

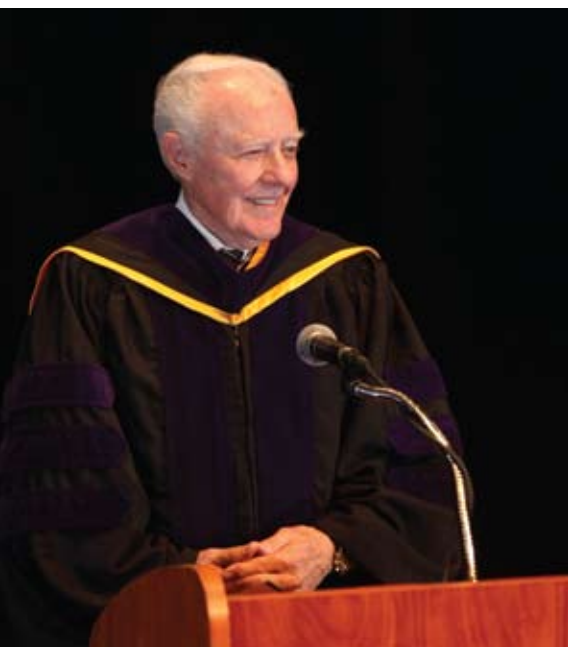


Inter Alia

SAN JOAQUIN COLLEGE OF LAW • Volume 30, Issue 2



BACK ROW (L-R) Arman Kyurinyan, Rena Marie Harrison, Mario Alberto Gonzalez Silvestre, Morgan D. Day, Annemarie Monique Taylor, Sara Ellen Tarasevic, John Philip Soares, Jeremy Kellie Matthews, Cassandra Kaur Sheanh, and Fabian Perez
MIDDLE ROW (L-R) Cory Massey, Ali M. Huda, Jodie Pierce Howard, Jordan John Erich Ott, Joseph Dominic Good, Ivan Gomez, Andrés Eduardo Santiago Benítez, Sebastian Santana, Vaughan F. Rios, Jason Terrance Oleson, and Timothy Andrew Miller
FRONT ROW (L-R) Adriana Susana Gomez Santiago, Gladdey Donsanouphit, Courtney Rochelle DiPinto, Rachel Baskin, Whitney Loren Hendricks, Bethany Jade Silsby, Miriam Yosselim Sanchez, Maritza Uribe, Maria E. Valencia, and Shannon Wentworth
NOT PICTURED: Emilio Avellaneda, Cecilia Dee Barnes, and Amanda Danielle Busick



The Honorable **Oliver Wanger** delivered the commencement address

A Golden Graduation

As SJCL celebrates its 50th year, the 46th Graduating Class was treated to a commencement address by one of the Law School Founders.

Dean Janice Pearson introduced the Honorable Oliver Wanger, but warned the intro would be cut short to avoid holding the audience captive for several days.

Dean Pearson spoke about the formation of the Law School as Judge Wanger and John Loomis gathered in Judge Eymann's living room. Wanger was just two years out of law school at the time, and became not only a founder, but also a Dean of SJCL, Chairman of the Board, and an adjunct professor. In addition, between his early years as a Deputy District Attorney, 20 years as a U.S. District Court Judge, and

current status as Senior Partner at Wanger, Jones, Helsley, he has either pleaded or presided over more than 600 jury trials. Perhaps most notable to many alumni was his presiding over a course review when he taught Civil Procedure. The review consisted of two three-hour sessions, with Wanger simply scanning the book's table of contents and lecturing about each area without any other prompts.

Wanger took the podium and returned the praise. "Your Dean, Janice Pearson, is single-handedly responsible for the success of San Joaquin College of Law." He then took the audience on a tour of the past, ex-



A Message From the Dean

SJCL is 50 years old. When a school has been around that long, there are many interesting stories to tell.

Do You Remember When...

