissioner of the Securities and Exchange Commission.

**Professor Emeritus G. Graham Waite**, long-time faculty member, passed away in May 2018 in Front Royal Va. He leaves behind his wife Mary Ellen and his son Ben.

# 2017 CUA Law Reunion Weekend



Arriving from all across the country, hundreds of CUA Law School graduates, friends, and family attended Reunion 2017, held October 27-28 at the Law School and other locations around Washington, D.C.

“Reunions are a great opportunity for alumni to reconnect with each other and the CUA Law Community,” noted Louise Lydon, Alumni Relations Director. “They also encourage alumni to reflect on their time at CUA Law and the role the CUA Law community has played in their lives.”

Ten class years were invited to participate in Reunion 2017: 1962, 1967, 1972, 1977, 1982, 1987, 1992, 1997, 2002, and 2012.

The Honorable **William T. Newman Jr.** '77 was presented with the Distinguished Alumni Service Award. **Alice S. Fisher** '92 and **S. Jenell Trigg** '97 were each presented with the Distinguished Alumni Award. These awards recognize individuals who have distinguished themselves through notable achievements in their professional and personal lives. Recipients of this prestigious award have translated their CUA Law experience into notable achievements in the public, business, or professional realms and bring honor to CUA Law. This year the Law School also implemented the Distinguished Recent Alumni Award for alumni who have graduated in the last 10 years. **Michelle Curth** '12 was this year's recipient.

Saturday evening featured the class reunion parties held at two different locations. The parties were located at The Willard Hotel and the Crown Plaza Hamilton Hotel 14k Lounge. The Law School instituted cups and bowls to recognize the achievements of reunion classes. The Class of 1967 won the Robinson Bowl for the most money raised out of those celebrating 40th, 45th and 50th anniversaries. The Class of 1992 was awarded the Leahy Bowl for most money raised for a class not in the Robinson Society. The Class of 1977 won the Alumni Cup for the highest attendance registration, and the Class of 1967 won the Dean's Cup for the highest donation rate.

CUA Law alumni who graduated 40 or more years ago were inducted into the William Callyhan Robinson Society, with special recognition to the Class of 1967 and members of the CUA Law Columbus Society. Many current and emeritus CUA Law faculty joined alumni for the evening events.





**Alumni Council**

While the Board of Visitors acts primarily as counselors to the dean, the Columbus School of Law’s more than 11,500 alumni now have their own voice. All CUA Law graduates become members of its Alumni Association upon graduation. The association is governed in turn by the Law School’s Alumni Council, founded in 2013 “to promote the values, objectives and well-being of The Catholic University of America Columbus School of Law.”

The council’s first president was Susan Smith Newell ’93, followed by James “Jim” C. Anagnos ’96. The council is currently led by Stanley E. Woodward Jr. ’08.

The following dedicated alumni will serve as Alumni Council Officers for the 2018–19 academic year:

- |   |   |   |  |   |
|---|---|---|--|---|
| <p><b>PRESIDENT</b><br/>Stanley E. Woodward Jr. ’08</p> | <p><b>VICE PRESIDENT</b><br/>Maureen Smith Lawrence ’08</p> | <p><b>SECRETARY</b><br/>Ariel A. González ’07</p> | <p><b>TREASURER</b><br/>Leah Quaille ’12</p> | <p><b>FACULTY REPRESENTATIVE</b><br/>Professor Lisa A. Everhart ’83</p> |
|---|---|---|--|---|

# Thank You for Your Support

Dear Alumni and Friends of CUA Law,



On behalf of our current students, faculty and staff, **thank you.** Your support of CUA Law moves us forward and ensures the Law School's commitment to its mission. Thank you for making a difference today and for the future.

This year, to celebrate and recognize donors who generously share their resources to support and affirm CUA Law's mission we created two new

giving societies: Our Dean's Circle and Barristers' Society.

The Dean's Circle acknowledges donors who make annual leadership gifts totaling \$2,500 or more during a single fiscal year (May 1 to April 30). The Barrister's Society recognizes donors who support CUA Law with a gift between \$1,000 and \$2,499 during the fiscal year. Recent graduates may join the Barristers' Society for gifts of \$250 or more within two years of graduation and \$500 or more within three to seven years after graduation. Membership is renewable annually.

