

SUFFOLK LAW

ALUMNI MAGAZINE

\$1M GIFT

Suffolk Law changed Barry C. Cosgrove's life; now he's giving back

"ON SHIFTING SAND"

Four legal experts weigh in on the immigration crisis

THE GREEN DIVIDE

EMBRACING THE CHALLENGES OF
A BUDDING CANNABIS INDUSTRY

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JD'15

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SUFFOLK LAW

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SUFFOLK
UNIVERSITY
BOSTON
LAW SCHOOL

01

SUFFOLK LAW
ALUMNI MAGAZINE

Winter 2020

A MESSAGE FROM

DEAN ANDREW PERLMAN



Photograph: Michael J. Clarke

For more than a century, Suffolk Law has prepared its graduates for professional success. This issue of the *Suffolk Law Alumni Magazine* tells just a few of their stories and highlights some of the ways that the Law School continues to prepare students for success today.

What you will discover from these stories and from conversations with current students is that Suffolk Law remains committed to its rich tradition of practice-oriented legal education. That focus is making a difference, and I'm delighted to update you on some notable accomplishments:

Increased applications. The quality of a Suffolk Law education and the achievements of our alumni are major attractions for aspiring lawyers. Applications have increased in four of the last five years, and the two most recent entering classes had the strongest academic credentials in eight years.

A national leader in skills training. When students arrive, they find skills training that is unmatched in the nation. Suffolk Law has long been known as a place that trains outstanding lawyers, and the rest

of the country is taking notice. We are the only law school in the nation that, for four years in a row, has had four top-20 ranked skills programs in *U.S. News & World Report* (clinics, dispute resolution, legal writing, and trial advocacy).

Positioning for the 21st century. We also are a leader in teaching the new knowledge and skills that lawyers need in the 21st century. Suffolk Law is ranked No. 1 for legal tech, and our work in this area is receiving international recognition. (p. 11)

Near-record employment outcomes. Our students are leveraging their legal education to find impressive professional opportunities. Last year's graduates had the second-strongest employment outcomes in the last 30 years. (p. 5)

Bar passage on the rise. The Law School's first-time bar pass rate on the July 2019 Massachusetts bar exam improved to 70.5%, up from 64.5% last year. The 6 percentage point increase is the largest jump we have seen in 14 years, reflecting numerous recent bar-related initiatives. Moreover, our ABA ultimate bar pass rate within two years of graduation is 84%.

Alumni giving back. Alumni appreciate how much their Suffolk Law education has contributed to their success, and they are giving back. This fall, we received a landmark \$1 million commitment from alumnus Barry C. Cosgrove JD'85 and his wife, Ingrid Cosgrove, to establish the Graciela Rojas-Trabal Term Scholarship. (p. 12) We have seen a dramatic increase in the size of our Dean's Cabinet, which now has 40 members, each of whom has committed at least \$50,000 in philanthropic support. (p. 42) We saw a 29% increase in money raised over the prior year and a 20% increase in the number of Summa donors, who give \$1,000 or more. And the Class of 1969 added nearly \$500,000 to their already record-breaking class scholarship fund in honor of their 50th reunion. (p. 28)

I hope you share my pride in the progress we are making at Suffolk Law. Together we are advancing our longstanding mission of offering students an impactful legal education that has a transformative impact on their lives and careers.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Andrew Perlman". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional style.

02

SUFFOLK LAW
ALUMNI MAGAZINE

.....
Winter 2020

THE NUMBERS ARE CLEAR

1

Suffolk Law was ranked number one in the nation for legal tech. (National Jurist)

ONLY ONE

Suffolk Law is the only school with four top-20 ranked legal skills specialties—clinics, legal writing, trial advocacy, and dispute resolution—for four consecutive years. (*U.S. News & World Report*)

1 OF 3

Suffolk Law is one of only three schools ranked in the top 20 in all four legal skills specialty areas in the 2020 edition of *U.S. News & World Report*.

ONLY 10

ONLY 10 HAVE MORE TOP-20 SPECIALTY PROGRAMS THAN SUFFOLK LAW. (*U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT*)

**BEST
GRAD
SCHOOLS**
& WORLD REPORT
U.S. News

LAW
LEGAL
WRITING
2020
#3

LAW
TRIAL
ADVOCACY
2020
#15

LAW
DISPUTE
RESOLUTION
2020
#16

LAW
CLINICAL
TRAINING
2020
#19

LAW BRIEFS

NEWS
AND NOTES
FROM THE
HEADLINES
AND
HALLWAYS



Federal courthouse in Providence, Rhode Island

ALUMNA CONFIRMED FOR SEAT ON U.S. DISTRICT COURT

Mary S. McElroy JD'92, Rhode Island's top public defender, was confirmed to the Rhode Island U.S. District Court by the United States Senate on September 11, 2019.

McElroy has the unusual distinction of having been nominated by both President Donald Trump and President Barack Obama for the position. Both nominations had stalled, however, languishing in what the *Boston Globe* called "the morass of Beltway gridlock."

Before her confirmation, McElroy served as public defender for the State of Rhode Island from 2012 to 2019. She previously spent six years as federal defender for the districts of Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and Rhode Island and served as an assistant public defender with the Rhode Island Public Defender's Office for 12 years. Before stepping into that role, she worked for Tate & Elias LLC as an associate, after a clerkship for Justice Donald Shea on the Rhode Island Supreme Court.

McElroy joins Chief Judge William E. Smith, Judge John J. McConnell, Jr., and Magistrate Judges Lincoln Almond and Patricia Sullivan in the U.S. District Court for the District of Rhode Island.

QUICK FACT

30% OF RECENT
BAY STATE JUDICIAL
NOMINEES WERE
SUFFOLK ALUMNI

Gov. Baker's "crown jewel"

Thirty percent of the judges nominated in 2017 and 2018 by Massachusetts Governor Charlie Baker are Suffolk Law alumni. He nominated 89 judges during those two years; 28 graduated from the Law School. In remarks made at Suffolk University, Baker said, "As somebody who appreciates and believes in the difference that public service can make, I find Suffolk University to be one of the true crown jewels in the Commonwealth's constellation of higher education institutions."

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SUFFOLK GRADS FIND SUCCESS IN JOB MARKET

Last year's graduates had the second-best employment outcomes in 30 years. Why? From individualized career coaching sessions to large-scale recruitment programs in both the public and private sectors, Suffolk Law's innovative professional and career development program prepares students and graduates to enter a rapidly evolving legal job market.

TOP AREAS OF EMPLOYMENT

33%

IN FIRMS OF 2-100

21%

in business

12%

in government & public interest

15%

in firms of 101+

5%

IN CLERKSHIPS

COMING FULL CIRCLE

LAW STUDENTS HELP HIGH SCHOOLER WIN NATIONAL MOOT COURT COMPETITION



Sam DeLong JD/LLM'19,
Isabel Stern, and 3L Sam Faisal

You might think that most high school students' eyes would glaze over when asked to read and discuss the pages of a 1969 Supreme Court case, but that's not how it turned out, says Suffolk Law 3L Sam Faisal. As he helped 20 teens untie the knotty issues in *Tinker v. Des Moines*, a case that decided whether a group of public high school students could be suspended for wearing anti-Vietnam War armbands, his students were energized and impassioned.

Faisal's presence in a high school classroom teaching constitutional law and his work as a moot court mentor bring him full circle. In 2011, when he was a junior in high school, Suffolk Law students serving in the Marshall-Brennan Constitutional Literacy Project taught con law in his own classroom at public magnet school Another Course to College in Hyde Park.

Last academic year, Faisal and Sam DeLong JD/LLM'19 traveled twice a week to Cambridge Rindge & Latin, a public high school in Cambridge, to serve as teachers, coaches, and mentors in the same program. They and other Suffolk Law students fanned

out to Boston-area public high schools to teach the concepts of search and seizure and free expression.

As a mentee and competitor in the Marshall-Brennan Moot Court Competition in 2011, Faisal realized that the law was important, so much more important than he had imagined, with rulings that seemed to touch on every aspect of human conflict.

"In high school, my thinking was that I wanted to be a police officer. My parents wanted me to be a doctor or an engineer," he said. "But the Marshall-Brennan training made me ask myself: 'What could I accomplish as a lawyer? What could I accomplish using the structure of the law?'"

Through the spring of 2019, DeLong and Faisal prepared Rindge & Latin students, including Isabel Stern, for the program's high-profile capstone, a moot court competition for teen litigators across the country. During the National Competition in Washington, D.C., Stern had the opportunity to appear and argue before federal judges in the final round. She was honored as the best oral advocate.

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GET KONNECTED! HONORS BOSTON'S BEST, INCLUDING SUFFOLK LAW ALUMNI

On April 30, Get Konnected!, in partnership with Mintz, celebrated Greater Boston's 50 Most Influential Attorneys of Color. The Get Konnected! website describes the award winners as "some of the best legal minds in Greater Boston ... making their mark in the legal profession, while serving as role models for the next generation."

The following Suffolk Law alumni were honored:

GOVERNMENT

Sheriece Perry JD'08, Acting Co-Director, Department of Support Services, Massachusetts Trial Courts Office of Court Management

IN-HOUSE COUNSEL

Damian Wilmot JD'00, Senior Vice President, Chief Risk and Compliance Officer, Vertex Pharmaceuticals

LAW FIRM

Stephen Hall JD'10, Senior Counsel, Holland & Knight

PIONEER

Macey Russell JD'83, Trustee; Partner, Choate; former Chair of the Judicial Nominating Commission; Advisory Board Member, Institute for Inclusion in the Legal Profession

RISING STARS

Jasmine Jean-Louis JD'15, Attorney, Massachusetts Attorney General's Office

Keerthi Sugumaran JD'11, Associate, Jackson Lewis PC; President, South Asian Bar Association of Greater Boston

Elke Trilla-Bamani JD'12, Associate, Morgan Lewis

Cherina Wright JD/MBA'17, Director of Student Engagement and Inclusion, Suffolk Law



Sheriece Perry



Damian Wilmot



Stephen Hall



Macey Russell



Jasmine Jean-Louis



Keerthi Sugumaran



Elke Trilla-Bamani



Cherina Wright

DEAN TOUTS LEGAL TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM ON CAPITOL HILL



Dean Andrew Perlman spoke to Congressional staffers on the role law schools can play in curbing a growing crisis in access to legal services among low- and middle-income families. The May 21 briefing included remarks by Congressman Joe Kennedy III, recipient of an honorary JD from Suffolk in 2019.

"Law schools need to teach future lawyers how to develop innovative and more cost-effective approaches to delivering legal services," said Dean Perlman.

Suffolk Law's top-ranked program in legal technology has been leading the nation in this area with cutting-edge courses, a legal design lab, and online training, he told staffers. He also referenced the school's Accelerator-to-Practice program, which trains students in legal technology and sound business practices, making it possible to serve moderate-income clients in ways that are financially sustainable.

The panel was spearheaded by the American Academy of Arts & Sciences and the U.S. House of Representatives' Access to Civil Legal Services Caucus.

LEARNING THE ART OF SUPERVISION

INNOCENCE CLINIC OFFERS NEW OPPORTUNITY

Suffolk Law's Innocence Clinic, now in its third year of operation, teams up with the New England Innocence Project (NEIP) and the Committee for Public Counsel Services (CPCS) to review claims of innocence on behalf of incarcerated individuals. The cases are an outstanding vehicle for students to delve deeply into legal, evidentiary, and ethical issues associated with criminal cases. This past year, for example, students uncovered evidence that suggests a man serving time for armed robbery had been framed by his ex-wife—and it was evidence the jury never saw. As a result of the students' work, their client may have grounds for a new trial.



Students involved in the Innocence Clinic discuss cases with Clinical Adjunct Professor Shira Diner.



Shai Myers CAS'20 and Julianne Jeha BA'16, JD'19

Law school clinics teach law students the invaluable skills associated with client representation, but few provide students with the opportunity to learn the skills of delegation and supervision. Now, some of Suffolk Law's clinics do just that.

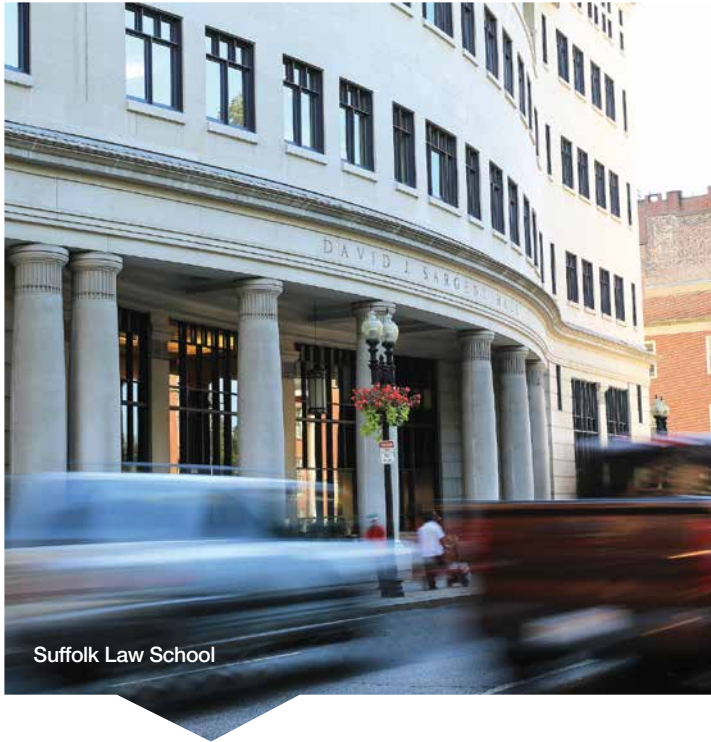
Appearing in Chelsea District Court, Julianne Jeha BA'16, JD'19 successfully sought a restraining order on behalf of a client in Suffolk's Family Advocacy Clinic (FAC). The complex domestic abuse and custody matter was the first case Jeha had presented before a judge—but she wasn't alone. Thanks to a pioneering partnership with Suffolk's College of Arts & Sciences, students in FAC have the opportunity to team up with undergraduate students who serve as paralegals.

In this restraining order case, Jeha had the help of Suffolk undergrad Shai Myers (Class of 2020)—and Myers' help was invaluable. For example, Myers created a detailed timeline of the client's many Department of Children & Families records, police reports, and court orders. Beyond that, Myers was another set of eyes and ears who provided valuable input.

Suffolk Law's clinics have been ranked among the nation's best for more than a decade, and a primary reason for their success is their focus on innovative pedagogy. The partnership with Suffolk's College of Arts & Sciences now offers Suffolk Law students the opportunity to delegate tasks and supervise the undergrads in a professional setting. The undergraduates organize documents for hearings, take notes at client preparation meetings, attend court hearings, file pleadings, conduct non-legal research, and act as sounding boards for law students during practice presentations.

Associate Dean for Experiential Learning Kim McLaurin says the cooperative effort helps student attorneys find the right balance between supervision and micromanagement. Delegation is a skill that has to be learned, she says. "When I was an attorney who hired people, those who struggled were the ones who couldn't work well with the paralegals and other support staff."

Clients appreciate having a full, supportive team working on their cases, she adds. "It's a win for everyone."



ACCELERATED JD PROGRAM ENABLES DEGREES IN LESS TIME

Suffolk Law got its start in 1906 as an evening law school that offered students the flexibility they needed to get a legal education while continuing to work. Student needs continue to evolve, and the Law School's new Accelerated JD program seeks to address one of those needs: finishing law school faster.