- It snowed at SJCL and everyone was in the parking lot making snowballs?
- The Student Lounge was the parking lot behind the Shields building?
- Someone made a fake bomb call to the Clovis building to try to get the start of an afternoon final postponed? (It wasn't.)
- The Back to School Party was in Joyce Morodomi's backyard?
- Joe Cooper ('87) attended classes during the week, then flew out to be the field goal kicker, first for the Houston Oilers, and later for the San Francisco 49er's?
- SJCL had its own bookstore in the Clovis building?
- Hans and Franz wanted to "Pump You Up!"
- Staff had to run the Graduation reception food down a long alley behind the Warnor's Theater during the ceremony?
- Academic Dean Sally Perring had elaborate potlucks in her class every year?
- We all survived the stress of a WASC or COBE site visit?
- Students helped transport the library collection from Fresno Pacific to the Shields campus?
- Dean Jan portrayed Emily Litella and Dorothy from the Wizard of Oz at spring banquets?
- An SJCL team won the statewide Traynor Moot Competition and another team won the National Tax Moot Court competition?
- There was a Paralegal Program and a Masters in Taxation Program?
- SJCL operated the Small Claims Advisor Service or the Mediation Clinic?
- Judge Oliver Wanger taught Civil Procedure from the pulpit of the church across the street from the Shields building because SJCL had run out of space?
- SJCL moved to the Clovis building?
- The mock verbal rivalry between Professors Artenian and Cartier never ended?
- SJCL had one computer and no one would touch it?
- A grad hired cheerleaders to do their pompom thing for him throughout the graduation ceremony?
- The smallest class was 10 and the largest was 94?
- Dean Jan jumped on a table to lead the cheer the year SJCL's first-time pass rate was 95%

I remember most of these "milestones." I also remember the incredible amount of work hundreds of students have devoted to attaining their degrees, the effort and commitment of faculty, staff, and board, and the generosity of so many donors who have made a solid academic program possible.

**Thank You and Happy 50th Birthday
San Joaquin College of Law!**

Janice Pearson

Janice Pearson

Dean

San Joaquin College of Law

Inter Alia

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Vision: *To be the premier provider of legal education, scholarship, and service in the San Joaquin Valley.*
Mission: *To educate and develop individuals to become highly skilled attorneys and problem solvers who will benefit their communities through public and private service. In seeking this vision and attaining this mission, SJCL shall embody the values of civility, excellence, integrity, intellectual inquiry, and service.*

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An Uncommon Advocate: Deciphering the Puzzle

Even if “typical law student” were a thing, recent grad Jodie Howard wouldn’t be one.

BY DIANE SKOUTI



Jodie Howard and her inspiration, **Bren**.

Having completed law school at the top of her class, Jodie’s talent and ambition are obvious, but the inspiration behind her success has little to do with torts or contracts, and everything to do with love. Growing up in Hawaii, the mother of all playgrounds, Jodie has always been a believer in the value of play. If you’re thinking play as in theatrical, or preceded by the word power, you’re on the wrong track. Jodie’s play of choice is simple, joy-filled, and familiar to us all. Whether indoors or out, born of glorious imaginings or adapted from beloved games tried and true, the purpose of play, if one must ascribe it a purpose, is diversion, recreation, or amusement. Put simply: fun. As a harbinger of organic life lessons, play is invaluable.

Jodie always understood that, so she chose recreation management as her major in college. She left home (insert huge gasp here because - *leave* Hawaii?) for Utah and Brigham Young University. Her interest was keeping youth out of trouble by providing them productive activities (i.e. play). After college, Jodie’s first job was running a skate park in Los Angeles. Her future husband was a Fresno native attending UCLA at the time. They met by chance when she came to Fresno serving a mission for her church. For the first few years of their marriage, Jodie worked at the skate park, which featured a camp where teens were taught to mentor and work with younger kids. It was for Jodie, “the perfect job.”

Everything changed drastically, however, after her son Bren was born with autism. He required round-the-clock care, so Jodie became a stay-at-home mom. As she searched for services that could benefit Bren’s development, she encountered large holes in the system. Even the most meager enrichment programs were difficult to come by. What Bren needed, and what, Jodie realized, all kids with autism need, is advocacy. Someone with first-hand experience to stand up and give voice to the struggles they endure. To ensure their full rights (legal and moral) are being granted, and they are able to live life to their fullest ability.

As Jodie’s knowledge of the issues facing families like hers grew, she found that help for individuals with developmental disability was not only sparse, it was prohibitively expensive. Her frustrations grew when a trailer bill to the Lanterman Act¹ was passed, effectively cutting the funding for Applied Behavioral Analysis, and the number of helpful therapy hours that could be provided for each individual. In response, Jodie went before an Administrative Law Judge to fight for Bren’s therapy. She won, but was painfully aware of other families who did not.

That was the trigger for Jodie’s desire to help. Soon after, her husband Rob came home with a stack of LSAT study guides. “Are you thinking about going to law school?” she had asked him. It was Rob’s support and encouragement that convinced Jodie she may have stumbled upon a new calling.

At her SJCL orientation, Jodie remembers hearing that most law students change their legal interests and focus after a while. She heard how half the people in her group would most likely fail after the first year, but Jodie was determined. Special Education law was the only reason she

had come to law school, for her son and others like him. She vowed to give 1000% effort to “not fail” if she could help it. Not only did Jodie “not fail,” she graduated with high honors and served as her class valedictorian.