These gifts provide scholarships, help attract and retain excellent faculty, enrich our academic programs, and ultimately enhance the student experience. The remarkable commitment of Dean's Circle and Barristers' Society members strengthen the Columbus School of Law by ensuring growth and excellence, which allows CUA Law to compete in today's challenging market.

This past year we received 1627 gifts of cash totaling \$1,720,691, surpassing the last three years for gifts of cash. We realize alumni and friends have many options for their philanthropy. We deeply value your decision to invest in the Columbus School of Law and are grateful for your vote of confidence in our efforts. You continue to enrich the fine legacy that defines the Columbus School of Law.

We are always delighted to speak with you and to hear your ideas and recommendations, so please be in touch by calling or attending one of our events.

We are pleased to recognize the following 2017-2018 Dean's Circle and Barristers Society members. If you would like to learn more about the benefits of becoming a member, please contact us at 202.319.5670 or email [cualawalumni@law.edu](mailto:cualawalumni@law.edu)

Thank you for all you do for the Columbus School of Law.

Sincere Regards,

Louise M. Lydon  
Executive Director of Development and Alumni Relations  
202-319-5670  
[lydonl@law.edu](mailto:lydonl@law.edu)

## *There are many opportunities for generosity:*

- **Check:** Please make checks payable to The Catholic University of America, with "CUA Law Fund" or your chosen designation on the memo line, and mail your check to:

The Catholic University of America  
Columbus School of Law  
Department 4060  
Washington, DC 20042-4060

or use the business reply envelope in this edition of *CUA Lawyer*.

- **Online:** The easiest way to make a gift is by using a credit card online. Please go to [law.edu/give](http://law.edu/give).
- If you have any questions about giving back to CUA Law, please call the Office of Development and Alumni Relations at 202-319-5670 or email [cualawalumni@law.edu](mailto:cualawalumni@law.edu).

- **Matching Gifts:** If you work for a firm or company that matches gifts from employees or their spouses, you can double and sometimes triple your gift to the school. Contact your human resources office to see if your employer has a matching gift program.
- **Stock:** Your gifts of stock may make you eligible for certain tax deductions while meeting your philanthropic goals.
- **Planned and Testamentary Gifts:** Wills, living trusts, or life insurance beneficiary designations are an incredible way to make an outstanding impact on the well-being of the school. Gifts such as Charitable Remainder Trusts and Gift Annuities can help you make a gift to the school today, receive a substantial tax benefit and, in some instances, allow you or a beneficiary to continue to receive income for life.

# Sixth Annual Dean's Dinner for Student Scholarships Draws Generous Crowd



Initiated by the Law School's Board of Visitors in 2013 to honor then new dean, Daniel F. Attridge, the Dean's Dinner has become an important spring tradition at CUA Law as a means of raising scholarship donations for students. This year's event was held at the St. Regis in Washington, D.C., where there was a reception and dinner featuring keynote remarks from Francis X. Coonelly '86, president of the Pittsburgh Pirates. It was a record breaking event in both participation and fundraising for the Law School.

After law school, Coonelly practiced labor and employment law and became a partner in the Washington, D.C., office of Morgan, Lewis & Bockius. A large part of Coonelly's practice consisted of representing Major League Baseball as outside labor counsel. In that role, he assisted the Commissioner in collective bargaining and other litigation, and represented several individual clubs in salary arbitration matters. In 1998, he moved in-house, serving as senior vice president and general counsel of labor in the Commissioner's Office.

Coonelly joined the Pittsburgh Pirates in 2007 as franchise president, and is now responsible for the day-to-day operations of the organization. He leads the Pirates' senior management team and is accountable for the organization's success, both on and off the field.

In his remarks, Coonelly described the influence CUA Law Professor Roger Hartley had on his career as a labor lawyer. He also recalled the mentorship he received as a young lawyer working at Morgan Lewis.



*(From L to R: Daniel Attridge, Francis Coonelly, and John Garvey)*

This year's Dean's Dinner guests included members of the Law School's Board of Visitors; members of the Law School's Alumni Council; distinguished law school alumni; and a number of the dean's family members, as well as friends and colleagues of these individuals. In addition, select faculty members and students were sponsored to attend.

Agnes P. Dover '81, chair of the Board of Visitors and Partner at Hogan Lovells LLP, delivered welcoming remarks. John Garvey, President of The Catholic University of America, offered the invocation.