Accelerated JD students graduate more quickly than traditional JD students—two years instead of three for the full-time program or two and a half to three years instead of four for the part-time evening program. The Accelerated JD caters to those who have already spent some years in a professional setting before returning to study law, such as students who have a PhD and are working as patent agents.

The requirements are the same as for the traditional JD program—same number of credits, same tuition, same required courses. Students finish faster by taking classes the summer before

the 1L year and by taking classes in subsequent summers.

Admission into the Accelerated JD program is competitive, and students must have even stronger academic credentials than the typical first-year law student. The Law School launched the program in 2018, and the first class of students will earn their degrees in 2020.

Suffolk Law was the first law school in Massachusetts to launch an accelerated JD program, and one of only 21 nationwide at the time.

"Suffolk Law was founded on the idea that aspiring lawyers should have some flexibility in how they obtain a legal education," Associate Dean of Admission Matthew Gavin said. "In 1906, that meant offering classes at night so law students could work during the day. In 2020, that means letting law students earn their degree faster, so they can rejoin the workforce sooner."



NOBEL COMMITTEE LAUDS ALUMNA'S PATENT WORK

Dr. Sonia Guterman JD'00 was cited by the Nobel Committee for Chemistry when it announced two winners of the 2018 Nobel Prize in Chemistry. Her co-invented patent in the area of protein engineering helped lay the groundwork for later innovations by George P. Smith and Gregory P. Winter, who won for their work in "the phage display of peptides and antibodies." Guterman was cited in a Nobel Committee paper laying out the history of advances in the laureates' field of research.

Guterman, originally a biochemist, and her then-associate Robert C. Ladner created and licensed a library of mutated proteins, which enabled researchers to create more effective medicines. Work in this area of chemistry began in the 1940s, said Dr. Guterman, who in 1971 received her PhD in microbiology from MIT after studying under Nobel laureate Salvadore E. Luria, an Italian-born bacteriologist.

After earning her PhD, Guterman served as vice president for research at biopharmaceutical firm Protein Engineering Corp., which later became the Dyax Corporation. She returned to school in 1996, receiving her JD in 2000 while working full-time. She was named partner and chair of the Patent Group at Lawson & Weitzen LLP, and she now serves as principal at intellectual property law firm Armis.

"I love Suffolk Law, and Suffolk Law made me into a lawyer," she said. "The satisfaction of being a lawyer is different from being in science, and also wonderful—thrilling, actually.

"Suffolk Law was collegial from the first day. We were all in it together. I remember that September in 1996, professors showed us the library—how to do legal research. We were given the tools and taught how to use them. When I studied science for my PhD, it was like being thrown into a pond without knowing how to swim."



Suffolk Law students in
Connemara, County Galway

SPAIN, IRELAND PROGRAMS GIVE STUDENTS A GLOBAL VIEW

REAL MADRID

Approximately 25 law students will head to Suffolk University's Madrid campus during spring break to learn about Spanish law and its relationship to the European Union, among other topics. The campus, founded in 1995, sits just four miles from Madrid's city center.

The Madrid visit is part of a new course that starts in Boston with classes on the Spanish and EU legal systems. Field trips will include visits with European Union officials at the EU's Madrid offices.

GALWAY DAYS

In May, students in the Suffolk Law summer course at the National University of Ireland (NUI) Galway wrestled with some complex legal questions. An example: whether the EU's bylaws will allow it to maintain its pollution emissions requirements post-Brexit and despite some EU countries' reliance on coal.

Professor Sara Dillon, director of international programs at the Law School, and Suffolk Law alumnus Lawrence "Larry" Donnelly JD'99, an Irish American attorney and director of NUI Galway's clinical program, have been instrumental in organizing the summer program and helping Suffolk's students land valuable internships at major Irish nonprofits and government organizations. The course included a visit to the Dublin headquarters of Twitter to meet with the company's chief legal officer for Europe, the Middle East, and Asia, who discussed legal issues facing the company arising from bots and hacking.

"The work of lawyers is increasingly focusing on transnational issues—digital privacy rights and climate change are good examples," says Dillon. "We're asking our Galway and Madrid program students to delve into matters that cross borders, cultures, legal systems. It's complex, sophisticated, and important work—and for many students, it can also be life changing."

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REMEMBERING NICK BUONICONTI: SUFFOLK GRAD AND NFL LEGEND

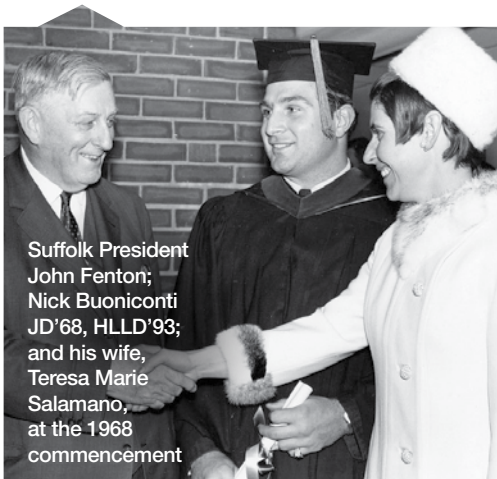
Former NFL star Nick Buoniconti JD'68, HLLD'93 died July 30, 2019, leaving behind a notable legacy. Among other contributions, he had an impact on research into paralysis and chronic traumatic encephalopathy (CTE) that is impossible to measure.

After attending the University of Notre Dame, Buoniconti was selected by the Boston Patriots in the 13th round of the AFL draft in 1962. He was inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 2001 after a remarkable football career that included winning two Super Bowls with the Miami Dolphins and covering the sport as a commentator for 23 years.

While Buoniconti was still playing for the Boston Patriots, he managed to make time to attend Suffolk Law. He earned his JD in 1968, was a member of the bar in Florida and Massachusetts, and received an honorary doctor of laws in 1993.

After Buoniconti's son, Marc, suffered a paralyzing injury while playing football at The Citadel, the two resolved to increase paralysis research, creating the Miami Project to Cure Paralysis and the Buoniconti Fund to Cure Paralysis, which have raised over \$450 million. In 2017, Buoniconti announced an especially personal pledge: donating his brain and spinal cord to CTE research, citing the damage his own body had endured as a result of repeated head collisions in football.

Truly a champion in so many ways, Buoniconti said of his donation: "I don't do this for myself ... I do it for the thousands of others who will follow me."



Suffolk President John Fenton; Nick Buoniconti JD'68, HLLD'93; and his wife, Teresa Marie Salamano, at the 1968 commencement

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STUDENTS ARGUE BEFORE U.S. SUPREME COURT JUSTICE

In a national securities law competition judged by U.S. Supreme Court Justice Samuel Alito and other federal court judges, Suffolk Law students won the award for best brief and finished second overall among 30 schools. The Kaufman Competition was held in March at Fordham University.

"It was quite the radical transformation to get me to a place where I could take hardball questions from circuit court judges and Justice Alito," says 3L Dylan Woods. In his first oral argument practice with Professor Joseph Franco, a former attorney in the office of the General Counsel of the Securities and Exchange Commission, Woods made some classic mistakes: "I came up with a fully typed, several page speech, which I read robotically line by line, swaying, gripping the podium. Professor Franco, week after week, got me to look him in the eye and make my argument."

The National Trial Team was also victorious last spring, winning the regional championships of the National Trial Competition in Portland, Maine. Jake Hasson JD'19 walked away with the Best Advocate award.

The Suffolk Law team won the Duberstein Bankruptcy National Moot Court regional championship as well. Armand Santaniello JD'19 received the outstanding oralist award.

YOU MIGHT CALL IT A DYNASTY

- ▶ The Law School's trial teams have won the regionals of the National Trial Competition or the American Association for Justice's Student Trial Advocacy Competition 29 times in the last 34 years.
- ▶ Our Trial Advocacy Program placed 15th in the country in *U.S. News & World Report's* 2020 rankings guide, its fourth year in a row in the top 20. **SL**

SUFFOLK LAW LOOKS TO THE FUTURE

A BREAKDOWN OF RECENT
ACHIEVEMENTS IN INNOVATION

#1

LEGAL TECHNOLOGY

LEGAL INNOVATION LEADER

National Jurist/preLaw named Suffolk the best school in the U.S. for legal tech.

“SUFFOLK IS ONE OF THE MOST INNOVATIVE FORCES IN LEGAL EDUCATION”

—*preLaw Magazine*



SUFFOLK LAW R&D

The Legal Innovation & Technology (LIT) Lab is Suffolk's consultancy and R&D shop, working with attorneys, courts, and legal aid agencies to offer legal tech and data science solutions.

NEXT-GENERATION JOBS

Legal Innovation and Technology Concentration graduates have landed jobs that did not exist 10 years ago: legal innovation advisor, legal solutions architect, legal project manager, and NextGen Fellow.



GOING MOBILE

The ABA's Center for Innovation NextGen Fellow and LIT Fellow Nicole Siino JD'18 created a mobile tool for judges and lawyers to help juveniles avoid jail time.



ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Brian Kuhn JD'07 is partner, co-founder, and global leader of Watson Legal, IBM's artificial intelligence legal platform.



BLOOMBERG COVERAGE: “RETRAINING LEGAL INDUSTRY”

In 2018, Suffolk Law launched its online Legal Innovation & Technology Certificate program taught by legal industry leaders. The program has drawn students from five different continents. Bloomberg covered the launch.



We're preparing students for 21st-century legal employment through a range of cutting-edge curricular initiatives. The nerve center is our Institute on Legal Innovation and Technology (LIT).

INNOVATION AWARD WINNER

The LIT Lab was named a 2019 InnovAction Award Winner by the College of Law Practice Management in recognition of the Lab's cutting-edge public service, data science, and artificial intelligence projects.

GLOBAL GAME- CHANGER



The LIT Lab's crowdsourcing tool Learned Hands, co-developed with Stanford's Legal Design Lab, was one of 30 World Justice Challenge finalists—a shortlist of the world's most innovative access-to-justice projects.



PEW GRANT FOR AI PROJECT

The LIT Lab recently received a grant—its second—from the Pew Charitable Trusts. The funding will help create an algorithm that can spot legal issues in the language a layperson uses when searching online for legal information.

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The Cosgroves look over the tree they planted in honor of Graciela Rojas-Trabal, near the lakeside home in Wareham where she was a summer guest.

\$1M Donation

to Suffolk honors an influential grandmother

She grew up in poverty, the mother of seven, grandmother of 14, and the matriarch of a close-knit neighborhood in her native Dominican Republic, where she taught others what genuine riches really look like.

This column, by Thomas Farragher, appeared in the *Boston Globe* on September 5, 2019.

Her treasure was not kept in a bank account. It could not be measured in stocks and bonds.

It was simpler than that. Closer. Within arm's reach.

Her big family. Her grandchildren. A home that became a haven to anyone who needed a meal, a spare bed, or a sympathetic smile during the rough patches of life.

What did Graciela Rojas-Trabal's family learn from her?

"To be respectful. To be loyal," her granddaughter Ingrid Cosgrove told me the other day on the porch of her family's home here. "She was a loving woman. She was not rich. She worked in poverty. She was a poor woman, but if she had one hundred dollars and she knew you needed forty, she would give it to you.

"If she knew you were struggling with something, she would be there for you. And she would help you."

Graciela died in 2017 at the age of 86, but now her family has found a way to keep her legacy alive. It's a remarkable gift that will carry her name and will honor the woman who prayed the holy rosary each afternoon at 3 o'clock, a woman whose welcoming message was always this: Come in. Have a seat. Let's share a meal.

Suffolk University Law School in September announced a \$1 million gift that Ingrid Cosgrove's husband, health care venture capitalist Barry C. Cosgrove JD'85, said will help students like him, the son of a single mom who has become one of the Law School's most generous supporters.

"Hopefully, there will be a lot of kids like me from Brockton who have promise, but don't have the confidence and don't have the means to go to a place like Suffolk where there is rigor, but they also care," Cosgrove said. "That's a nice formula."

It's a formula born out of a relationship that blossomed, remarkably enough, during the Red Sox historic 2004 championship season, when the New York Yankees won the first three games of a seven-game series before fortunes turned, history was made, and a curse was broken.

Barry and Ingrid watched one of the games of that titanic series in Miami, where from across a hotel lobby they first caught each other's attention.

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"I thought she was beautiful," Cosgrove, 62, told me the other day. "She didn't speak English. I didn't speak Spanish. She had four kids. Who would believe that we would meet? It was meant to be."

By the time they met, Ingrid, 50, was a widow with four children. They fell in love and got married in 2009. By then, Barry had met the woman at the center of his new love's universe: Graciela.

"She helped me raise my kids," Ingrid said of her grandmother. "They call her grandma. For them, she's their grandma. You can't say anything bad about my grandma with them. They just love her."

Her children recall Suffolk University's newest scholarship namesake as the sweet soul who taught them about faith, about kindness, about what loving your neighbor really looks like. As they grew, their grandmother became their confidant, their friend, and their true north. When she took out the rosary beads each afternoon at 3:00, they witnessed how unwavering faith is practiced.

For Barry Cosgrove, whose own father abandoned his family when Cosgrove was just a little boy, she personified what family life should be.

Cosgrove is the founder of a dialysis company and has spent much of his time trying to figure out how to improve the lives of others.

"She had a remarkable and genuine ability to make people know she cared about them," he said. "She raised her own kids and other people's kids as well. She was a giver, not a taker. This gift will continue her giving."

When she died in late January 2017, there were nine days of services in Santo Domingo. More than 200 mourners lined up at the family home. Some slept in chairs or on couches. Buses transported her friends and family to the cemetery after her funeral Mass.

They recalled the woman whose morning greeting never changed.

"*Bendición*," she would say. "Blessings."

"We have tried to keep her house the way she had it," Ingrid Cosgrove said. "Everybody who goes on vacation in the Dominican, they go there to stay. She always told everyone, 'This is the maternal house. This is the house for everyone.'"

Money from the \$1 million scholarship fund will soon be disbursed. Suffolk is looking for applications. It would be wonderful if the applicants are required to learn a little something about the woman whose name adorns that scholarship.

Barry Cosgrove, who once swept the floors at Cardinal Spellman High School in Brockton, would like that.

And so would Dean Andrew Perlman of the Suffolk Law School.

"What I love about this gift is that it's so true to Suffolk's identity," Perlman told me the other day. "Suffolk got started as a school in 1906 and was intended to provide an opportunity for students to get an education when they otherwise wouldn't have one, either because of their race, religion, or national origin. Discrimination was rampant back then. Suffolk was a place that opened doors for people who otherwise didn't have a chance."

Now those doors are being held open by a Dominican woman who quietly, in dozens of small ways, made a huge impression.

"The way Barry is honoring his wife's grandmother represents the kind of person who we have tried to give opportunity to," the Law School dean said. "She was a giving person, and the idea that something is being created in her name that will give opportunity to young people for education is true to our founding vision."

Her family knows what Graciela Rojas-Trabal would have to say about all of this.

"*Bendición*." **SL**

“Hopefully, there will be a lot of kids like me from Brockton who have promise, but don’t have the confidence and don’t have the means to go to a place like Suffolk where there is rigor, but they also care,” Cosgrove said. “That’s a nice formula.”

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NEXT GENERATION



By
Bill Marcus

Photography by
Kathy Chapman

Jessica Promes
JD'19; LIT Lab
Director David
Colarusso;
Chantal
Choi JD'19;
Nicole Siino
JD'18; and
Dean Andrew
Perlman



SPOT ON: EASING ACCESS TO LEGAL INFO

Improving
the civil
legal
system

Getting useful legal information from court and other government websites is a challenge, especially for people who are not lawyers. The sites try to match users with the right resources, but individuals often don't know exactly what to search for. Complicating matters further, laypeople and legal experts use different language, making it hard to match a user's question with a court official's or lawyer's expertise.

