

TEXAS Law Alumni News & Notes

APRIL 30, 2024

AN E-NEWSLETTER FOR TEXAS LAW ALUMNI

REUNION 2024: THE BEST YET!



Pictured (from left): Joshua Scheufler '19, Seti Tesefay '19, and Dymond Mensah '19.

Reunion 2024 was celebrated by more than 800 attendees who came back to celebrate friendships and share the rich memories of their three years at Texas Law. [Read what reunion-goers had to say](#) about being back in Townes Hall—and with their classmates again.



[See More Reunion Photos on Flickr](#)

Class Scholarships Support Texas Law Excellence

By giving to your class scholarship, you empower us to attract top talent and ensure that financial constraints don't hinder anyone's legal aspirations. Please join your classmates by showing your support for the next generation of legal professionals. **THANK YOU** for your support!



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LAW SCHOOL NEWS

Click on headlines to read more.



Loan Repayment Assistance Increased

The law school has raised its financial benchmarks to support Texas Law graduates in public service careers.



Good to Have PALS

The new Plaintiffs' Advocacy & Litigation Society is leading the nationwide growth in plaintiff-side student groups.



Vladeck Honored for 'Research Impact'

The Texas Law professor (pictured left with UT President Jay Hartzell) was named a 2024 recipient of The University of Texas at Austin President's Award.



FACULTY LEGENDS RETIRE

Professors Michael Churgin, Mary Crouter, and Patricia Hansen were honored at the Spring Faculty Dinner on April 15.

[Read More Texas Law News](#)

FACULTY IN THE NEWS



Texas Law faculty experts were quoted in leading national and state news outlets this month. Click below to see what these thought leaders had to say: **Michele Deitch, Randall Erben, Denise Gilman, Tara Leigh Grove, Sarah Mae Jennings, Adam Klein, Lee Kovarsky, Jennifer Laurin, Lawrence Sager, Elizabeth Sepper, Jordan Steiker, Michael Sturley, Stephen Vladeck, and Heather Way.**

[Read Faculty in the News](#)

ALUMNI EVENTS



Austin Mayor Kirk Watson to Give Commencement Address

The longtime public servant will share his wisdom with the Class of 2024 at this year's Sunflower Ceremony on May 11.

May 9 – Jamboree Graduation Party for the Class of 2024

May 11 – Sunflower Ceremony

June 6 – Texas Law Summer Mix and Mingle in Washington, D.C.

June 20 – Texas Law Reception at the 2024 State Bar of Texas Annual Meeting in Dallas

July 9 – Houston Summer Associate Happy Hour

[View More Texas Law Events](#)

CLASS NOTES

Ordered by class year, then by last name.



Pictured (top, from left): Jennifer Brown '90, Jaime Vasquez '08, Adrienne N. Wall '09, Irwin H. Steinhorn '64; (bottom, from left): Andres Contreras '15, Meghan A. McCaffrey '08, Jack Woodville London '72, and Julia A. Simon '91.

Irwin H. Steinhorn '64 has joined the Oklahoma City office of Steptoe & Johnson as of counsel.

Peter Petkas '70 is featured in a new book of essays, 'Choosing the Public Interest: Essays from the First Public Interest Research Group.'

Samuel A. Simon '70 has compiled and edited a new book of essays, 'Choosing the Public Interest: Essays from the First Public Interest Research Group.'

Jack Woodville London '72 will speak on the 80th anniversary of the D-Day landings at Omaha and Utah beaches in Normandy, France, this June.

William McClellan "Mac" Thornberry '83 has been appointed to the board of directors of Booz Allen Hamilton Holding Corporation.

Lisa Blatt '89 is the first woman to argue 50 cases at the U.S. Supreme Court. She has a 41-5 win-loss record with four pending cases this term.

Jennifer Brown '90 has been named chief legal officer and senior vice president of Mercy, where she will contribute to the company's growth and collaboration efforts as one of the largest U.S. health systems.

Julia A. Simon '91 has joined trial litigation firm Lynn Pinker Hurst & Schwegmann as partner.

Hon. Leon Schydlower '95 has been sworn in as a judge for the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Texas.

Tommy Gregory '00 has been named as the next president of State College of Florida, Manatee-Sarasota.

James Kitces '01 has been appointed managing partner of Robins Kaplan's Boston office.

Chris Hamilton '04 has earned selection on the 2024 D Magazine "Best Lawyers in Dallas" list based on his work in high-stakes personal injury litigation and plaintiffs' civil litigation.

James R. Mundy '06 has been hired at Curtis Thaxter, a Portland (Maine) law firm.

Meghan A. McCaffrey '08 has a new position as co-managing partner in the Washington, D.C. office of Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan, LLP.

Jaime Vasquez '08 has been named the managing shareholder of Chamberlain Hrdlicka's San Antonio office.

Adrienne N. Wall '09 has been named a Rising Star by Texas Lawyer for her excellence in banking law.

Kelly E. Wise '11 has been promoted to shareholder at Munsch Hardt Kopf & Harr, P.C. in Dallas, working as a member of the firm's litigation and transportation practices.

Andres Contreras '15 has been named a Rising Star by Texas Lawyer for his excellence in complex commercial litigation in both state and federal courts.

Barrett Robin '15 has been named a Rising Star by Texas Lawyer for his work in personal injury lawsuits.

[Read Full Class Notes Entries](#)

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IN MEMORIAM

Ordered by class year, then by last name.

Harry Hudspeth '58

William Pool '59

H. Lee Caldwell '61

William Hudson '61

Thomas Snow '61

James Easterling '65

Robert Bailey '66

Menton Murray '66

Joel Klein '67

Aubrey Biard '68

James Schendle '70

R. Steve Simms '74

Jayme Dissly '77

Jeffrey Wise '90

Thomas Collins '21

[Read In Memoriam Notes](#)

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Alumni News and Class Notes are compiled based on the information we receive and edited for space. If you have professional news to share, please [submit a class note online](#).

Feedback? Email us at alumni@law.utexas.edu.



 The University of Texas at Austin
School of Law