In his closing remarks, Dean Attridge emphasized the importance of scholarships in recruiting and thanked the donors for positively contributing to students' futures with their gifts. Scholarships make a huge impact on their recipients, making CUA Law more affordable and accessible to students.

# CUA Law Board of Visitors

## CHAIR

Agnes P. Dover, Esquire '81  
Washington, D.C.

## MEMBERS

James C. Anagnos, Esquire '96  
Washington, D.C.

Paul M. Bisaro, Esquire '89  
Parsippany, N.J.

Douglas G. Bonner III, Esquire '83  
Washington, D.C.

The Honorable Phyllis C. Borzi '78  
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Alice S. Fisher, Esquire '92  
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Tara K. Giunta, Esquire '86  
Washington, D.C.

J. Parker Griffin III, Esquire '08  
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J. Michael Hannon, Esquire '80  
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Harrisonon, N.Y.

Randall Kenyon Hulme, Esquire '90  
Addison, Texas

Rafal Kos, Ph.D., LL.M. '10  
Krakow, Poland

Harry Lee, Esquire '86  
Washington, D.C.

Daniel Tobin Lennon, Esquire '90  
Washington, D.C.

Peggy Love, Esquire '88  
Annapolis, Md.

James E. McDonald, Esquire '69  
Miami, Fla.

Susan S. Newell, Esquire '93  
Alexandria, Va.

The Honorable William T. Newman Jr. '77  
Arlington, Va.

Bruce R. Parker, Esquire '78  
Baltimore, Md.

Luis J. Perez, Esquire '83  
Miami, Fla.

Larry R. Pilot, Esquire '67  
Arlington, Va.

Jeffrey S. Poretz, Esquire '81  
Washington, D.C.

Mark Reinhardt, Esquire '71  
St. Paul, Minn.

Stanley J. Samorajczyk, Esquire '67  
Annapolis, Md.

Thomas A. Scully, Esquire '86  
New York, N.Y.

Richard A. Shapack, Esquire '76  
Bloomfield Hills, Mich.

John M. Skenyon, Esquire '73  
Saunderstown, R.I.

Dennis C. Sullivan, Esquire '84  
Washington, D.C.

Kevin P. Tighe, Esquire '69  
Potomac, Md.

S. Jenell Trigg, Esquire '97  
Washington, D.C.

John A. Zaccaro Jr., Esquire '93  
New York, N.Y.

The Honorable Marilyn D. Zahm '72  
Buffalo, N.Y.

*Current membership as of June 2018*

**MEMBERS EMERITUS:** Michael F. Curtin, Esquire '65, Washington, D.C.; David A. Donohoe, Esquire '62, Potomac, Md.; Professor Emeritus Ralph J. Rohner '63, Odenton, Md.

# Loyal Benefactors Celebrated at Cardinals Tribute Dinner

The unique importance of the Columbus School of Law to the Church in the United States was celebrated at the Cardinals Tribute Dinner on June 5, 2017. Cardinals, archbishops, and bishops from across the country gathered on campus with leaders and students of the University as they celebrated the most loyal benefactors and their generous gifts.

Over the past academic year, the Law School developed three mission-focused initiatives to build on its strengths and increase its impact on some of the pressing needs of society today. These initiatives, referred to as “Path Forward” initiatives as they are advancing the Law School, relate to access to justice, compliance and corporate responsibility, and religious liberty. The first gift celebrated at the Cardinal’s Tribute Dinner was a \$1,000,000 commitment from an anonymous donor to fund the start of the Law School’s compliance and corporate responsibility and religious liberty centers. In addition to this gift, the Law School expects to reach full funding shortly for the access to justice pilot program, thanks to the support of generous alumni and foundation partners. His Eminence Cardinal Donald Wuerl, archbishop of Washington, recognized this anonymous donor and spoke about the importance of these initiatives. He introduced a video showcasing support the Law School’s initiatives.

The University also celebrated CUA Law alumnus Professor Michael Ambrosio’s \$1,000,000 bequest for the Michael and Anthony Ambrosio Class of 1966 Endowed Scholarship. Michael was recognized by Cardinal Timothy Dolan, archbishop of New York, who introduced a video about the gift and the importance of scholarships.

“For some students, a scholarship means the difference between being able to attend law school and not being able to attend law school. For others, it means an opportunity to devote the kind of time and attention to their studies that they need,” Michael Ambrosio said.

The partnership of our alumni and friends and their continuing commitment to building our scholarship program sends a great message to current and prospective students: We intend to make a CUA Law education more affordable.