As the director of the Legal Innovation and Technology (LIT) Lab at Suffolk Law, David Colarusso is working to change this, thanks to funding from the Pew Charitable Trusts. Along with his LIT Lab students, Colarusso is developing a machine-based algorithm that understands legal queries couched in lay terms, improving access to justice.

Known as Spot, the software will be made publicly available via an application programming interface, or API. It builds on work from 2018, when the Pew Charitable Trusts funded the development of an online game, Learned Hands, created by the LIT Lab and its partners at Stanford Law School's Legal Design Lab. Lawyers, students, and other gamers playing Learned Hands identify and label legal questions posed by laypeople. Each time they play, they're training a machine to spot and sort legal issues.

With this new grant to develop the Spot tool, someone could type a plain-English search query such as: "My apartment is so moldy I can't stay there anymore. Is there anything I can do?" The search results would reveal that the query is highly likely to be related to a housing issue or, more specifically, to the legal term "constructive eviction."

"You know you have a housing problem. But very few people think about their housing problems in terms of something like constructive eviction," explains Colarusso. "The idea is to have the tool be able to spot those issues based upon people's own language."

Colarusso and his students envision Spot being used by courts, legal offices, and nonprofits to direct people to the most appropriate resources—and in some cases even to software, similar to TurboTax, that would walk users through filling out and submitting legal documents. This fall, the LIT Lab was recognized for its game-changing approach with a top honor, the InnovAction Award, from the College of Law Practice Management.

The Lab's API will be available at no charge to those working on access-to-justice issues, says Colarusso.

Erika Rickard, senior official of Civil Legal System Modernization at Pew Charitable Trusts, says the civil legal system is increasingly navigated by people who don't have legal help. Pew has set a goal to modernize the courts' relationship with users and make the legal system more effective and accessible to all, especially low- to moderate-income populations.

"For those people, identifying and understanding their legal issues are the first steps in tackling the problem," she says. "By incorporating Spot, legal information portals can better help these populations successfully navigate the nation's civil courts." **SL**

GAINING GLOBAL ATTENTION

The LIT Lab's Learned Hands crowdsourcing tool, co-created with the Legal Design Lab at Stanford, was shortlisted among 30 of the most innovative access-to-justice projects in the world by the World Justice Project (WJP). The LIT Lab earned an invitation to The Hague for the WJP's World Justice Forum.



By
Michael Fisch

Photograph
courtesy of
Nicole Friederichs

WHEN CULTURAL SURVIVAL IS AT STAKE

Clinic
student
takes case
to UN in
Geneva

Brazil and its environmental news are far away, but Cara Libman JD'19 is playing a role closer to the center of the fray. In April, she crossed time zones and language barriers as a student attorney in the Human Rights and Indigenous Peoples Clinic (HRIPC). Her mission: help an indigenous community facing hardships caused by environmental change.

Libman and Nicole Friederichs JD'03, the director of the HRIPC, traveled to Geneva, Switzerland, this past spring to advocate before a United Nations treaty body. While there, they joined leaders of indigenous communities from central Brazil who were laying out their case for halting and rethinking massive agribusiness infrastructure projects.

“The approach to development is unbalanced, and there’s a culture at stake.”

“Indigenous communities living in the savannah in Mato Grosso [a state about 800 miles from Brasilia, the capital] are up against a booming agricultural export business,” Libman explains. Most of that business is related to soybean exports, and the consequent roads, railroads, and trucking routes being built in and around areas that indigenous people have historically claimed. One road that’s in development will abut the spiritual center of one indigenous group—the home of its origin story.

As one indigenous leader argued in a letter to the UN:



Student
Attorney Cara
Libman JD'19
(second from
left) with HRIPC
Director Nicole
Friederichs
(far right) and
clients at the
United Nations
Office in
Geneva.

“The savannah is the source of our strength. Agribusiness doesn’t just destroy the forest that surrounds our territories. It pollutes the rivers where we perform our rituals, that we bathe in, and the water we drink. It contaminates the air. Because of this, agribusiness is destroying our dreams, the source of our spirituality, and our future. Agribusiness contaminates the animals we eat and the game that is essential for our rituals. Without game, we cannot perform our wedding ceremonies. Agribusiness unbalances the world, the savannah, and threatens the very existence of our people.”

In 2019, before the Geneva trip, the HRIPC, working with indigenous community leaders, submitted a communication to the UN treaty body outlining serious violations of indigenous people’s rights to lands, natural resources, religion, and culture. The document also expressed concerns about the Brazilian government’s commitment to consulting with indigenous groups about the infrastructure projects—as evidenced by the weakening of FUNAI, the Brazilian government authority responsible for protecting the rights of indigenous peoples.

“When the Brazilian government presents its infrastructure plans, building roads and railroad lines, there’s never been an opportunity to reach a consensus,” Friederichs says. “When I talk about the survival of the indigenous peoples of Mato Grosso, it’s cultural, physical, and spiritual. The land is being destroyed where people gather and hunt; the environment is polluted; and the spiritual and cultural life becomes impossible to sustain.”

This May, a month after the Clinic’s advocacy in Geneva, the UN treaty body issued a letter to the Brazilian government calling on it to suspend the infrastructure projects in Matto Grosso until it has properly consulted with the affected indigenous communities and obtained their free, prior, and informed consent.

The Bolsonaro administration may not heed the letter’s findings, but it’s important to put the government on notice that they’re being watched, Friederichs says.

“I understand that there are benefits for agribusiness exporters,” Libman adds, “but the indigenous people aren’t negotiating on a level playing field.” Forests are clear-cut at a time of massive fires in the Amazon; agricultural runoff is contaminating waterways; and plant and animal life is being destroyed, she says. “The approach to development is unbalanced, and there’s a culture at stake.” Through her Suffolk Law clinic experience, Libman is lending her voice to help balance the scales. **SL**

[Editor’s note: Nicole Friederichs JD’03, Director of the Human Rights and Indigenous Peoples Clinic, asked that the indigenous group, indigenous leader, and United Nations body not be named to protect the clinic’s clients from possible retaliation.]



IMPACTFUL ALUMNI

By
Jon Gorey

Photography by
Associated Press



JOSH KOSKOFF TAKES ON THE AR-15

It's an uphill battle, he says, but worth the fight

One advertisement for the AR-15 Bushmaster rifle used to kill 20 first-graders and six educators at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Conn., read: "Consider your man card re-issued." Another said: "Forces of opposition, bow down."

In a case that's earning much media attention and, predictably, generating both political polarization and emotional intensity, attorney Josh Koskoff JD'94 is leading a lawsuit against Remington, the manufacturer of the Bushmaster.

Filed on behalf of some of the Newtown victims' families, the suit argues that Remington irresponsibly marketed its weapon to at-risk young men. The case received an important green light in November when the U.S. Supreme Court rejected an appeal from Remington arguing that a 2005 federal law shielded it from liability. The case will now be sent back to the trial court in Connecticut and proceed with the discovery process.

Koskoff wanted to help after talking to a family friend of slain school teacher Vicki Soto, though he knew next to nothing about gun cases at the time. "The Sandy Hook case really found me, I didn't find it," he says. The case would later prove to be a tipping point in his legal career, which had previously centered mostly on medical malpractice.

"In the Sandy Hook case you have families whose lives have been turned upside down," he says. "They're facing huge legal challenges, but if they can get out of bed in the morning after losing a child, then we have an obligation to help. I find it to be a core motivating belief that I have about how the law should be used."

Koskoff is also representing Sandy Hook families in a defamation suit against Alex Jones, the far-right conspiracy theorist who for years insisted the all-too-real horror in Newtown was a "giant hoax." Those continual false claims took root, leading to sustained harassment, stalking, and even death threats against the already grieving parents.

In another case, Koskoff is suing eight different gunmakers on behalf of a victim of the 2017 Las Vegas mass shooting that left 58 concertgoers dead and more than 500 injured. That shooter had an arsenal of guns stockpiled, but relied entirely on a dozen AR-15s from eight manufacturers to carry out the attack, according to Koskoff. "And they were all equipped with a bump stock," he adds, a simple modification that can make a semi-automatic rifle fire continuously like a machine gun.

Koskoff's suit alleges that "with a reckless lack of regard for public safety, defendant manufacturers courted buyers by advertising their AR-15s as military weapons and signaling the weapon's ability to be simply modified." In response, the manufacturers are likely to argue that the gun is for hunting, self-protection, and target practice and that under current law manufacturers can't be held liable for a gun's illegal misuse.

A LAW SHIELDING GUN MANUFACTURERS

The manufacturers have a strong defense. That's partly because in 2005, Congress passed the Protection of Lawful Commerce in Arms Act (PLCAA), a law intended to shield gun manufacturers from blame when their weapons are used in a crime. Among other arguments, proponents of the PLCAA

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“In the Sandy Hook case you have families whose lives have been turned upside down,” he says. “They’re facing huge legal challenges, but if they can get out of bed in the morning after losing a child, then we have an obligation to help. I find it to be a core motivating belief that I have about how the law should be used.”

argued that it was necessary to protect the gun industry from the high costs incurred in defending unfounded lawsuits.

Koskoff was stunned to learn about the PLCAA, and one thing he hopes to accomplish by filing these suits, he says, is to “shatter the perception” among lawyers, judges, and the firearms industry itself that gunmakers can’t be held accountable for reckless behavior.

The law has some exceptions. According to the *New York Times*, “[t]he [PLCAA] law does allow for [lawsuits] for sale and marketing practices that violate state or federal laws and instances of so-called negligent entrustment, in which a gun is carelessly given or sold to a person posing a high risk of using it.”

Koskoff seeks to broaden the courts’ understanding of those exceptions, which he believes will have a positive effect. “[The law] gives the industry the sense that there’s no conduct too reckless or too unethical or amoral, that they can just do anything regardless of public safety because they can’t get sued,” he says. “Whether that’s true or not, the perception is dangerous.”

THE LAW AS EQUALIZER

Long before Josh Koskoff enrolled at Suffolk Law, he was drawn to a vision of the law shaped by his father and grandfather—trial lawyers in Connecticut who once represented the Black Panthers in New Haven and helped integrate the Bridgeport Police Department during the Civil Rights era.

“They saw the role of the law, in its most idealistic and important way, as the institution that protects individuals from corporate or government abuses, and really as the great equalizer,” Koskoff says. “They seemed to be always on the side of the underdog. It seemed to me an incredibly noble profession.”

Suffolk Law was a great fit for him, he adds. He appreciated that there was a whole cohort

of students who found a way to work during the day and succeed at law school at night, as well as the school’s practical approach. “Suffolk really encouraged you to go out and participate as early as you could in going to court and getting your sea legs under you as a lawyer—feeling what it was like.”

THE FAMILY FIRM

When Koskoff joined the firm founded by his grandfather, Theodore Koskoff, who received an honorary JD from Suffolk in 1980, it took him some time to find his footing as he worked alongside his father, Michael Koskoff.

“I did feel early on a sense of total inadequacy, like I was going to torpedo the good family name,” Koskoff reflects. “It took a long time, but over many years we became more like colleagues at work who enjoyed challenging each other and coming up with different ideas for cases. But we didn’t work on a lot of cases together.”

That changed after Koskoff’s father was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. The prominent attorney passed away in April at the age of 77, but before he did, he asked his son to work with him on one last lawsuit. “When he got sick, he wanted to make sure the case was in good shape, and it was my incredible honor to work with him on it,” Koskoff says.

He hasn’t forgotten his father’s idealism and belief in the promise of the law to protect everyone.

“There’s definitely a perception that the law is unfair, that it favors the rich and powerful, that it’s weighted against minorities—and that perception is not invalid,” he says. “But any case I could handle that could change that perception, that could give people more confidence that the law exists for everybody and not just a few people at the top, I’ll take that chance.” **SL**



IMPACTFUL ALUMNI

By
Seth Jones

Photography by
Kent Smith



HOOP DREAMS COME TRUE FOR DAVID DUQUETTE

Team counsel for NBA's Charlotte Hornets shares how he got there

It was a 1-in-1,000 shot, but David Duquette JD/MBA'10 was willing to take it—again and again—until he succeeded.

“My first three years in Boston, I probably wrote a couple hundred letters and sent them out to various NBA teams, just trying to make contact and get my foot in the door,” Duquette says. “I wasn’t sure if I’d get a break or not.”

Today, Duquette works as the director of basketball strategy/team counsel for the NBA’s Charlotte Hornets in North Carolina.

He has served in multiple roles for the Hornets as his job has evolved and grown. Using his legal background, his primary duties are player contracts and acting as a liaison with the league office. But Duquette also scouts both pro and college players and does background research on players. Establishing the Greensboro Swarm, the Hornets’ minor league team, was another responsibility.

It’s a long way from Duquette’s unpaid internship with the Minnesota Timberwolves. Over the years, he had made a connection with longtime NBA executive Rob Babcock (recently deceased) of the Timberwolves. In 2009, Babcock called out of the blue and asked Duquette, who was in his first year at Suffolk Law, “How soon can you be here?”

Duquette’s response was the right one: “How soon do you need me?” The answer: in three days.

“I said, ‘Sure, I’ll be there,’” Duquette recalls. “This was the break I was looking for. I picked up my life and moved to Minnesota for the summer.”

Duquette worked hard that summer and was offered a paid internship—minimum wage—as the team’s basketball operations intern. He took classes at the University of Minnesota as a visiting student and traveled back to Suffolk to take three- and four-day intensive courses. After passing the bar, Duquette was hired full-time by the Timberwolves as a basketball operations assistant. In 2011, he accepted the same position with the Charlotte Hornets.

“For somebody who didn’t have any connection to this world, it’s a dream come true,” he says. “The NBA is very much an apprenticeship kind of league. Whether you played or came into the league some other way, most people start at the bottom ... and once your foot is in the door, it’s up to you how high you’re going to go.”

Duquette’s target was always the NBA. He interned with a sports agent and also worked for the PGA Tour, but professional basketball was his No. 1 goal.

“For someone like myself who grew up idolizing Michael [Jordan] as a kid, it’s pretty surreal for the last eight years to work for him,” Duquette says of Michael Jordan, a six-time NBA champion, who also is principal owner of the Hornets. “You hear that voice, it’s very iconic. He’s been awesome as an owner; he’s admirable from a number of different perspectives.”

Looking back at his time at Suffolk, Duquette says his goal may have seemed unlikely, but no one ever discouraged him from going for it. Suffolk “positioned me perfectly. They gave me the resources and the latitude to pursue the passion,” he says. “Everyone was always positive about me pursuing this, always supportive.”

Now that he is living the basketball life, Duquette, a married father of one, says he wouldn’t change a thing about his hoop dreams career.

“Most people go to law school and they find the field that they enjoy ... corporate law, tax law, you’re a litigator,” Duquette says. “For me, the subject matter is NBA players. Everything about the NBA is enjoyable to me.” **SL**

“The NBA is very much an apprenticeship kind of league. Whether you played or came into the league some other way, most people start at the bottom.”

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By
Katy Ibsen

Photography by
Mark Wilson



THE CONNECTOR:
**CARMEN
ARCE-BOWEN**

One graduate's quest to build a more inclusive Boston

Mentoring is cyclical. And in Boston, it's possible that no one knows that more than Carmen Arce-Bowen LLM'06.

Arce-Bowen serves as the chief operating officer of The Partnership Inc., a nonprofit organization dedicated to the development of increased diversity in Boston businesses and corporate America—which is a simple way to describe the impact she has made on Boston's multicultural and underrepresented communities.

