



The University of Texas at Austin  
**Pipeline Program**  
*School of Law*

# COHORT CELEBRATION

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**April 22, 2023**

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# CELEBRATING THE 2023 COHORT OF THE TEXAS LAW PIPELINE PROGRAM

## **WELCOMING REMARKS**

Nicole Clark Simmons '07

*Director of Pipeline Outreach and Development*

## **A MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN**

Bobby Chesney

## **GREETINGS FROM ADMISSIONS**

Mathiew Le

*Assistant Dean for Admissions and Financial Aid*

## **KEYNOTE**

Mike Bielby

*Finance Partner and Dallas Office Hiring Partner,  
Vinson & Elkins LLP*

## **PRESENTATION OF THE COHORT**

Sam Riley

*Senior Director for Admissions Programs*

## **ON BEHALF OF THE COHORT**

Angelina Ramirez '26

## **CLOSING REMARKS**

Nicole Clark Simmons '07

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**TEXAS** Law

# THE 2023 COHORT

## **Gbemisola Akala**

*The University of Texas at Austin '23*

## **Esha Ali**

*The University of Texas at Austin '23*

## **Dariel Arostegui**

*The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley '22*

## **Precious Azagba**

*The University of North Texas '22*

## **Yuri Barragan**

*St. Edward's University '20*

## **Sandy Estefania Romero Capetillo**

*The University of Texas at Austin '23*

## **Rebecca Gutierrez**

*The University of Texas at San Antonio '19*

## **Daisy Hernandez**

*The University of Texas at Arlington '21*

## **Phoebe James**

*Texas A&M University '22*

## **Daisy Lopez**

*The University of Texas at Austin '23*

## **Viviana Luna**

*Texas A&M University '23*

## **Leslie Medina**

*The University of Texas at Dallas '21*

## **Ximena Mondragon**

*St. Mary's University '19*

## **Sondos Moursy**

*The University of Houston '22*

## **Juan Negrete**

*The University of Texas at San Antonio '23*

## **Cheyenne Perez-Bailey**

*The University of Texas at Arlington '21*

## **Angelina Ramirez**

*The University of Texas at Austin '22*

## **Daniela Ramos**

*St. Edward's University '23*

## **Juana Anaya Rico**

*Baylor University '22*

## **Salahudeen Robinson**

*Prairie View A&M University '23*

## **Sumaya Siddiqui**

*University of Houston '22*

## **Kolby Tate**

*The University of Texas at Austin '23*

## **Mariana Tejada**

*The University of Texas at Austin '20*

## **Laura Tenorio**

*The University of Texas at Austin '23*

## **Ashley Thompson**

*The University of Texas at San Antonio '22*

## **Sabrina Tsegai**

*The University of Texas at Dallas '22*

## **Jacquelyne Valladares**

*University of Houston '21*

## **Talina Vasquez**

*University of Houston – Downtown '21*

## **Jenifer Velazquez**

*The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley '22*

## **D'Andre Watson**

*The University of North Texas '21*

# SCHOLARSHIPS

The University of Texas School of Law and the Texas Law Pipeline Program are grateful to those who have supported our mission and the achievements of the Cohort through full-tuition scholarships for five students joining the Texas Law Class of 2026.

Those donors, their named scholarships, and the deserving students receiving them, are:

**Josephine Sterling Hughes Foundation**

**JOSEPHINE STERLING HUGHES FOUNDATION  
PIPELINE SCHOLARSHIP**

AWARDED TO SUMAYA SIDDIQUI

**Madison Charitable Foundation, through alumna Norma Petrosewicz**

**MADISON CHARITABLE FOUNDATION  
PIPELINE SCHOLARSHIP**

AWARDED TO SONDOS MOURSY

**Audrey and Jerry Andrews**

**ANDREWS FAMILY  
PIPELINE SCHOLARSHIP**

AWARDED TO ANGELINA RAMIREZ

**Daphne and Ben Vaughan**

**VAUGHAN FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP  
AWARDED TO GBEMISOLA AKALA**

**Angela and Scott Styles**

**DAS LEBEN-STYLES FAMILY  
PIPELINE SCHOLARSHIPS**

AWARDED TO SALAHUDEEN ROBINSON

The school and the program are grateful to all of our alumni and donors who support the Pipeline Program. We thank them for their generosity and commitment.

# VOLUNTEERS

The Pipeline Program and the Cohort would not be possible without the investment of time and wisdom from our many volunteers in the student, alumni, and professional communities. We acknowledge them here.