*L to R: Stan Samorajcyk '67, Missy Attridge, Anthony Ambrosio '66, Professor Sarah Duggin, Kirk Renaud, Professor Cara Drinan, Michael Ambrosio '66, and Dean Daniel F. Attridge*

## The 1897 Society

Named to commemorate the year the Law School was founded, the 1897 Society recognizes our generous donors to the Columbus School of Law. This year we introduced the Dean's Circle and Barristers' Society to recognize donors who make annual gifts of \$2,500 + and gifts ranging from \$1,000 - \$2,499 respectively. Recent graduates may join the Barristers' Society for annual gifts of \$250 or more within 2 years of graduation and \$500 or more within three to seven years after graduation. Membership reflects a high level of commitment to CUA Law and a shared vision for ensuring excellence.

### (\$100,000 – Above)

Anonymous

Community Foundation  
of the Mahoning Valley

The Dallas Foundation

Joseph P. Drennan, Esquire '81

Alice S. Fisher, Esquire '92  
and Mr. W. Clinton Fisher

Joseph E. Horgan, Esquire '49\*

Knights of Columbus Charities, Inc.

Clarence E. Martin III, Esquire '74 (CS)

Jeffrey R. Moreland, Esquire '70  
and Mrs. Nancy Moreland

E. Jeffrey Rossi, Esquire '78

Professor Emeritus George P. Smith II (CS)

### (\$50,000 – \$99,999)

The Honorable Joseph F. Cimini '73

Robert F. Comstock, Esquire '64

The John A. Quinn Foundation, Inc.



### (\$25,000 - \$49,999)

Paul M. Bisaro, Esquire '89

Agnes P. Dover, Esquire '81

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Donald W. Farley, Esquire '69  
and Mrs. Jo Ann D. Farley

Thomas M. Mistele, Esquire '84

Jeffrey S. Puret, Esquire '81, Lecturer  
and Mrs. Teresa Puret

S. Jenell Trigg, Esquire '97

Theresa M. Werner, Esquire '91



\* Denotes Deceased • Donors who are listed have made gifts to CUA's law school from May 1, 2017, through April 30, 2018.

Please contact the Law School Office of Development and Alumni Relations at 202-319-5670 or [cualawalumni@law.edu](mailto:cualawalumni@law.edu) if your name is listed incorrectly.

## The 1897 Society

### (\$10,000 - \$24,999)

Anthony P. Ambrosio, Esquire `66  
 Professor Michael P. Ambrosio `66  
 Dean and Knights of Columbus  
 Professor Daniel F. Attridge, Faculty and  
 Anne (Missy) Asbill Attridge, Esquire  
 Benevity Community Impact Fund  
 Ms. Kate E. Bloch  
 Julie A. Bowen, Esquire `87  
 Mr. Paul E. Curth Jr.  
 Michael F. Curtin, Esquire `65  
 and Mrs. Kathleen Curtin  
 Richard J. Favretto, Esquire `66  
 and Mrs. Francine G. Favretto  
 Allison V. Feierabend, Esquire `05 (CS)  
 Karen L. Grubber, Esquire `92  
 Charles A. Guerin, Esquire `48\*  
 Francis J. Hearn Jr., Esquire `89  
 Francisco Hernandez Jr., Esquire `90  
 Mark V. Holden, Esquire `88  
 Lockheed Martin  
 Alois Lubiejewski, Esquire `69  
 Clinical Assistant  
 Professor Michael T. McGonnigal `85, Faculty  
 Jane W. Molloy, Esquire `65  
 J. Paul Molloy, Esquire `65  
 Mr. Mark A. Murray  
 Pershing, LLC  
 Larry R. Pilot, Esquire `67

Stanley J. Samorajczyk, Esquire `67  
 The Honorable Charles A. Shaw `74  
 The Honorable Booker T. Shaw `76  
 William F. Sondericker, Esquire `52  
 Richard M. Starr, Esquire `79  
 Mr. and Mrs. Martin Weissman  
 Douglas H. Wigdor, Esquire `93  
 Thomas D. Yannucci, Esquire  
 Law Office of Jim Zadeh PC  
 The Honorable Marilyn D. Zahm `72