"Boston is a majority-minority city, and we know that diversity spikes innovation, and we know that we're better off when we are together," she says, highlighting the importance of a more diverse workforce, especially in leadership positions. With the U.S. Census Bureau estimating that people of color in the United States will outnumber Caucasians by 2042, corporate leadership that reflects the actual population is vital to business success, she argues.

In her role as COO, Arce-Bowen manages finances, events, program content, and recruitment for The Partnership's leadership development programs. The organization was founded in 1987 to focus on the advancement of African Americans in corporate Boston, an issue that has long been a challenge for the city and its business community. Over time, The Partnership has evolved to focus on helping a broad range of organizations build racially and ethnically diverse leadership pipelines while helping multicultural professionals rise and thrive in the workforce.

Arce-Bowen is emerging as an important voice among a new generation of leaders in Boston who are focused on increasing opportunities for professionals of color.

Arce-Bowen mentors a diverse group of people, helping them tap into networks and find opportunities to work with corporations, nonprofits, political organizations, and, most importantly, the communities they represent.

"That is something that in many ways comes naturally to me—that's what other people have done for me," she says.

Elizabeth Tran, director of constituent affairs at the Massachusetts State Senate, met Arce-Bowen through a career mentoring program. Tran says Arce-Bowen helped her consider opportunities ranging from applying to the Peace Corps to exploring graduate programs and attending Asian American political advocacy events.

"The incredible characteristic of Carmen as a mentor is that she listens to my goals and then digs into her expansive network to connect me with helpful people and resources that can provide guidance and information," Tran says. "I am incredibly fortunate to have her as my career mentor."

In the arc of her own career, Arce-Bowen notes the influence of Carol Fulp, former president of The Partnership. "Carol has been the most impactful mentor I have had in my career. She is a person who deeply cares about developing the next generation of leaders in our community," she says.

Fulp, who received an honorary doctorate from Suffolk's Sawyer Business School in

2017, is now CEO of her own diversity consultancy. Fulp explains that Arce-Bowen reflects the next generation of leaders in Boston. "She is diverse, energetic, innovative, and global in her thinking. She's incredibly committed, and brings a broad perspective," says Fulp of Arce-Bowen.

When Arce-Bowen moved to the U.S. from Mexico in 2005, she struggled at first to understand the challenges and racial disparities facing American communities of color. "We talk about class more than about race," she says of her native land. "When I came here, I didn't have all these thoughts about race—or preconceptions ... When [my peers] faced a challenge, at the beginning I asked them, 'Why is that happening?'" And she wondered, would she start to have similar experiences?

She saw race issues through a slightly different lens, and that view has ultimately become an advantage.

"I almost feel like I'm able to see race relations from the outside and then from inside," she says.

That ability to be both outsider and insider, sometimes simultaneously, may stem from the communities she has embraced over the years. There's her family in Mazatlán, Mexico; her academic community in Guadalajara, Mexico, where she earned her LLB at Universidad Panamericana and met her now-husband, James Bowen JD'06; her Suffolk Law community; and the professional communities she developed as director of personnel and administration for Massachusetts Governor Deval Patrick.

Arce-Bowen has long felt a pull toward community building, which led her toward nonprofit service and work with a number of social justice and grassroots organizations. Suffolk Law's deep roots in local communities were an important draw for her, she says.

Arce-Bowen says it's never too early to start setting goals and building a network.

She's determined that her 9-year-old daughter, Pilar, will understand that the sky isn't even a limit. As a family, they are exploring Pilar's current dream job: space researcher.

"I just want her to know that anything that she wants is possible as long as she really wants it. And she can always find a way to make those hopes and those dreams come true," Arce-Bowen says.

And you're never too young to start making your way. When Pilar gripes about only being 9, her mother responds, "Kid, I want you to start learning how to tap into your own network!" **SL**



IMPACTFUL ALUMNI

By
Stephanie
Schorow

Photography by
Mark Wilson

B. STEPHANIE SIEGMANN IS TENACIOUS AGAINST TERRORISM



The first female chief of the National Security Unit of the Massachusetts U.S. Attorney's Office opens up

Politicians talk about fighting terrorism, but B. Stephanie Siegmann JD'97 has looked dangerous extremists square in the eyes and figured out how to get them behind bars.

One of the nation's top anti-terrorism prosecutors, she serves as the chief of the National Security Unit of the Massachusetts U.S. Attorney's Office, the first woman to serve in the prestigious position.

"Democracy is under attack by these individuals," says Siegmann, with an edge to her voice. "I don't know how long that will continue. But this does shake you and make you want to do something positive to help prevent future attacks."

In an interview, Siegmann overflows with enthusiasm; words pour out of her in gusts. When asked about this intensity, she says, "I think it all comes from my background. I had to fight so hard to get here, and it was always a struggle. So I look at each day as a new opportunity. What can I do today?"

Siegmann's desire to be a lawyer dates to her youth growing up in New Jersey. When she was only 10 months old, her father, an enlisted service member in the Air Force, was killed by a drunk driver. Her mother told her details of her father's death when she was 12 years old and that he had hoped to become a lawyer. Stephanie resolved to become a lawyer to honor his memory. Her path would not be easy.

Her mother and stepfather were not well off, and no one in her family had attended college. Three months before she entered Boston University as a freshman, her stepfather lost his job. By Siegmann's sophomore year, she was deep in debt and was asked to leave the university.

She began working full time as a paralegal and was admitted into the University of Massachusetts Boston in 1991. In her senior year, she came home to find her roommate gone and learned that she had stolen all the money Siegmann had given her for rent. Just three months before graduation, she owed \$3,000 and faced eviction. Siegmann marshaled her energy,

asked the university for help getting a loan, and graduated on time in May 1994, heading straight to law school.

"Suffolk opened up a whole new world for me," she says. She was selected for the *Suffolk University Law Review* and graduated magna cum laude. She then served as a lieutenant in the Judge Advocate General's Corps in the U.S. Navy for three years, prosecuting cases ranging from murder to rape to child abuse.

After joining the U.S. Attorney's Office in the District of Massachusetts as an assistant U.S. attorney in 2003, she quickly became known for her tenacity. She didn't waste time jockeying for prominent cases—instead she took on cases in areas like export control. It wasn't "sexy," but she told herself, "I have to work harder than anybody else to prove myself."

Her attitude paid off. Siegmann went on to prosecute numerous high-profile domestic and international terrorism cases, including the Boston Marathon bombing obstruction case and cases of conspiracy to provide material support to ISIS and al Qaeda. She also successfully prosecuted a case involving a Chinese citizen who ran a network supplying material to Iran's nuclear weapons program.

In June 2018, she was named chief of the National Security Unit, the unit in which she has worked since 2004.

Former Acting U.S. Attorney William "Bill" Weinreb served as the lead prosecutor on *United States v. Dzhokhar Tsarnaev* and supervised Siegmann's work. He calls her one of the country's most experienced national security prosecutors and a leading expert in cases involving the illegal export of controlled technology.

"She has also been a leader in helping DOJ, other government agencies, and private industry work together to maximize the effectiveness of government enforcement efforts," he says. "She is a star in the courtroom, in the classroom, and in the conference room—she does it all." **SL**

"Don't waste your time fighting over high-profile cases; you can make your mark in taking on something that maybe no one else has done but where you can prove yourself."

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WHY MASSACHUSETTS SHOULD PASS THE **FACIAL RECOGNITION MORATORIUM ACT**



**THOUGHT
LEADERS**



Commentary by
Gabe Teninbaum,
Professor and
Director of the
Legal Innovation
& Technology
Institute

Massachusetts recently marked the 150th anniversary of one of the most damaging errors in scientific history. In 1868, a French scientist, Étienne Léopold Trouvelot, imported a new breed of caterpillar to the state. He knew that American silk-spinning caterpillars were susceptible to disease, so he hoped to hybridize them with new imports. In actuality, he imported gypsy moths. The moths promptly escaped, spread, and became an environmental scourge. Now, they defoliate 1 million acres of American forest a year, costing \$868 million.

As a professor focused on teaching law students how to deploy new technologies, I have seen the digital equivalent of gypsy moths unleashed at a scale unimaginable in the 19th century. The proliferation of face and biometric recognition technologies are particularly concerning. These tools secretly record us when we're in public, and then store our information in databases to make us instantly recognizable by our voice, retinas, face, or gait. Police in Massachusetts are currently using biometric recognition technology—scanning photos in the Registry of Motor Vehicles' database to search for suspects in criminal investigations, for instance—without any legislative approval or judicial oversight.

Biometric recognition tools are not only in use here. They have also been used in China, where the government deploys them to efficiently round up religious minorities and police petty crimes like jaywalking. If you think that sort of abuse is unimaginable in America, consider the recent revelation that federal authorities distributed a secret list of activists, lawyers, and reporters to stop for added scrutiny at the border because of their criticism of the current administration's policies.

In addition to raising privacy concerns, these tools can also be inaccurate. In one recent test, Amazon's facial recognition tool falsely identified 28 members of Congress. It also disproportionately misidentified people of color, tagging them as people who had been arrested for a crime. The tools not only steal our anonymity—they may tell police we are someone we are not.

Even tech companies that stand to profit are sounding the alarm. Google recently announced it would not release a general face surveillance product "before working through the important technology and policy questions." Microsoft's president published a blog post calling for the government to step in and regulate the technology.

We should heed these warnings, before the situation spirals out of control. Thankfully, lawmakers in Massachusetts have introduced a bill, known as the Face Surveillance Moratorium Act, that recognizes the dangers unregulated biometric surveillance poses to our basic rights and freedoms. The bill says that, before we use these tools, we need to debate how, when, and why they're to be used, and decide who will have oversight to prevent abuse. Notably, the act doesn't permanently ban the technology. Instead, it follows the path recommended by the tech giants

**"We
should
heed these
warnings,
before the
situation
spirals out
of control."**

who created them: Consider their use carefully, and legislate accordingly.

The proper balance between authority and privacy is personal for me, not only because I care about democracy, but also because of my own background in law enforcement.

As a young man, I served as an operations support technician in the U.S. Secret Service, spanning the period before and after 9/11. Protecting our highest officials and supporting criminal investigations was among the highest honors in my life. But more than a decade after returning my badge and gun, I received an alarming letter from the federal government. It said the government had been hacked by foreign agents, and I was one of millions of federal employees whose security forms had been stolen. A foreign, hostile government had gotten our complete files, including dozens of pages detailing employees' backgrounds, beliefs, family and friendships, and financial information.

My file was supposedly kept in a "secure" computer database. Reality proved otherwise. In the end, the Chinese government got my secrets and Uncle Sam gave me five years of free credit monitoring for my trouble. I wish our government had paused to analyze the safeguards that were supposed to have kept my confidential data safe.

From gypsy moths to privacy-invading technologies, the butterfly effect can morph a tiny ripple into a hugely destructive force. In the case of face recognition software, we still have time to pause, and we should do so by passing the Face Surveillance Moratorium Act. **SL**

This essay was originally published on Cognoscenti, wbur.org's ideas and opinion page. It was reposted with permission. You can read the original piece at www.wbur.org/cognoscenti.

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THOUGHT LEADERS

Story by
Michael Fisch

Photography by
Michael J. Clarke



Professor David Yamada

LEADING AT THE INTERSECTION OF WELL-BEING AND THE LAW

Suffolk Law faculty share insights on workplace bullying legislation, positive psychology, and a tool for mindful lawyering

Periodic scientific surveys conducted by the Workplace Bullying Institute estimate that one-third of America's workers have been a target of workplace bullying at some point during their careers—but unlike most countries in Europe and South America, the U.S. lacks laws to address the phenomenon.

In Massachusetts, 109 of the state's 200 legislators have co-sponsored the Healthy Workplace Bill, written by Professor David Yamada, director of the Institute. The legislation gives severely bullied workers a cause of action and creates legal incentives for employers to prevent and respond to workplace bullying.

Yamada's legislation is just one of many reasons he received the Bruce Winick Award

for outstanding contributions to the field of therapeutic jurisprudence this past summer at the International Congress on Law and Mental Health in Rome. Therapeutic jurisprudence analyzes whether laws and legal systems promote or detract from the advancement of psychological well-being and human dignity.

The field uses research and insights to produce practical legal and policy outcomes, Yamada says: "Look at bureaucratic forms, for example. Do they lead to resolution of a problem or promote conflict? One therapeutic jurisprudence study looks at ways to improve a state's marital dissolution form and revises it to promote a peaceful and less stressful resolution."

The workplace bullying bill's language is modeled on the law of sexual harassment

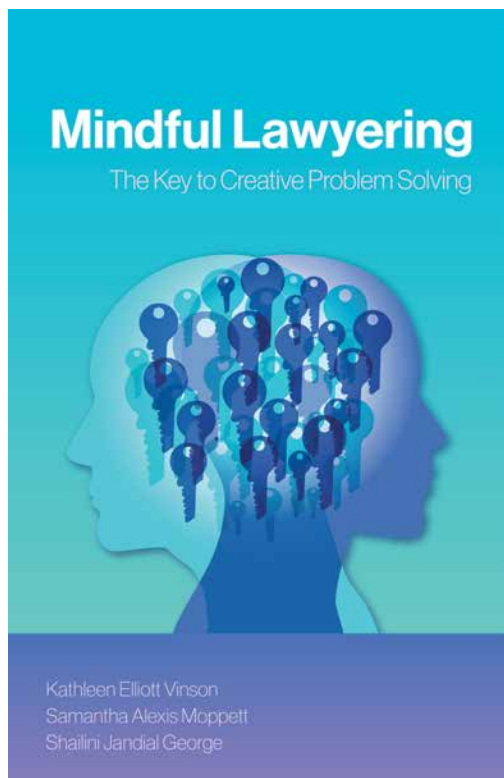
under Title VII and doesn't make it overly easy to sue. "I set the bar higher for recovery—you need to show intent to harm," Yamada says. "We need to open this door carefully."

One of Yamada's former students, Massachusetts State Representative Danielle Gregoire JD'06, says that the law professor's policy efforts have had a ripple effect across the country: "It was at his urging that I co-sponsored his legislation to ban workplace bullying, and I'm happy to continue our work together to see this bill become law so we can better protect Bay State employees."

The legislation is a good example of the practical nature of the therapeutic jurisprudence movement, Yamada says: "There's not a lot of pretension in the field."



MORE ON WELL-BEING AND THE LAW



MINDFUL, FOCUSED—AND A LAW STUDENT
Mindful Lawyering: The Key to Creative Problem Solving
Professors Kathleen Elliott Vinson JD’95, Samantha Alexis Moppett JD’95, and Shailini Jandial George

Professors Vinson, Moppett, and George wrote their book, *Mindful Lawyering: The Key to Creative Problem Solving*, as a practical tool to help law students and attorneys develop focus and creative approaches to solving problems—in a climate dominated by mobile phones, constant interruptions, and stressful deadlines. Lessons from the book are applied as part of the Law School’s Wellness Wednesdays program, which Vinson pioneered. The program teaches students strategies to cope with stress, enhance focus, develop healthy habits, and increase community.

THINK LIKE A LAWYER— BUT NOT AT YOUR OWN EXPENSE

Professor Lisle Baker
“Integrating Positive Psychology Into Legal Education”
48 *Southwestern Law Review* 295 (2019)

“Positive psychology” may sound like a phrase from a sunny self-help book, but it’s actually the scientific study of well-being. And it can be used to help law students have a healthier educational experience and outlook.

Since 2017, Professor Lisle Baker has led a national conference at the Law School, “Integrating Positive Psychology Into Legal Education.” Baker earned a master’s degree in the discipline from the University of Pennsylvania in 2016.