“Jodie has excelled here in everything she has touched,” says Academic Dean Justin Atkinson. “When there appears to be no opportunity to do something she wants to do, she creates the opportunity.”

Jodie says her son Bren is her greatest motivator, especially when things get tough. “He has to give everything he has every single day whether he wants to or not. If he can do what he does, I can keep going,” she said.

Now 15, Bren is non-verbal, but he communicates using sign language and typing. “Non-verbal is difficult when it comes to others,” Jodie says. “People always underestimate him,” but she says he has lots to say and finds his own ways to say it. “He can’t understand socialization, like ordering a hamburger. He can’t make eye contact or answer back easily, but he can manage,” she said. “In some ways he is brilliant, and in others he is at the level of a five-year-old.”

Jodie explained that Bren’s capacity in other skill areas is off the charts. “His memory skills are phenomenal,” she said. “He can memorize entire movies, verbatim, and even type out the closed captioning.” She added that it is difficult to figure out what all his skills are, because of his communication and social deficits. “His strengths are very well hidden,” she said, “but they’re there.”

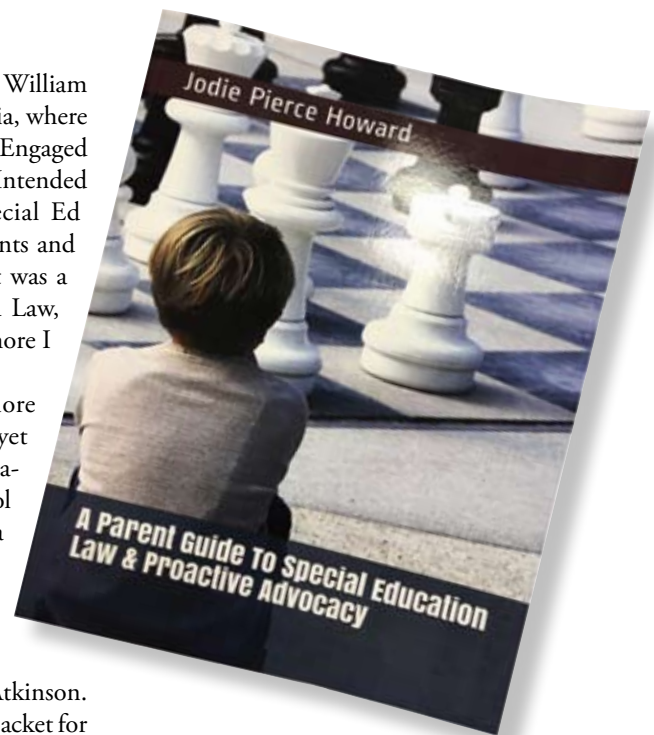
Jodie says it’s that way for most kids and adults on the autism spectrum. It’s easy to see the disability clearly, but those “super abilities” are far less obvious. “All autistic people have strengths we often overlook,” she said. “We pigeonhole them based on their weaknesses, so we prevent them from becoming who they could be. That’s why I’m so interested in advocacy, and that’s why I came to law school.”

Without an instructor who teaches Special Education law, Jodie says SJCL has been very supportive. She completed a course (a one-semester course that was con-

densed down to one week) at the William & Mary School of Law in Virginia, where they also have a clinic: Parents Engaged for Learning Equality (PELE). Intended for attorneys interested in Special Ed Law, Jodie was one of two students and 60 attorneys in the program. “It was a great introduction to Special Ed Law, but I found there was so much more I needed to learn.”

So, she did research, and more research, and did we mention yet that Jodie had so much information, combined with her law school knowledge, she turned it into a published book? *A Parent Guide to Special Education Law & Proactive Advocacy* (available on Amazon) started out as a research project supervised by Professor Atkinson. Her intent was to create a parent packet for procedural safeguards. It took four months to edit her material and have it checked over by both attorneys and parents for accuracy and user friendliness. Jodie made sure the result was something she herself would have valued greatly as a parent of a young child with autism.

Since then Jodie has been invited to present her book and findings at a conference workshop for therapists and parents. She used her own book as her “source” during the six-hour session and sold quite a few copies that day!



Professor Atkinson added that “Jodie has taught parental rights courses at SJCL under the direction of an attorney, and they are so informative that attorneys have signed up for them.” “Jodie is developing valuable and necessary resources for a very underserved population in the Central Valley; we look forward to partnering with her in the future,” he said. We congratulate Jodie Howard on all she has accomplished here at SJCL, and what we know is yet to come.