### (\$5,000-\$9,999)

James C. Anagnos, Esquire `96  
 Anonymous  
 Anonymous  
 Ambassador Charlene Barshefsky `75  
 William V. Bidwill, Esquire  
 The William V. & Nancy J. Bidwill Charitable Trust  
 Phillip D. Brady, Esquire, Lecturer  
 John G. Carberry, Esquire `73  
 James P. Carroll, Esquire `77  
 Moira E. Casey, Esquire `83  
 Matthew J. Clark, Esquire `83  
 Community Foundation For SE Michigan  
 John J. Coneys Jr. and Susan Ugast Coneys  
 Edward J. Dempsey, Esquire `70  
 Kelly Lynn Donovan, Esquire `93  
 Lee C. Dunn, Esquire `01

The Honorable Robert L. Ehrlich Jr.  
 Ernst & Young LLP  
 Suellen M. Ferguson, Esquire `77  
 Joseph A. French, Esquire `83  
 Arthur N. Fuccillo, Esquire `78  
 Marianne Geeker, Esquire `82  
 Mrs. Elaine Goldman (CS)  
 Lawrence P. Grassini, Esquire `70  
 Alan M. Grimaldi, Esquire `71 (CS)  
 J. Michael Hannon, Esquire `80  
 David P. Langlois, Esquire `70  
 Daniel T. Lennon, Esquire `90  
 Stephanie D. Lennon, Esquire `90  
 Professor David A. Lipton, Faculty  
 Jennifer A. Mahar, Esquire `95  
 The Honorable Daniel P. Mecca `66  
 Morgan, Lewis & Bockius, LLP  
 New York Life Insurance Company  
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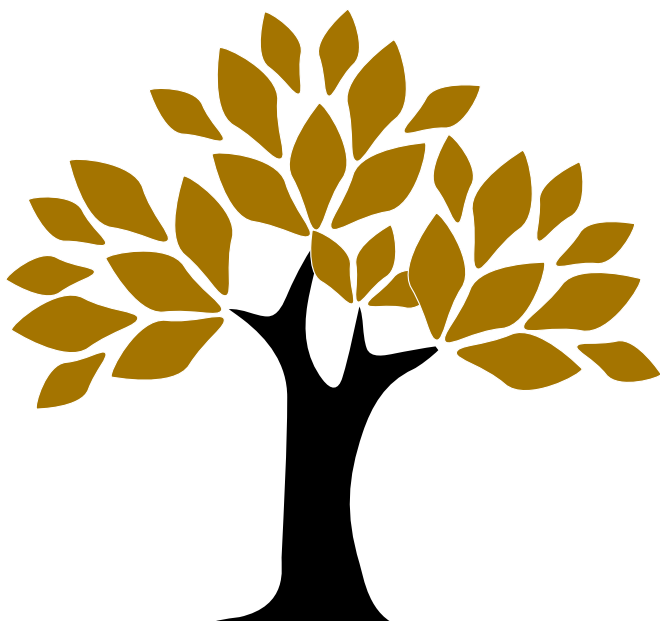
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# Alumni Events Calendar

## September

- 9/11/18 **Old Town Alexandria Alumni Reception**  
Home of Andrew Palmieri '87 • Alexandria, Va.
- 9/20/18 **Bethesda Alumni Reception**  
Maggiano's • Washington, D.C.

## October

- 10/10/18 **Capitol Hill Alumni Reception**  
Associated General Contractors of America  
Washington, D.C.
- 10/19/18 **Reunion Weekend - Kick-off Party**
- 10/20/18 **Celebrating the classes of 1963, 1968, 1973, 1978, 1983, 1988, 1993, 1998, 2003, 2008, and 2013**  
Columbus School of Law • Washington, D.C.
- 10/19/18 **15th Anniversary of CUA - JU**
- 10/20/18 **LL.M. In American Law**  
Columbus School of Law • Washington, D.C.

## October (continued)

- 10/24/18 **Securities Law NYC Luncheon**  
Winston & Strawn • New York, N.Y.
- 10/24/18 **New York Pub Party**  
The Banc Café • New York, N.Y.

## November

- 11/8/18 **35th Annual Securities Alumni Luncheon**  
The Army and Navy Club • Washington, D.C.

## December

- 12/11/18 **36th Annual Alumni & Friends Christmas Party**  
University Club • Washington, D.C.

*Make sure to visit [community.law.edu](http://community.law.edu) and look under **Events** for a list of all upcoming alumni events, details, and registration information. Also, be sure to follow us on Facebook to learn about other Law School events.*

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