So how might the field’s work help law students? Baker’s *Southwestern Law Review* article explores ideas offered by positive psychology conference participants, including an insight shared by psychologist Dr. Larry Richard, an expert on lawyer behavior.

Richard argued that attorneys’ skepticism, which can be so helpful in court, may not be as helpful at home or, even worse, counterproductive if turned inward excessively. Richard reported that skepticism is a characteristic of 90% of the attorneys he has surveyed over the years, far higher than the norm for other occupational groups.

Based on that insight, professors and support staff might remind law students that they are being trained to be professional skeptics and to use that particular tool consciously, when it’s specifically needed.

Making use of insights from applied positive psychology is important at Suffolk, which has signed on to the American Bar Association’s Well-Being Pledge, a national effort to reduce the levels of stress and substance abuse in the legal profession. The pledge has been endorsed by many leading law firms as well as the Office of the Massachusetts Attorney General. **SL**



THOUGHT LEADERS

By
Michael Fisch

Photography by
Ben Gebo



Associate Dean Leah
Chan Grinvald

TOUGH GIG:

DOES TRADEMARK LAW NEED A MAKEOVER?

Associate Dean Leah Chan Grinvald on rethinking trademark law for the “gig economy”

In a new world where millions work for “gig economy” platforms like Uber and food-delivery service DoorDash, the courts are trying to sort out who’s an employee and who’s a contractor. However, another critical digital commerce question is getting less attention: Does the structure of these platforms require a new set of trademark laws?

Associate Dean and Intellectual Property Professor Leah Chan Grinvald addresses this question in “Platform Law and the Brand Enterprise” (*Berkeley Technology Law Journal*, Vol. 32, 2018, with Professor Sonia Katyal). We spoke with Grinvald this fall.

WHAT PROBLEM DOES YOUR ARTICLE ADDRESS?

In our paper, Sonia and I refer to platforms like Airbnb, Etsy, and Uber as “macrobrands.” These sites host a bunch of smaller businesses that we call “microbrands”—the people driving for Uber or renting out their homes on Airbnb, for example.

Many companies are sending the macrobrands takedown notices, alleging trademark violations on the part of individual gig workers—the microbrands. For example, Airbnb might receive a notice from Marriott to take down a listing by someone with the last name of Marriott who is hosting their room or house on the platform. Those allegations are frequently unsupported by the facts; but because there’s no efficient or economical legal process available to assess and challenge allegations, the hosts—the macrobrands—honor the takedown requests.

Macrobrands won’t be able to survive if they’re regularly forced to take down the pages of the small businesses that are the heart of their enterprises. And gig economy workers find their lives turned upside down.

CAN YOU GIVE US AN EXAMPLE OF HOW THIS PLAYS OUT IN THE REAL WORLD?

One example involves an artist who was selling Frida Kahlo dolls on Etsy. The Frida Kahlo Corporation sent a takedown notice. Etsy complied, even though the case is extremely complex and it’s not clear at all that the Kahlo estate actually has the rights to the trademark. And if they do have rights, it’s still not clear that the Kahlo trademark has been infringed by this artist. Etsy’s position is that current trademark law forces them to take down their users’ sites or face legal challenges, possibly even monetary damages.

ARE THE MACROBRANDS TRYING TO CHANGE TRADEMARK LAW?

Yes. Etsy teamed up with Foursquare, Kickstarter, Meetup, and Shapeways to ask the government for a change in trademark law that would provide a new set of legal protections for macrobrands—similar to the existing rules in copyright law.

One of the macrobrands looked at all of the takedown requests it had received in a year and argued that a large majority of those requests were marginal. The macrobrand nevertheless felt compelled to comply because it didn’t have the resources to fight so many requests.

The current system, essentially automatic takedown on request, regardless of validity, isn’t fair—and it’s not economically sustainable. It places macrobrands in a situation where they’re working against their own business model and often ignoring the important goals of trademark laws. One of those goals is to balance a trademark owner’s rights with the individual right to satirize and make political statements, a careful balance that is ignored when platforms don’t fight back.

Our paper lays out a set of recommendations for changes in the law that we think would help level the playing field for microbrands, protect free speech, and still protect trademark holders. **SL**



Global Citizen
**PAYS IT
FORWARD**

**Marie-Louise Skafte
credits former dean with
academic opportunity**

Law school and three jobs

Her time at Suffolk Law was far more modest. To stay afloat, Skafte worked three jobs, including stints as an intern at Massport, where she later took a full-time position as the airport business office's first attorney. Her office building was right on the tarmac, she says. "I remember taking down some photo frames and there were huge black outlines on the wall around the frames—and then realizing that it was jet exhaust."

Air quality aside, she adds, the Massport jobs were great building blocks for her; they taught her about the intersection of government, logistics, and business. Since she continued working a part-time side job as a flight attendant (she started after her first year in law school), her office's location at the airport was helpful. It was easy to trade her work clothes for her flight uniform. Other jobs in law school included modeling, working in an Italian restaurant handling take-out orders, and serving as a legal intern to the general counsel at a restaurant chain.

Given her strenuous schedule, getting through law school was itself a logistical challenge, but Skafte says she appreciated the pragmatic nature of her Suffolk Law education. "It prepared me well," she says. "The Legal Practice Skills class taught us how to write briefs and memos in a way that was so relatable. When I got to Massport and the deputy GC gave me my first assignment and said, 'Can you brief me on that?,' I was ready."

Paying it forward

Now Skafte wants to pay it forward. She has created a \$100,000 scholarship for Suffolk Law students—with first preference for students who have international backgrounds and are struggling, as she did, to keep up with tuition.

One reason for the scholarship is her appreciation for Suffolk Law students. She recalls how welcoming her classmates were: "They knew that I was coming from Canada and didn't know much about Boston, and I was just blown away by the embracing nature of the students."

Skafte also wants to show the kind of generosity that Suffolk Law showed to her when she needed it the most. She recently reconnected with former dean Paul Sugarman and told him that the loan he arranged and the encouragement he gave "changed the course of my career and my life." **SL**

Dean's Cabinet member Marie-Louise Skafte JD'96 has travelled the world during her notable legal career, but she almost didn't make it through law school. At a moment when she feared she would be unable to continue to pay for her legal studies because of the unavailability of financial aid for international students at the time, then-dean Paul Sugarman HLLD'89 helped Skafte secure a trustee's loan. His kindness made all the difference in keeping Skafte's dreams of her legal career alive, she says. And like so many Suffolk Law alumni, she took advantage of the opportunity.

Global citizen and lawyer

If you sketch out the course of Skafte's life and career, you're covering a lot of territory. Places she has lived include Vancouver (twice); Taulov, Denmark, where she spoke both Danish and English; Toronto; Koko Kai, Hawaii; Waterloo, Ontario; Ithaca, N.Y.; Boston; San Francisco; and Fort Lauderdale, punctuated by regular travels to London and various cities across Europe, Asia, the Middle East, South America, and Africa.

Over the years, Skafte has worked as general counsel and corporate secretary for DHL Canada (now Deutsche Post DHL – Canada) as well as general counsel and head of human resources and corporate compliance for Cronos Limited, a leading global marine container leasing company. At Cronos, she led operations for 19 countries and was appointed head of office in the U.S. She now runs her own global consulting firm and enjoys traveling so much that she is in the final stages of obtaining a commercial pilot's license.

Skafte's work in international logistics—vastly simplified, getting products from one country to some other far-flung spot—brought her to meetings with indigenous peoples on their sacred lands. One pro bono trip led a group of South Africans to show their gratitude by breaking into local gospel songs. But the most unusual gathering, she says, was at the famed Blue Lagoon, a geothermal spa in southwestern Iceland, during the dark winter months.

"We met with our clients in the afternoon, but it was already pitch black, except for a super bright moon. I can still see it: There was steam coming up from the water. We were in this caravan type situation, walking together in the darkness, in our swimsuits."

By
Michael Fisch

Photograph
courtesy of
Marie-Louise
Skafte



GIVING BACK

By
Michael Fisch

Photography by
Michael J. Clarke



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Mark Sullivan JD'79



Suffolk Leader Helps Students Navigate the

INNOVATION ECONOMY

Trustee Mark Sullivan's \$250,000 gift supports education at the nexus of business and IP

When audio giant Bose Corporation introduces a new product, says the company's retired chief legal officer, Mark Sullivan JD'79, engineers from some competing companies have been known to take the product apart and study it, piece by piece, to understand the innovations housed within.

It's not hyperbole on Sullivan's part. Bose is known for disruptive innovations, including noise-canceling headphones, audio speakers designed for a specific car's cabin acoustics, and small, easy-to-hang cube speakers that produce big-speaker sound. Sullivan was tasked with protecting all that ingenuity.

In the late 1990s, he and his team wrested \$8.2 million in patent infringement and legal damages from JBL, a division of Harman Kardon. Over the decades, Sullivan regularly faced the challenge of knock-offs of patented Bose technologies.

In 2016, after 35 years at Bose, Sullivan retired from that prestigious job and its directive "to protect the lifeblood of the company, Bose technological advancements, and to bring Bose's innovative products to customers throughout the world."

His career at the company began with accounting and tax law and then grew to include a wide range of legal issues, including negotiating manufacturing and sales deals with government officials around the globe and a stream of patent and counterfeiting issues.

While Sullivan is quick to deflect attention from himself—and not in the "humble brag" manner common these days—some quick research shows his years at Bose were marked by growth, both for those around him and for the company as a whole. During his tenure, the company's sales revenue shot up from \$50 million to approximately \$4 billion. The legal department grew from a one-man

operation, Sullivan, to 28 lawyers, including six based in Europe and Asia.

"They don't have to be engineers"

The evolution of his career helped him better understand a critical nexus: IP law, business investment, and innovation. Sullivan, who serves as Vice Chair of Suffolk's Board of Trustees, has donated \$250,000 to the Law School with an eye toward creating a growing cohort of graduates who are "comfortable and conversant in IP—and able to speak intelligently with engineers, entrepreneurs, and investors."

"They don't have to be engineers themselves," he adds, "but they do need some broad knowledge about how innovations and trademarks are protected." That know-how will give students a leg up in the job market. He says: "The need for IP knowledge is spreading to so many areas of the law, and it's where a lot of the financial investment is made."

How to hinder counterfeiting?

One example of the importance of protecting IP, he says, was figuring out how to get Bose's products into the massive Asian market without a huge loss from counterfeiting or crippling customs duties. Over the years, it had become abundantly clear that protecting innovations would be near-impossible to manage in China.

The solution? Producing products at a new Bose plant in Malaysia, a country known for its strong legal system based on English common law and its low tariff arrangement with the Chinese government.

A lesson from *Shark Tank*

The value of IP knowledge, while oversimplified, is underscored on national television, Sullivan says, on shows like *Shark Tank*, in which famous investors bombard entrepreneurs with questions about patents and trademark protection. The entrepreneurs quickly come to understand that they generally can't get funding if their ideas can't be protected.

Suffolk is known for its sizable footprint in patent law, and Sullivan notes that the school's graduates make up 30% of the top IP firm patent partners in Greater Boston—and its IP concentration and downtown location make it ideal for law students to land internships with corporations and startups.

Sullivan, who grew up in Roslindale, Mass., and attended Boston public schools, says of Suffolk: "It's a school with a working-class heart, great teachers, and a unique, we'll-get-through-this-together camaraderie among the students. I wouldn't be where I am today without my Suffolk legal education."

"The school gave me the opportunity to combine business and legal skill, which was critical to my career trajectory. I had great faculty teaching me corporations, agency, a host of tax law courses.

"But it's been a long time since I graduated," Sullivan adds. "Each decade brings its own wrinkle in terms of the combination of knowledge and experience you need to succeed as a lawyer. For many new graduates, they'll need to operate comfortably in the innovation economy. Suffolk Law can help them get ahead in an economy that cycles new products in months versus years." **SL**



Left to right: Anthony DeLuca JD'69; Alan Kraut JD'69; J. David Damico JD'69; Jerry Scarano JD'69; Dean Andrew Perlman; Theodore Schwartz JD'69; Paul Kaufman JD'69; and Hon. Carmine M. Bravo (ret.) JD'69

RECORD-BREAKING REUNION

Class of 1969 makes extraordinary effort at 50-year mark

The Suffolk Law Class of 1969 commemorated its 50th reunion with an outpouring of generosity, raising a record-breaking \$449,300 to fund scholarships for the next generation of Suffolk Law alumni. On May 31, 2019, more than 75 members of the Class of '69 gathered at Boston's Omni Parker House for an evening of celebration and philanthropy.

Eight members of the Class of 1969—Hon. Carmine M. Bravo (ret.), Henry Kara, Paul Kaufman, Rich Rubino, Lew Sassoon, Ted Schwartz, Jim Sokolove, and Mario Zangari—led the exceptional fundraising efforts. Wanting to honor the world-class legal education that enabled their professional careers, the Class of 1969 donors committed to providing future law students with the same opportunity at Suffolk.

"The impact of this event has been extraordinary. It has renewed relationships and given us a greater sense of love and commitment to the school, and an unprecedented sense of pride in our past," said Schwartz.

The Class of 1969 has a history of paying it forward. In honor of their 35th reunion, members of the class raised \$320,000 to establish their scholarship fund, a record no other class has broken.

Law School Dean Andrew Perlman hosted a reception to honor the class members, who were inducted into the Half-Century Club. To conclude the evening, two recent recipients of the Class of 1969 Scholarship, Adam S. Rizk JD'13 and Tara Q. Higgins JD'18, spoke of the impact of the support they had received.

"That freedom led me to broaden my horizons, hone my skills, and obtain two clerkship opportunities with two incredible judges, one of whom is a fellow Suffolk alum," said Higgins. **SL**

YOU WANT TO GIVE, but You're Not Sure How or When

Prof. Philip C. Kaplan on a little-known tool: the CRUT

Suffolk Law Professor Philip C. Kaplan JD'88 had a dilemma. He wanted his estate to provide for his loved ones, but he also wondered how he could give back to the law school he had graduated from and taught at for decades. Could he help Suffolk Law students with financial needs pay for school?

"My desire to provide for Suffolk Law seemed to conflict with my desire to provide for my beneficiaries," he said. The solution: an estate-planning tool called a CRUT—a charitable remainder unitrust.

The trust will provide income to his beneficiaries for life and then pay the remaining principal to the charities he's chosen, including the Law School, he explains. A significant portion of Kaplan's estate will one day fund a Suffolk Law scholarship in his name.

"Most people have never heard of a CRUT and don't know that the Law School will provide an attorney at no charge to execute the agreement," he said. "I want people to know that they can provide for their families and still give back to the Law School. That conflict about how to do both can be resolved.

"I appreciate the opportunities the Law School has given me," he continued. "I appreciate the students and want to help more students be able to afford law school. I just needed a way to do both." **SL**



Professor Philip C. Kaplan JD'88



Kevin Fitzgerald
JD'82

Kevin Fitzgerald on Being “AN UNFASHIONABLE SUCCESS”

How do you take a Boston-based regional law firm with roughly 100 attorneys and turn it into an Am Law 100 member with 650 lawyers, 16 offices spanning New York to Shanghai, and more than half a billion dollars in gross revenue? The right person to ask is Dean's Cabinet member Kevin M. Fitzgerald JD'82, a key leader of Nixon Peabody for nearly 30 years.

Outside the circle

The Nixon Peabody growth story, Fitzgerald says, involves bringing together smart and hard-working attorneys, most of them outside the small circle of the most prestigious firms in the country. “In Britain, they call those firms the ‘Magic Circle,’” he says. “If you're outside the circle but still successful, you're called an ‘unfashionable success,’ and that's what we became.”