## ALUMNI MENTORS

Kohl Anderson '21	Ashley Harris '16	Andrea Meza '15
Audrey Andrews '91	David Holmes '18	Ikenna Okoro '19
Jayde Ashford '13	Hon. Chizoma Ihekere- Anokwute '98	Jennifer Parnell '06
Kimberly Ashworth '12	E. Joyce Iyamu '06	Briana Perez '17
Kaycee Crisp '08	Hon. Tanisa Jeffers '99	Nick Pesina '12
Manuel Escobar '05	Hon. Aurora Martinez Jones '07	Betsy Peticolas '09
Hon. Bianca Garcia '12	Betsy Stukes Martinez '13	Adriana Rodriguez '11
Hon. JoAnne Garcia '09	Kimberly Martinez '97	Cristian Sanchez '17
Veronica Gibson '09	Hon. Rudy Metayer '06	Maritza Sanchez '15
Kassandra Gonzalez '19		Hon. Oshea Spencer '97
Jasmine Harding '16		

## LAW STUDENT MENTORS

Poonam Agrawal '24	Andrea Herrera '24	Emily Nguyen '24
Jason Allen '23	Bola Ibidapo '23	Michelle Nguyen '24
Sh'muel Avraham '23	Samuel Jefferson '23	Chiamaka Okoye '24
Lizeth Badillo Garcia '25	Saheel Junaghare '24	Isabella Parlette '24
Kirsten Budwine '23	Duriba Khan '23	Jordan Phillips '23
Yatika Chaudhri '23	Ritika Kumar '25	Nisa Sheikh '23
Dinah Chukwu '24	Umul Lalee '23	Crystal Tran '24
Ava Dhakal '23	Valorie Marks '24	Barbara Di Castro Young '23
Araceli Garcia '24	Jaria Martin '24	
Alex Gonzalez '24	Alyse Munrose '23	

## GUEST PRESENTERS

Manuel Berrelez	Marissa Elder '22	Katie Holmes '24
Markeya Brown	Hong Tran Escobar	Assistant Dean Mathiew Le Lucy Liu
Meg Clifford '12	Angélica Salinas Evans '95	Jesús Salinas '07
Professor Mechele Dickerson	Sandra Gonzalez '09	Beth Youngdale '92
Paige Duggins-Clay '17	Associate Dean Shavonne Henderson '05	

# FALL 2023 PLANS:

## *In Their Own Words*

**Gbemisola Akala:** I will be continuing my education at Texas Law School. Texas Law School Class of 2026

**Esha Ali:** As of today, I am planning to take a gap year to work and help support my family before I begin my legal studies.

**Dariel Arostegui:** Undecided Law School Class of 2026/2027; Mergers & Acquisitions Projects Assistant - Austin, TX

**Precious Azagba:** My Fall 2023 plans include taking the LSAT and applying to law schools for the Fall 2024 school year.

**Yuri Barragan:** This Fall, I will begin my first semester of law school at Texas Law. I will resume my role as Senior Policy Advisor for Austin City Council Member José Velásquez until the start of the Fall semester.

**Sandy Estefania Romero Capetillo:** For Fall 2023, I plan to focus on applying to law schools but specifically Texas Law, as well as applying for the MSW program at UT. If accepted to both places, I plan to focus on a dual degree!

**Rebecca Gutierrez:** Policy and Special Projects Aide for Bexar County Commissioner PCT 3

**Daisy Hernandez:** I will be working as a paralegal at the Dallas District Attorney's Office while studying for the LSAT. I plan on submitting applications for the law school entering class of Fall 2024.

**Phoebe James:** Joining a law school Class of 2026

**Daisy Lopez:** University of Houston Law Center Class of 2026.

**Viviana Luna:** I plan to obtain my paralegal certificate while working as a legal assistant at a firm. I will also be working on my law school application materials to apply for the next cycle.

**Leslie Medina:** This fall, I'll be working as a Legal Assistant at Sysco and applying for law school.

**Ximena Mondragon:** My plan is to continue to excel as a senior policy analyst for the Houston Independent School District and focus on applying to law school next cycle.

**Sondos Moursy:** I am excited to start law school in the fall and take advantage of all the public interest offerings. Texas Law Class of 2026

**Juan Negrete:** I'll continue working in the Texas Senate and apply for law school during the fall 2023 admissions cycle.

**Cheyenne Perez-Bailey:** I will continue employment as a Veterans Law Paralegal at Chisholm Chisholm & Kilpatrick LTD until starting law school at the University of Oklahoma College of Law (Class of 2026) in the fall. At OU Law, I am excited to get involved in the Native American Law Student Association and the Military Law Society.

**Angelina Ramirez:** University of Texas at Austin School of Law Class of 2026; Public Interest Law

**Daniela Ramos:** I plan to attend Quinnipiac University School of Law and graduate in 2026.

**Juana Anaya Rico:** University of Houston Law Class of 2026

**Salahudeen Robinson:** Enroll in UT Law class of 2026

**Sumaya Siddiqui:** University of Texas School of Law, Class of 2026

**Kolby Tate:** I plan to attend TSU Thurgood Marshall School of Law.

**Mariana Tejada:** I will continue my role as a Teach For America alum in Ft. Worth, TX, and reapply for law school.

**Laura Tenorio:** I am currently planning to attend South Texas College of Law.

**Ashley Thompson:** I will be attending law school at Thurgood Marshall School of Law at Texas Southern University in Houston.

**Sabrina Tsegai:** I will be attending the University of Texas at Austin School of Law in Fall 2023.

**Jacquelyne Valladares:** In the Fall of 2023, I will be clerking for a Justice of the Peace in Houston and reapplying to law school.

**Talina Vasquez:** My academic plan for Fall 2023 is to retake the LSAT and apply to law school before the end of the year.

**Jenifer Velazquez:** St. Mary's School of Law Class of 2026

**D'Andre Watson:** University of Texas Law Class of 2026



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