(L-R) **Jodie Howard**, daughter **Sydney** (now 12), husband **Rob**, and **Bren** (now 15).

1. Lanterman Developmental Disabilities Services Act – an important piece of legislation that was passed in California in 1969 that outlined the rights of individuals with developmental disabilities and their families to get the services and supports needed to help them live an independent and normal life. Part of the California Welfare and Institutions Code, §4500-§4905. The Act recognizes that people with developmental disabilities may need help to live full, productive lives. To learn more about the Lanterman Act go to: <http://www.dds.ca.gov/Statutes/LantermanAct.cfm>

You Too, Can Be An Astronaut (or an Attorney)

Heavily-titled alumni who work at opposite ends of the criminal justice system reflected on their careers in law at a recent SJCL Alumni Career Panel Forum.



(L-R): **Kendall Reynolds** (Law '12), **Honorable Monica Diaz** (Law '98), **Dean Jan Pearson**, **Jarrett Rogers** (Law '15), and **Robert Piacente** (Law '92),

Panelist Kendall Reynolds (Law '12) is a Deputy District Attorney in the Fresno County D.A.'s Office. Originally determined to become a federal agent, Kendall enrolled in law school as a way to "stand out" among the other candidates to the agency. As the first in his family to attend graduate school, Kendall was intent on having a career that didn't involve the family construction business, which employed his father, grandfather, and himself during law school. After graduating Kendall worked for a while at the Fresno County D.A.'s Office, until he was offered a position as a Special Agent for the Drug Enforcement Administration. He spent 20 weeks training at Quantico, Va, and was assigned to the southern border region of Arizona where he investigated complex and large-scale international drug trafficking organizations. After two years in that role, Kendall says he experienced a shift in perspective. He could see the heavy impact of the

courtroom and realized he would rather be a practicing attorney. That's when he returned to Fresno County as a Deputy District Attorney.

"I didn't love law school," Kendall says. "It was very stressful for me. I'm glad I did it, but I didn't love it." He said completing law school made him a better person, but one must be fully committed to make it through.

Kendall says the best advice he can give law students is time management. "I had a schedule for every day. My schedule had some free time on Sundays, but the rest of the week was timed around my job with my family's construction business, clerking job, and school. I didn't love the Bar (exam) either!" he added, but he triumphed over that as well.

Kendall's role as a prosecutor in the D.A.'s office is in direct opposition to fellow grad Jarrett Rogers' (Law '15) position as a Deputy Public Defender at the Juvenile Justice Center in Tulare County.

Jarrett says various life experiences created his desire to help people help themselves, but he hadn't thought about law school. "Being an attorney was something other people did – like being an astronaut – it was outside of my realm. But it is law that allows me to help people," he said. Having worked as a substance abuse counselor previous to and during law school, Jarrett says he enjoyed the challenges of law school as an adult. "It came naturally to me; the learning experience was great." And the great didn't stop there. As the Executive Editor and writer for the San Joaquin Agricultural Law Review, and the winner of nine Witkin Awards for Academic Excellence, Jarrett found he was no slouch in the courtroom either. "I learned that I had a presence in the courtroom, and that I felt comfortable." Jarrett used that presence to enjoy some of his proudest moments as an attorney, like putting a police officer on the stand who didn't follow the rules of the Constitution. "In court, officers sometimes

tell one story while their body camera tells another. I feel it's important to prevent this sort of thing, as similar mistakes can allow bad people to go free."

Jarrett warned prospective and current law students that making important decisions should be put off until after they graduate. "My entire life changed. I started a romantic relationship during law school, lost that relationship, and then met my wife in law school!" he added.

Jarrett says the popular study method of study groups didn't work for him. "For me it was better to find one person as committed and earnest as I was. You need someone you feel comfortable with, someone who can come over to your house and you can study in your P.J.s without brushing your teeth!" Jarrett says it was important for him to find a study partner at his same level, who took the same classes, and also worked on law review. For Jarrett that someone turned out to be Sarah McNabb (Law '15) whom he married! Sarah also works in Tulare County Public Defender's Office, where both grads say they "fight for those who society has given up on."

Hon. Monica Diaz (Law '98) didn't have time for study groups either, even though a lot of her classmates did. As she completes her first year as a member of the bench, Judge Diaz reflected on her prior experience, working from both sides of the criminal justice system. Out of law school she became a criminal defense attorney, handling mostly cases involving juvenile offenders. She later joined the Fresno County Deputy Public Defender's Office, defending individuals accused of low-level misdemeanor offenses. After four months on that job she made the decision to switch sides and joined the Fresno County District Attorney's Office, where she worked as the prosecution for 17 years. She successfully prosecuted a wide variety of cases during that time, including homicides, domestic violence, armed robberies, and major fraud.