A nose for business

So how does one become an unfashionable success? The firm requires a relentless focus on “occasionally unsexy but essential work: understanding the business climate and its relationship to the legal economy; networking effectively; the nuts-and-bolts elements of running a practice,” Fitzgerald notes. And two ever-present questions—“What's our plan for generating revenue? Where's the business going to come from?” Those critical questions have become part of the firm's culture “and helped define an archetypal hire—a person with both a fine legal mind and a nose for where business might come from.”

Hanging out with the justice

Fitzgerald, a partner at the firm and long-time chair of Nixon Peabody's Policy Committee, looks back fondly on his years at Suffolk Law, describing a camaraderie among students and an overarching feeling that good things would happen, that “like so many of the good and successful alumni, you could be successful too.”

That esprit de corps has long been a hallmark of the school. One of Fitzgerald's many examples: “I was in a class with Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court Justice Joseph Nolan, and he would hang out after class and talk with us. I was excited to be found sufficiently interesting for the justice—someone who was so wise and had accomplished so much in his field—to stick around and have conversations and care about my responses.”

As to why he joined the Dean's Cabinet, Fitzgerald says, “I wanted to go back to the people and the places that helped me succeed and thank them. The successes I've had are directly a function of the experience I had at the Law School.” He adds, “Suffolk Law is similar to Nixon Peabody in a way, I suppose. Perhaps not in the Magic Circle of the most elite institutions, yet no less an unfashionable success.” **SL**

Dean's Group Launches for RECENT GRADS

Larry Nussbaum gives back by
joining the Dean's Associates

The Law School recently launched a new group, the Dean's Associates, for alumni who have graduated within the last 10 years and make a financial commitment to the school of at least \$25,000, which can be satisfied over five years. Group members support Law School initiatives and serve as ambassadors of the school.

Founding member Larry Nussbaum JD'11, a personal injury attorney and principal of Nussbaum Law Group, says, “I committed to joining the group because the Law School allowed me to make a name for myself. I knew that once I was able to have some success, I wanted to give back to the school that allowed that to happen.”

Nussbaum recalls that his most memorable courses at Suffolk covered real-world skills, such as Professor Richard Pizzano BA'63, JD'66 offering insights into how to handle clients and how to talk to judges. And he learned personal lessons from faculty such as Professor Karen Blum JD'74, who taught his civil procedure course. “She taught me it was okay to be myself and do it my own way, and I still lean on her for advice,” he says.

Nussbaum says joining the Dean's Associates will allow members to build relationships with successful lawyers in a variety of fields and to nurture those relationships. The group will meet with members of the Dean's Cabinet annually.

For more information about this leadership opportunity, please contact Kathy Tricca BSBA'82, Director of the Summa Leadership Giving Program, at ktricca@suffolk.edu. **SL**

Larry Nussbaum
JD'11





“I AM STANDING ON SHIFTING SAND”

REFLECTING ON THE CHALLENGES OF IMMIGRATION LAW

BY SHANNON DOOLING | PHOTOGRAPHY BY BRYCE VICKMARK

It may be impossible to overstate the complexities of the immigration crisis playing out along the U.S. southern border. There are the legalities associated with the apprehension of hundreds of thousands of migrants during a surge this year that overwhelmed border facilities, along with changes in the asylum application process. The immigration system itself is facing unprecedented pressures, and all of this is playing out in a politically polarized environment.

We reached out to three alumnae in the field and the head of Suffolk Law's immigration clinic to better understand these challenges and how they view the future.

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“IT CHANGES YOU”

Maybe it was the 18-hour work days or the sight of mothers and children clinging to one another in fear. It could have been the scent of petrol wafting through the surrounding fracking fields or the scathing term “baby jail” used by some to describe the facility. Whatever the reason, the week Alexandra Peredo Carroll JD’06 volunteered at an immigrant detention center in Dilley, Texas, in 2015 was an eye-opener, even for the experienced immigration attorney.

That year, federal judge Dolly M. Gee found that the two detention centers in Texas that the Obama administration opened failed to meet minimum legal requirements for facilities housing children.

“Being witness to those conditions and the way people are treated in our own country changes your perspective in life—it changes you,” Peredo Carroll says.

She went to Texas with a group of immigration attorneys from the New England Chapter of the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA). Their days at the South Texas Family Residential Center, which opened in 2014 to house women and children from Central America, were spent at the detention facility working with clients. In the evenings, attorneys prepped for bond hearings and “credible fear” interviews. During the latter, individuals attempt to demonstrate that they have a credible fear of returning to their home country.

“I think we all came out of that trip as different people. It was during that week that I realized I wanted to work at a nonprofit doing this kind of work,” Peredo Carroll says.

Three months later, she interviewed for a pro bono coordinating attorney position with the Boston office of Kids in Need of Defense (KIND), whose mission is to “represent unaccompanied immigrant and refugee children in their deportation proceedings.” Her work for KIND took her back to the border in 2018, to the Port Isabel Detention Center in Harlingen, Texas, after the Trump administration’s decision to separate migrant children from families who were detained as they attempted to enter the U.S. illegally. The Trump administration contended that separation would deter families from making the hazardous journey to the United States.

“I thought that I would be prepared,” she says. “But what I witnessed, working with mothers and fathers who had their children forcibly separated from them, was truly the worst thing I have ever seen in my life. Nothing in the world could have prepared me for that.”

As managing attorney for KIND’s Boston office, Peredo Carroll now helps to train and mentor pro bono attorneys representing children in removal proceedings. When asked if she’s hopeful about the future of immigration law, she answers without hesitation: “Always hope. I do think there’s always hope that the justice system will prevail.”



Alexandra Peredo
Carroll JD’06

LAWYERS, THE MOST POWERFUL TOOL



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Rachel Self JD'04

Rachel Self JD'04, a legal analyst for Fox News and CNN, has a private practice in Boston specializing in what she calls “cimmigration,” the intersection of criminal law and immigration law. She splits her time between criminal trial work, deportation defense, adjustment of status cases, and other immigration matters. Over the last 15 years, Self says she’s developed valuable relationships with government officials and prides herself on maintaining them during a tumultuous period for U.S. immigration policy.

Self’s approach to representing clients has changed from the past, when she could recommend some clients fill out an application on their own. Now, she says, that suggestion is almost laughable: “For one thing, forms that used to be one or two pages are now in excess of 20 pages, and in some cases there are 10 to 12 different forms that need to be submitted.”

In February 2018, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (CIS), the Department of Homeland Security agency that oversees adjustment of immigration status, changed its mission statement, eliminating the phrase describing the U.S. as a “nation of immigrants.” A new statement on the agency’s website says the office focuses on administering “the nation’s lawful immigration system.” This change was not lost on immigration advocates and attorneys like Self.

L. Francis Cissna, then-director of CIS, described the revision as a “simple, straightforward statement” that “clearly defines the agency’s role in our country’s lawful immigration system and the commitment we have to the American people.”

“Over the last two years, I’ve noticed a significant shift within U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, away from the spirit of an agency that exists to provide a service,” Self says.

So Self throws everything she can at a case. That could mean proactively sending additional application materials before they have been requested, knowing that the process for something like a green card or a visa application has become unpredictably complicated.

“People are paying \$2,000 in filing fees just to file applications in many cases, and because the agency is so busy and has so many new directives, there are needless errors being made, which are completely avoidable, and devastating to the client,” she explains, citing issues like paperwork that has already been submitted being overlooked and materials being filed under incorrect names. Each error or oversight can derail a process that already takes months or years.

Self believes many of the career government employees tasked with executing rapid-fire policy changes and new procedures are just as confused and frustrated as the attorneys and clients who are forced to adjust.

“I am standing on shifting sand, which means my feet are moving and my advice could change next week,” she says.

Individuals who support more restrictive immigration policies often argue that the immigration system is too easily exploited by people who do not have legitimate claims to enter or remain in the U.S. But that doesn’t mean one should ignore due process and constitutional violations that result from policy changes, Self argues.

“The way we fight back,” she says, “is through the courts.”

A portrait of Janeth Moreno, a woman with long brown hair, wearing a grey blazer over a white collared shirt. She is looking slightly to the left of the camera with a neutral expression.

Janeth Moreno LLM'09

**“IT MAKES
EVERYTHING
WORTH IT”**

Janeth Moreno LLM'09 is empowering immigrant communities with the tools they need to know their rights. The founder of Moreno Law in downtown Boston, she's been in private practice for three years. The bulk of her cases are asylum claims, a facet of immigration law that has seen some of the most fundamental changes under the current administration.

In June 2018, then-Attorney General of the United States Jeff Sessions summarily reversed the finding that women fleeing domestic violence from certain countries could qualify as a special social class when applying for asylum in the U.S. Moreno says the announcement immediately eliminated what many immigration attorneys considered a crucial adjudication strategy.


In issuing the decision, Sessions wrote that asylum claims had expanded too broadly to include victims of “private violence,” like domestic violence or gangs, so he narrowed the type of asylum requests allowed.

“We've seen more restrictions, more restrictive venues. We don't have the law on our side right now,” Moreno says.

Perhaps no system has undergone more upheaval in the last three years than the asylum application process. The Trump administration—citing a system of loopholes that it contends are readily abused—has made it more difficult for people to apply for asylum, instituting in January 2019 what it calls the Migrant Protection Protocols, also known as the “remain in Mexico” policy. This new process requires people to wait at the southern border for their chance to begin the asylum application process. A recent series of agreements struck with the governments of Guatemala, Honduras, and El Salvador is part of a plan to prevent Central American migrants from applying for asylum in the U.S. if they have not first done so in another country.

These additional challenges mean Moreno needs to be sure her clients are even better prepared. To that end, Moreno not only works with local consulates of Colombia, Mexico, Guatemala, and El Salvador but also connects directly with immigrant communities in New England, bringing “Know Your Rights” sessions into neighborhood churches. One lesson shared at the sessions is that immigrants facing ICE agents have the right to remain silent and to speak to a lawyer.

She says it is empowering to share information in an informal group setting, where people feel safe: “I've seen the impact in the communities, it's making a difference. It makes everything worth it.”

A portrait of Ragini Shah, a woman with dark hair, wearing a colorful patterned blazer over a black top. She has her arms crossed and is looking directly at the camera.

Ragini Shah, Clinical
Professor of Law

**THE PATH
FORWARD**

Clinical Professor of Law Ragini Shah sees the potential for students to play a critical role in the immigration system. Shah came to Suffolk Law 11 years ago to found its Immigration Clinic, which represents detained immigrants facing removal from the U.S. While there's always been a healthy student interest in the clinic, Shah is seeing an increased interest from incoming students who say they know immigration law is their path.

“Immigration policy has always been sort of harsh, particularly for the population we serve at the clinic, but this administration has brought it into the public discourse in a way that we've never seen,” she says. And aspiring lawyers are paying attention. For better or worse, the rhetoric out of Washington, D.C., is sparking dialogue.

Shah's goal in the Immigration Clinic is to select cases for students that help illuminate a larger issue—such as the factors that drive migration from Central America and the human consequences of something like the “remain in Mexico” policy.

She says keeping one's bearings in a dramatically shifting landscape can be challenging, so she wants to make sure her students can feel grounded while they're learning.

“I spend a lot more time reading decisions that are coming down, not just for my own knowledge,” she says. “But I'm trying to give my students a sense that, even though policy is rapidly changing, there are legal anchors, so let's find those anchors together.”

It's easy to get discouraged working within a complicated system when every day seems to bring changes. Yet Shah finds hope in the community of lawyers sharing advice and banding together to file class action lawsuits against the Department of Homeland Security and other government agencies.

The biggest takeaway for Shah's students often is the connection with their clients. For Shah, it's her connection to her students: “Being a part of this moment and being a part of their journey to becoming better lawyers, I feel privileged.” **SL**

Laury Lucien JD'15 is chief legal strategist at Greenlight Business Solutions.



THE CANNABIS CONUNDRUM

Graduates inspired by the emerging industry push on despite challenges

By Jon Gorey | Photography by Adam DeTour

It's rare to see entrenched opposition to an illegal substance collapse in real time. But such is the case with marijuana, where the foundations of criminalization are cracking and giving way to legalization, one state at a time. Rarer still is the opportunity to build an entirely new industry and legal landscape from the rubble. Several Suffolk Law alumni have embraced this unusual opportunity to become trailblazers in the nascent and legally complex recreational cannabis industry in Massachusetts.

The changes came so quickly that none of them could have anticipated their work in the field just a few years ago.

A standout student at Suffolk Law, Laury Lucien JD'15 spent her first two and a half years after law school at the prestigious firm Holland & Knight, where she focused on mergers and acquisitions as well as corporate healthcare law. She worked closely with regulators and municipal agencies, ideal training for her next and unexpected career venture—into the highly regulated cannabis industry.

Today, Lucien, who grew up in Haiti, is chief legal strategist at Greenlight Business Solutions, one of six organizations recently chosen by the Massachusetts Cannabis Control Commission (CCC) to help train cannabis entrepreneurs and professionals. She's also a founder of Major Bloom, a business that will cultivate, manufacture, and sell cannabis.

Lucien sits on the Board of Advisors of the Massachusetts Recreational Consumer Council, which works to ensure a safe marijuana industry. And she teaches Cannabis Law at Suffolk. She cites her own law school education in preparing her to navigate the challenges of the budding industry. "Cannabis is multidisciplinary—you need to know banking law, securities law, you need to know real estate and municipal law, corporate law. You need all those pieces," she says.

You also need access to capital. That doesn't come easy in an industry selling a substance that remains federally prohibited. The federal ban means entrepreneurs don't have access to traditional commercial bank lending.

Lacking those resources, it can be nearly impossible to start a cannabis company—something Lucien learned firsthand. She had previously pursued a medical-use cannabis license in Massachusetts, but found the costs of entry out of reach. "You had to prove that you had half a million dollars just to apply for a license, so it basically kicked us out," she says. "We were having tremendous difficulty raising funds as people who weren't born into privilege."

After striking out in medical marijuana, Lucien didn't give up. She joined forces with a core group of partners, and in 2017, she founded Major Bloom. The company focuses on the adult-use market and is 98% owned by people of color.

LEVELING THE PLAYING FIELD

When Massachusetts legalized recreational cannabis in 2016, the law included an economic empowerment mandate and a first-in-the-nation social equity component. The provisions are aimed at encouraging "full participation" in the regulated cannabis industry by minority-led businesses and people from communities

that have been disproportionately harmed by drug laws.

Social attitudes toward cannabis may be shifting, but that hasn't erased the damage done by decades of discriminatory enforcement of marijuana laws, says Suffolk Law Professor Emeritus Eric Blumenson. "Research shows that white and black populations use marijuana at about the same rate, but arrests, convictions, and jail sentences have been many times higher for black communities," he says. The peak of the decades-long war on drugs that packed U.S. prisons saw 800,000 marijuana arrests annually. And while many of those arrested for cannabis initially dodged jail time, many others "ultimately went to jail for inconsequential probation violations based on the original conviction," Blumenson says.

From his perch atop the state's Cannabis Control Commission, Shawn Collins sees a major policy challenge in figuring out how to create an equitable industry. Collins is executive director of the CCC, which regulates the industry in the state. He's also a double Ram, who earned his BS in Government from Suffolk University in 2008 and his JD from Suffolk Law in 2013. He went on to work on healthcare policy in state government and became legislative and policy director for State Treasurer Deb Goldberg, whose office oversees alcohol policy. With the 2016 legalization ballot question pending, it fell to Collins to figure out the most effective and efficient ways to regulate cannabis.

"That's really how I got introduced to cannabis policy," he said. The independent CCC was created, and Collins was a natural for the executive director post. When he started two years ago, there were no desks, no phone numbers, no employees, not even an address, mirroring the state of Massachusetts' fledgling cannabis industry. Today the Commission has grown from just Collins to 60 employees, though they are still in temporary office space. He's spent much of his time building the nuts and bolts of the agency, which has a bureaucratic role as a licensing and regulatory agency. But Collins adds that the cannabis statute, shaped by the ballot question, also includes a mission—that the industry, as it develops, should be inclusive and represent the communities where facilities are located.

"It acknowledges, frankly, that while cannabis has been illegal, both federally and locally, there are folks that have been disproportionately harmed by the enforcement of those laws," Collins says.

Part of the Commission's focus is on fostering economic empowerment, including making it easier for small operators and entrepreneurs to launch their businesses. But Collins says the federal prohibition is inhibiting those startups: "If you want to open up a bar





Left to right:
Andrea Cabral
JD'86, CEO
of Ascend
Mass LLC and
MassGrow LLC;
and Shawn
Collins BS'08,
JD'13, executive
director of
Massachusetts'
Cannabis Control
Commission

or a restaurant or an ice cream shop, HVAC or plumbing, or any small business—you name it—you can get a bank loan, and you can present your business plan. You cannot do that in the cannabis context.”

Andrea Cabral JD'86 says writing social equity into the regulations was the right thing to do, but adds that the execution still needs improvement. Cabral, former Suffolk County sheriff and Massachusetts secretary of public safety, now serves as chief executive of Ascend Mass LLC, a subsidiary of the multi-state cannabis retail operator Ascend Wellness. “You can write it down, and you can make it the law, but the real issue in leveling the playing field is access to capital,” Cabral says.

Despite a decades-long career in law enforcement, Cabral says she never understood the villainizing of cannabis. She sees alcohol as far more destructive. “A lot has to do with their respective histories, but it just always struck me as unfair,” she says.

In legalized cannabis, Cabral saw a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to enter an industry at the ground level. “You can go through your entire life, through generations, and never have a brand-new industry to consider being a part of,” she said. “There aren't that many industries, new or otherwise, that present that kind of opportunity for women or a person of color that this one presents.”

Still, like Lucien, Cabral adds that it is nearly impossible to start a cannabis company without the help of private equity, an issue that she says needs to be resolved.

IT HELPS TO KNOW THE LAW

While she says it's imperfect, Lucien credits the social equity mandate with opening at least some avenues

for minority entrepreneurs to get into the industry—including herself. But she has also relied heavily on the experience she has gained along the way, including her Suffolk Law education. Without knowledge of the law, problems can quickly arise, she explains. For example, without access to traditional banking, cannabis operators often turn to friends and family for funding, not realizing that those investments may be considered offerings prohibited by securities law. Real estate law proves useful when negotiating a lease or sale agreement or navigating the special permit process. Corporate law is essential when forming a company among partners, and tax law is crucial. “The amount you have to pay in taxes is insane, and you need to know tax law. You have to have a great accounting team,” she says.

In the end, Collins says successfully creating an equitable industry will require assistance from private industry, specifically, access to banks. In the meantime, the CCC is working toward building a strong infrastructure as well as sustainable equity programs so that if and when banks can come to the table, they will be more willing to lend.

All say they are hopeful that federal prohibition will be lifted in favor of a clear, consistent system of regulation that is accompanied by public health and safety measures. And while Cabral expects federal prohibition to fall, full legalization may happen in fits and starts, leaving a legal hodgepodge in the interim. To groundbreaking pot pioneers like Lucien and Cabral, that means hard work ahead, but also an exciting challenge. “It presents a lot of great opportunities to think outside the box and be creative,” Cabral says, “because the path has not been trod already on a lot of this stuff.” **SL**



CLASS NOTES

PROFESSIONAL AND PERSONAL MILESTONES FROM SUFFOLK ALUMNI



Andrew S. Mullin JD'91



Damian W. Wilmot JD'00

IN-HOUSE LEADERS

ANDREW S. MULLIN JD'91 and **DAMIAN W. WILMOT** JD'00 have been recognized as 2019 In-House Leader honorees by *Massachusetts Lawyers Weekly* and *New England In-House* for outstanding professional accomplishments in the legal field. The class of 25 general counsels and staff attorneys are nominated by colleagues, clients, and legal professionals and selected by *Massachusetts Lawyers Weekly's* editorial department.

Mullin serves as vice president and chief counsel for BAE Systems Electronic Systems, where he is responsible for managing the sector's legal department, consisting of in-house attorneys and staff, and the export and ethics functions.

At Vertex Pharmaceuticals Inc., Wilmot serves as the senior vice president and chief risk and compliance officer. He is responsible for leading the company's global compliance, global litigation and enterprise risk management, and quality assurance organizations.

1970

ROBERT H. ROWE, retired attorney and former New Hampshire special justice, received special recognition from the New Hampshire Bar Association for his 18 years of service to the state as a member of the New Hampshire House of Representatives. He currently serves as an elected Hillsborough County commissioner. Rowe is the author of two histories and one historical novel and resides in Amherst, NH.

1975

BRIAN M. HURLEY, of the real estate litigation practice for Rackemann, Sawyer & Brewster, was named to *The Best Lawyers in America* 2020.

1977

KENNETH A. GRAHAM, retired assistant attorney general for the State of Connecticut, has been reappointed by the Chief Justice of the Connecticut Supreme Court to a seventh term of office as Superior Court trial referee. He was also reappointed to a three-year term of office as Superior Court arbitrator/fact finder. He took his oaths of office on June 12, 2019, the 42nd anniversary of his graduation from Suffolk University Law School.

SARAH HALL LUICK was honored for over 35 years of service as a board member for the national nonprofit the Animal Legal Defense Fund. The Fund is celebrating its 40th year working to protect the lives and advance the interests of animals in the legal system.

1981

DAVID E. CHERNY was selected for inclusion in *The Best Lawyers in America* 2020 in the field of family law. He is a partner in the Boston firm Atwood & Cherny PC, where he concentrates his practice in the area of complex matrimonial and family law litigation at the trial and appellate court levels.

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1982

ROBERT P. AVOLIO has joined Eckert Seamans' Litigation division in Princeton, NJ.

1983

MICHAEL MAZZONE has been named cochair of the litigation practice group at Haynes and Boone LLP.

1985

THOMAS M. BOND was named vice president of the Massachusetts Bar Association for its 2019-20 year.

1986

ELLEN M. HARRINGTON, of Rackemann, Sawyer & Brewster, was named to *The Best Lawyers in America 2020*. She serves on the firm's Executive Committee and chairs Rackemann's Trusts and Estates Department.

1988

DENISE I. MURPHY was named president-elect of the Massachusetts Bar Association for its 2019-20 year.

1989

JOHN C. LA LIBERTE, partner at Sherin and Lodgen LLP, was named to *The Best Lawyers in America 2020*. He is chair of the firm's bankruptcy and creditor rights group, as well as cochair of the business litigation, construction law, and real estate litigation practice groups.

SHELDON CRAIG TOPLITT has been appointed chair of the Massachusetts Bar Association in the Real Estate Section Council for the 2019-2020 year.

1991

LISA CUKIER was named a 2019 "Top Woman of Law" by *Massachusetts Lawyers Weekly*. She is a partner and executive member at Boston-based Burns & Levinson.

GARY MERKEN, an attorney with the Large Business & International Division of the IRS Office of Chief Counsel in Philadelphia, was acknowledged for his contributions to the 11th edition of *Black's Law Dictionary*, published in June 2019.

ROBERT RIVERS JR. was selected as 2019 Boston Family Law's "Lawyer of the Year" by *Best Lawyers*. He is a partner at Lee & Rivers LLP in Boston.

1992

MEL PASSARELLI has joined Aspera Technologies as its new president and CEO. He has over 30 years of experience in corporate strategy and growth.



LYNNE F. RILEY was named a 2019 "Top Woman of Law" by *Massachusetts Lawyers Weekly*. She is a partner in Casner & Edwards' bankruptcy and restructuring group. Riley has argued numerous appeals before the First Circuit Court of Appeals and the Bankruptcy Appellate Panel for the First Circuit and has authored amicus briefs for the United States Supreme Court, the First Circuit, and the Ninth Circuit Courts of Appeals on significant bankruptcy issues.

1993

THOMAS TUTTLE was appointed bar and policy compliance specialist in the Office of General Counsel of Ropes & Gray LLP.

1994

ANN MARIE MACCARONE was appointed to the Cranston (RI) City Planning Commission for a four-year term by Cranston Mayor Allan Fung JD'95.

1995

ERIN M. BOUCHER was named partner at Morrison Mahoney LLP.



JENNIFER PARENT has become a fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers. She is a director at McLane Middleton and chair of the firm's Litigation Department.



1997

MEREDITH COOK was appointed chancellor of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Manchester, NH. She has been



a member of the New Hampshire Bar Association for more than 20 years. In 2001, she received the Saint Thomas More Award, presented by the Catholic Lawyers Guild of New Hampshire to a lawyer or judge who is a practicing Catholic and who embodies the spirit of Saint Thomas More in his or her courage, dedication, integrity, civility, and compassion toward others.

JESSICA GRAF has joined Sullivan and Worcester LLP's real estate group as counsel in Boston. Previously with Seyfarth Shaw LLP, Graf counsels clients on all aspects of environmental law.

UYEN MONG TRAN was appointed assistant attorney general in the Massachusetts Attorney General's Office and chair of the Contributory Retirement Appeal Board on July 22, 2019.

ADAM P. WHITNEY was selected to *Super Lawyers* for 2019. He is the founder and owner of the Law Office of Adam P. Whitney in Boston.

2000

MICHAEL J. FENCER BS'97 has been named to *The Best Lawyers in America* 2020. He focuses on bankruptcy, creditor and debtor rights, insolvency, construction, and reorganization law with Casner & Edwards LLP.

2001

KEVIN MALTBY was sworn in as associate justice of the Northampton (MA) District Court on September 12, 2018.

2003

ELIZABETH K. LEVINE, an employment lawyer and litigator with Boston firm Goulston & Storrs, has been promoted to shareholder.

The Insurance Library Association of Boston has named **PAUL TETRAULT** as the organization's new executive director.

2004

SETH BONNEAU has joined DLA Piper's finance practice as a partner in the Boston office.

HEATHER GAMACHE

has joined Rackemann, Sawyer & Brewster as a director in the firm's litigation practice. Previously, she served

as a partner at the Boston-based law firm Prince Lobel Tye.



2005

MIA B. FRIEDMAN has joined Fish & Richardson as pro bono manager. Friedman will lead and manage the firm's pro bono practice for Fish's 11 U.S. offices.

MARIAH L. HEPPE has joined Estate Preservation Law Offices (EPLO), Worcester, MA, as an attorney. Her practice at EPLO concentrates on estate planning and elder law.



RACHEL MOYNIHAN has been promoted to member (partner) at Eckert Seamans. She focuses her practice on commercial litigation, employment law, and product liability and handles employment, trade secret, real estate, and trust litigation.

2006

KEVIN POWERS of the Law Offices of Kevin J. Powers, together with Andrew M. Fischer JD'80 and Andrew J. Brodie III JD'04, both of the Law Offices of Jeffrey S. Glassman LLC in Boston, briefed and argued *Meyer v. Veolia Energy North America* on behalf of plaintiff Richard Meyer. On May 8, 2019, the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court decided in favor of Meyer. The case, which clarified the law regarding the right of a plaintiff to bring a claim for injuries resulting from road defects, is a watershed moment in Massachusetts tort law.

MICHAEL RUEDA has been named a partner at global firm Withers LLP. Based in New York, he is head of US sports and entertainment for the firm.

Goulston & Storrs director **TIMOTHY W. SULLIVAN** MBA'06 was named a 2019 "40 Under 40" honoree by the *Boston Business Journal*. Sullivan is the only lawyer on the 2019 list who specializes in real estate law.

2007

KELLY B. CASTRIOTTA was promoted to regional head of product development for financial lines, North America, for Allianz Global Corporate and Specialty.



ANGEL KOZELI MOZINA has written a chapter, “Legal Aspects of Commercial Condominiums,” for the 2019 supplement to the Massachusetts Continuing Legal Education’s (MCLE) *Massachusetts Condominium Law* practice manual. She is a director in the real estate practice of Boston firm Rackemann, Sawyer & Brewster.

2009

MARK HEINZELMAN has joined Rubin and Rudman LLP as a partner in the litigation group.

2010

MARGARET HAGEN published *How Can So Many Be Wrong?: Making the Due Process Case for an Eyewitness Expert*. The book, written with Sou Hee Yang, discusses the importance of the defense having access to expert testimony on eyewitness reliability in cases where that testimony is critical.

HEIDI A. SEELY, attorney at Rackemann, Sawyer & Brewster, served as moderator at the Boston Bar Association’s program “Advising Trustees and Serving as a Trustee in Massachusetts” on April 26, 2019. She has been appointed cochair of the Public Policy Committee of the Boston Bar Association’s trusts and estates section.



KENNETH A. SHERMAN joined Robinson+Cole (R+C) in Boston. He is an experienced construction attorney with significant construction litigation and transactional experience.



LORI K. VAULDING BS’06 has been named a partner at Morrison Mahoney LLP.



2011

KATHLEEN A. FEDERICO was elected partner at Morrison Mahoney in Boston. She is a graduate of the MBA 2018-2019 Leadership Academy and received the 2019 Massachusetts Defense Lawyers Association’s Rising Star Award.



CHRISTOPHER C. STORM was elected partner at Morrison Mahoney in Boston. He represents insurance companies, national retailers, attorneys, and real estate and design professionals in the areas of professional liability, insurance coverage, tort and liability defense, and commercial and business litigation. He is also a Proctor of Admiralty with experience in maritime liens, Jones Act, and Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act (LHWCA) cases.

2012

BRIDGET R. LOPEZ was elected partner at Morrison Mahoney in Boston.

ERIC LOSEY was promoted to member (partner) at Eckert Seamans. Losey concentrates his practice on the defense of personal injury, property damages, and environmental cases, including the defense of asbestos, mass tort, and product liability litigation matters in Massachusetts and Rhode Island.

JACLYN MCNEELY, associate at Sherin and Lodgen LLP in the Employment Law Department, has been chosen as cochair of the Women's Bar Association of Massachusetts' New Lawyers Committee.

MICHAEL TRIPICCO and wife Jessica welcomed daughter Miriam Patricia on July 11, 2019.

2013

DILER ERDENGIZ is serving with the United Nations Mission in Kosovo as a political affairs officer.

JENNIFER GARNER joined Chamberlain Hrdlicka as a real estate associate based in Atlanta.

KIMBERLY MASON has joined Pastori | Krans PLLC, a Concord, NH-based litigation firm, as an associate.

2014

RAY GRANT and **MEGAN WEBER** JD'15 were married in Bristol, RI, on June 8, 2019.



MATTHEW R. O'CONNOR has joined Pierce Atwood LLP as an associate in the firm's litigation and business practice groups.

2016

KIMBERLY SMITH has joined the Connecticut law firm of Brody Wilkinson PC as an associate.

2018

CLINTON OAS has joined Williams Mullen as an associate in the firm's litigation and tax sections.

AMANDA C. SCAFIDI BS'10 has joined Eckert Seamans as an associate in the firm's Boston office and Litigation division.

DEAN'S CABINET

COMMITTED ALUMNI
INVEST IN THE FUTURE
OF SUFFOLK LAW



DEAN'S CABINET NOW HAS 40 MEMBERS DEMONSTRATING COMMITMENT, OFFERING A VOICE

The Dean's Cabinet now has 40 members, each of whom has committed at least \$50,000 to support initiatives of the Law School. Since this magazine featured the Dean's Cabinet last spring, 10 new members have joined the team of generous benefactors dedicated to advancing the Law School's mission—through both philanthropy and strategic consultation. Two recent members share what inspired them to join.

JEFFREY R. DRAGO JD'04

“Under Dean Perlman's leadership, Suffolk University Law School has remained true to its founding mission of providing a first-class legal education to striving students from the inner city looking for an opportunity in the law. I know the benefits of this access firsthand, which is why I'm proud to support Suffolk Law as a member of the Dean's Cabinet today.”

LINDA J. WONDRACK JD'95

“I am very motivated by how Dean Perlman is leading the Law School, specifically his focus on enabling and arming students with the skills necessary to succeed in the future.”



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ALUMNI MAGAZINE

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SUFFOLK UNIVERSITY LAW SCHOOL **DEAN'S CABINET MEMBERS**

Patricia M. Annino JD'81

Partner
Rimon Law, PC
Boston, MA

Joy L. Backer JD'15

Associate
WilmerHale, LLP
Boston, MA

Alexander A. Bove, Jr. JD'67

Partner
Bove & Langa, PC
Boston, MA

Brian T. Brandt JD'96

Managing Director
SCS Financial, LLC
Boston, MA

Claudine A. Cloutier JD'95

Partner
Keches Law Group, PC
Taunton, MA

Barry C. Cosgrove JD'85

Chairman & CEO
Blackmore Partners, LLC
Laguna Beach, CA

Gerry D'Ambrosio JD'93

Partner
D'Ambrosio Brown, LLP
Boston, MA

Gerard S. DiFiore JD'84

Partner
Reed Smith, LLP
New York, NY

Jeffrey R. Drago JD'04

Partner
Drago + Toscano, LLP
Boston, MA

Kevin M. Fitzgerald JD'82

Partner
Nixon Peabody, LLP
Manchester, NH

Christine Newman Garvey JD'72, Trustee

Global Head of Corporate Real Estate and Services (ret.)
Deutsche Bank AG
Santa Barbara, CA

Kenneth T. Gear BSBA'89, JD'95

Chief Executive Officer
Leading Builders of America, Inc.
Washington, DC

Marc S. Geller JD'71

Vice President
Cedar Crossing Management, LLC
Houston, TX

Joseph W. Glannon

Professor of Law
Suffolk University Law School
Boston, MA

Ernst Guerrier BS'91, JD'94, Trustee

Principal
Guerrier & Associates, PC
Boston, MA

James F. Haley, Jr. JD'75

Partner
Haley Guiliano, LLP
New York, NY

Henry G. Kara BSBA'66, JD'69

President
Kara Law Offices
Boston, MA

George N. Keches JD'75

Senior Partner
Keches Law Group, LLC
Taunton, MA

James A. Lack JD'96

Attorney
Law Office of James A. Lack
Boston, MA

Warren G. Levenbaum JD'72

Managing Partner
Levenbaum Trachtenberg, PLC
Phoenix, AZ

Konstantinos Ligris JD'01, Trustee

Founder & Board Member
Ligris + Associates, PC
Co-Founder
Stavvy & Escrow Mint, LLC
Newton, MA

Deborah Marson JD'78

Executive Vice President, General Counsel, and Secretary
Iron Mountain, Inc.
Boston, MA

Michael J. McCormack JD'72

Partner
McCormack Suny, LLC
Boston, MA

Timothy M. McCrystal JD'89

Partner
Ropes & Gray, LLP
Boston, MA

Brian E. McManus JD'71

President
McManus Capital Management
Fort Worth, TX

Robert T. Noonan JD'85

Regional Managing Partner – Tax
KPMG, LLP
Boston, MA

Eric J. Parker JD'86

Partner
Parker Scheer, LLP
Boston, MA

Jamie A. Sasson JD'04

Managing Partner
The Tickin Law Group, PA
Deerfield Beach, FL

Lewis A. Sassoon JD'69

Partner
Sassoon & Cymrot LLP
Boston, MA

Janis B. Schiff JD'83

Partner
Holland & Knight, LLP
Washington, DC

Alan B. Sharaf JD'87

Partner
Sharaf & Maloney, PC
Brookline, MA

Marie-Louise Skafte JD'96

Principal
Skafte Global Law, PA
Fort Lauderdale, FL

Wayne E. Smith BSBA'77, JD'82

Adjunct Professor
Suffolk University Law School
Firm Director (ret.)
Deloitte Tax, LLP
Boston, MA

Regina C. Sullivan JD'88

Managing Partner
Gaman Real Estate Group, LLC
Wellesley, MA

Thomas M. Sullivan JD'94, Trustee

Founding Partner
Lando & Anastasi, LLP
Cambridge, MA
Instructor
Suffolk University
Sawyer Business School
Boston, MA

James S. Trainor, Jr. JD'00

Partner
Fenwick & West LLP
New York, NY

Kenneth J. Vacovec JD'75

Senior Partner
Vacovec, Mayotte & Singer, LLP
Newton, MA

Richard J. Walsh BA'58, JD'60

Attorney (ret.)
Federal Trade Commission
Naples, FL

Stephen N. Wilchins JD'82

Founding Partner
Wilchins, Cosentino, Friend, LLP
Wellesley, MA

Linda J. Wondrack JD'95

EVP, Head of Compliance
Fidelity Investments
Boston, MA

ALUMNI EVENTS

CAPTURING
MEMORABLE MOMENTS
FROM SCHOOL
GATHERINGS



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CLINICAL AND EXPERIENTIAL PROGRAMS 5TH ANNUAL ALUMNI RECEPTION AND AWARD PRESENTATION

THURSDAY, MARCH 21, 2019

Sargent Hall, Boston

This year's celebration of our nationally ranked Clinical & Experiential Programs honored Trustee Ernst Guerrier BS'91, JD'94 with the Outstanding Clinical Alumni Award. *Photographs by John Gillooly*

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1. Melissa Marquez BA'14, JD'17; Rose Kiggundu JD'18; Najma Hussain BA'15, JD'18; and Amanda Scafidi BS'10, JD'18

2. Sarah Boonin, Director, Clinical Programs and Director, Health Law Clinic; Dean Andrew Perlman; Ernst Guerrier BS'91, JD'94, Trustee and Dean's Cabinet; and Kim McLaurin, Associate Dean and Clinical Professor of Law



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LAW SCHOOL CLASS OF 1969 50TH REUNION DINNER

FRIDAY, MAY 31, 2019

Omni Parker House, Boston

On Friday, May 31, the Suffolk University Law School Class of 1969 celebrated its 50th reunion with a special dinner at the Omni Parker House Hotel in Boston. See story on page 28. *Photographs by John Gillooly*

1. Dean Andrew Perlman; Richard Krezel JD'69; and Cindy Krezel
2. Bonnie Damico; J. David Damico JD'69; Jennifer Scarano; Hon. Carmine M. Bravo JD'69 (ret.); Jerry Scarano, Jr. JD'69; Winnie Rubino; and Richard Rubino JD'69
3. James Sokolove JD'69, Paul Kaufman JD'69; Betty Rappaport; and Hon. Carmine M. Bravo JD'69 (ret.)
4. Joan Farcus JD'69 and David Gianetti
5. Richard Rubino JD'69; Ted Schwartz JD'69; and James Sokolove JD'69
6. Henry Kara BSBA'66, JD'69, Dean's Cabinet; Lew Sassoon JD'69, Dean's Cabinet; and Amy Sassoon

7. Anthony DeLuca JD'69; Alan Kraut JD'69; J. David Damico JD'69; Jerry Scarano, Jr. JD'69; Dean Andrew Perlman; Theodore Schwartz JD'69; Paul Kaufman JD'69; and Hon. Carmine M. Bravo JD'69 (ret.)



HALF-CENTURY CLUB LUNCHEON

FRIDAY, MAY 31, 2019

Marriott Long Wharf Hotel

On May 31, alumni from the class of 1969 returned to Suffolk to celebrate their 50th reunion.

At this annual luncheon, Suffolk inducts the 50th reunion class into the Half-Century Club and invites alumni from past 50th reunion classes to attend. Save the date for the 2020 Half-Century Club Luncheon on Friday, May 29, 2020, when we will celebrate the Class of 1970. For more information, contact Corian Branyan in the Office of Advancement at 617-573-8456. *Photographs by John Gillooly*

Top row, left to right: Robert Billage MA'69; James O'Donnell BA'66, JD'69; Teresa Gillis BA'69; Bob Rook JD'69; John Webster JD'69; Jeffrey Mark Pearlman BA'69; Richard Duchesneau BSBA'69; Jerry Scarano, Jr. JD'69; Richard Krezel JD'69; Andrew Bram JD'69; and Henry Kara BSBA'66, JD'69, Dean's Cabinet

Middle row, left to right: Lew Sassoon JD'69, Dean's Cabinet; Anthony DeLuca JD'69; Hon. Carmine M. Bravo JD'69 (ret.); Robert Nocera JD'69; J. David Damico JD'69; Roger Phillips JD'69; Gregory Britz JD'69; Edward McTighe JD'69; John Bourgeois, Sr. JD'69; Mario Zangari JD'69; Theodore Schwartz JD'69; and Paul Kaufman JD'69

Bottom row, left to right: Thomas Woodbury BA'69, MAE'72; John Wansea BSJ'69; Michael Houghton BSJ'69; Ruth Monahan BA'69; Marsha Feffer BA'68; Jack Dennis BSBA'69; David Flynn BSBA'69; Thomas Miley BSBA'69, MAE'71; Linwood Nelson BSBA'69; Mary Cahalane BS'69, MED'74; and Joseph Ruggio MBA'69

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COMMENCEMENT EVE DINNER

SATURDAY, MAY 18, 2019

The Seaport Hotel, Boston

Alumni and guests gathered on May 18, 2019, at the Seaport Hotel on the evening before commencement to celebrate the accomplishments of our 2019 graduates, our esteemed honorary degree recipients, and the generosity of our alumni and friends in the Summa Society. *Photographs by John Gillooly*



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1. Alexander Bove, Jr. JD'67, Dean's Cabinet and Catherine Bove

2. Eddie Jenkins, Jr. JD'78 and Tamela Bailey JD'04, Alumni Association Board Member

3. Konstantinos (Kosta) Ligris JD'01, Trustee and Dean's Cabinet; Robert Lamb, Jr., Chair, Board of Trustees; and Nik Ligris JD'11



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SUFFOLK CONNECT ALUMNI-STUDENT NETWORKING RECEPTION

TUESDAY, APRIL 2, 2019

Ropes & Gray LLP, Boston

Over 270 alumni and students attended the annual alumni and student networking reception held at Ropes & Gray LLP. A special thank you to alumnus Timothy McCrystal JD'89, Dean's Cabinet, for hosting the reception.

Photographs by Michael J. Clarke

4. James McKenzie JD'75; Cade Nauman; Erica Mattison MPA'08, JD'13; and Desi Powell

5. Paige Stopperich; Jessen Foster; Sammy Nabulsi JD'14, Alumni Association Board Member; and Brianna Whitney JD'13

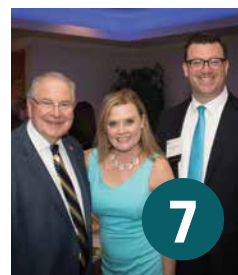
6. Gary Prado JD'16; Shelby Devaney; and Sarah Marshall

7. Timothy McCrystal JD'89, Dean's Cabinet; Dean Andrew Perlman; Gunjan Sali; and Hillary Peterson JD'09, Assistant Director of Professional and Career Development

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SUFFOLK LAW REUNION DINNER AND ALUMNI AWARDS CEREMONY

SATURDAY, JUNE 1, 2019

Sargent Hall

The annual Suffolk Law Reunion Dinner and Alumni Awards Ceremony was held in Sargent Hall on Saturday, June 1, 2019. This special dinner honored alumni celebrating a reunion year and also recognized four alumni for outstanding achievements, service, and philanthropy: Massachusetts House Speaker Robert A. DeLeo JD'76, HLLD'09, Outstanding Alumni Achievement Award; Jennifer L. Parent JD'95, Outstanding Alumni Service Award; Kwabena Kyei-Aboagye, Jr. JD'09, Outstanding Graduate of the Last Decade; and Gerard F. Doherty JD'60, Edward Bray JD'58 Legacy Award. *Photographs by John Gillooly*

- 1.** Rep. Josh Cutler JD'00; Lynn Sullivan; Hon. Amy Nechtem JD'85, Trustee; Thomas Sullivan JD'94, Dean's Cabinet and Alumni Association Board Member; and Robert Rio JD'94
- 2.** Patricia Tarabelsi JD'08; Victoria Burdman JD'06; Tamela Bailey JD'04, Alumni Association Board Member; and Tiziana Polizio JD'97
- 3.** President Marisa J. Kelly; Gerard Doherty JD'60; Massachusetts House Speaker Robert A. DeLeo JD'76, HLLD'09; Jennifer L. Parent JD'95; Kwabena Kyei-Aboagye, Jr. JD'09; and Dean Andrew Perlman
- 4.** Carla Perugini-Erickson JD'94 and Teri Scibelli JD'94
- 5.** Hon. Regina Quinlan Doherty JD'73, HLLD'05 and Gerard Doherty JD'60
- 6.** Johanna Homan; Jonathan Schwartz JD'11, Alumni Association Board Member; Brian Neely; and Anna Lucey JD'06
- 7.** Massachusetts House Speaker Robert A. DeLeo JD'76, HLLD'09; Mary Doherty; and Tim Wilkerson JD'03, Alumni Association Board Member



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U.S. SUPREME COURT BAR ADMISSION PROGRAM

MARCH 3-4, 2019

Welcome Reception, Washington, DC

Forty Suffolk University Law School alumni traveled to Washington, D.C. to be sworn in to the Bar of the United States Supreme Court. The two-day program began on March 3 with a welcome reception at the Hyatt Regency Washington. On Monday, March 4, the alumni, along with Dean Perlman, appeared before the justices of the U.S. Supreme Court during the court's Monday morning session. Professor Emerita Karen Blum JD'74 presented the motion to admit the Suffolk Law alumni to the Supreme Court Bar. The group received a surprise visit from both Chief Justice John Roberts and Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg during the reception. *Photographs by Michael Carpenter*

1. Suffolk University Law School's newly admitted members of the U.S. Supreme Court Bar and D.C. area alumni.



2

SUFFOLK LAW SCHOOL NEW HAMPSHIRE NETWORK DINNER

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20, 2019

Bedford Village Inn, Bedford, NH

The Suffolk Law New Hampshire Alumni Chapter gathered at the Bedford Village Inn for its annual meeting and dinner. *Photographs by Annamarie M. Mueller*



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2. Suffolk University Law School New Hampshire Alumni Network

3. Jennifer Parent JD'95, president of the NH Alumni Network



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Establishing a bequest enrolls you in Suffolk's Frost Society. Please contact Randy F. Stabile, Esq., Office of Advancement, 617-573-8029, rstable@suffolk.edu.

SAVE THE
DATE!

SUFFOLK UNIVERSITY LAW SCHOOL
**REUNION DINNER
AND AWARDS CEREMONY**

APRIL
04
5:30 P.M.

If your degree year ends in a "0" or "5" and you are interested in becoming a class representative, contact Alison E. McManus at amcmanus@suffolk.edu