Having worked her way through the ranks there, she achieved the position of Chief Deputy District Attorney. Then Governor Jerry Brown appointed her to the Superior Court in 2017, where she currently presides over a family law calendar. Judge Diaz says she knew at age five she



wanted to be a lawyer, thought she isn't sure why. She was the first in her family to go to college, of which she is quite proud.

"My role as a judge is very different than anything I've ever done. The decision-making process is quite complex, on even the smallest case. It's the meaning behind each result that is important," she said.

Judge Diaz's advice to prospective and current law students is to keep up with the outlines of each lesson, each week, and make sure to have some free time. Because she too found it "tough to make it through law school," she suggested that anyone interested in pursuing a career in law go first and sit in a courtroom to experience it. "Also, you and your family must be in 110%," she added.

The fourth panelist, Robert Piacente (Law '92) is the General Counsel for the Office of the Fresno County Superintendent of Schools. He has garnered over 27 years of education law experience during

his career. Rob has worked exclusively with school districts regarding all employment matters and has a thorough and in-depth knowledge regarding the California Education Code.

Having attained what he laughingly called non-marketable degrees in both Political Science and English, Rob says he realized he needed something that would make him employable after college. He says he found law school intellectually challenging, but that he had no life for five years. "You must be prepared to work very hard, but it's worth it in the long run. You can use a law degree for anything," he added.

For Rob, fulfilling career moments came after he switched from working as a private attorney to a public one. "The private sector worries about billable hours and marketing along with the law. But in the public sector there is no wine or dine involved. You can focus on your work."



(L-R) **Joshua Milton** (Law '18), **Aaron Aguirre** (Law '09), **Shelli Pepper** (Law '01), and **Jorge Gallegos** (Law '18)

Partners & Associates, Interns & Clerks...

BY DIANE SKOUTI

In a conference room at the law firm of Stammer, McKnight, Barnum & Bailey (yes, I know – more on that later), newly minted SJCL bar passer and attorney Jorge Gallegos (Law '18) hurried into the room with silent, but palpable presence. He looked dapper in a suit and boldly striped tie.

Just two days prior Jorge was sworn in to the bar at a private ceremony, ahead of the group swearing-in at the courthouse for the newest batch of bar passing attorneys. The rush, to become an official attorney and to meet with me in the conference room on this particular day, was because Jorge was anxious to get started. Throughout law school he worked at the firm as a certified law student. Now, along with his stylish tie, he wears the title of associate attorney. Today he would appear in court – alone – for the first time.

"When I got to work today they told me I would be appearing in court," Jorge

said enthusiastically. "What time is it?" While he has made plenty of previous court appearances to argue motions and the like, it was always under the supervision of an accompanying attorney. Today was his turn to be the attorney, and deliver an *ex parte* on his own. I asked about his nerves.

"No, not nervous at all. I'm ready because I know I'm prepared." His firm-mates Shelli Pepper, Joshua Milton and Aaron Aguirre, who had joined us in the conference room to reminisce about their shared alma mater, suggested that Jorge make the most of his first solo appearance and shout out "Objection!" or something similarly noteworthy in the courtroom. "I'm ready for it all," Jorge countered, "Especially trial!"

Jorge says he knew since the age of 12 he wanted to be an attorney. "My parents were in agriculture, farming. They wanted me to do something that involved wearing a suit. Lawyers wear suits," he said as he adjusted his lapel, "And here I am."

One of Jorge's specialties at Stammer McKnight is researching medical records.

In malpractice cases the medical records can be 30 - 40 thousand pages long. "You just have to learn how to go through it all," he says. "This work never feels routine because there is always something new coming up," Jorge says, which is why he loves his chosen field. His colleagues agreed.

Michelle (Shelli) Pepper (Law '01) noted that Stammer McKnight provides a diversity of practice areas that include business litigation/transactions, employment law, healthcare law, agricultural law, personal injury, and family law. She also joined the firm right out of law school, and became a partner in 2008. Shelli says a great strength here is the sense of teamwork. "Everyone is involved with everything that goes on so we can jump in and help one another at a moment's notice." It sounded a lot like SJCL.

Founded in 1916, there is a definite culture of legacy at the firm. Even though the original partners are long departed, the name was never changed. Due partly to its renown: there is familiarity and trust with a name that is 103 years old, and partly because the name is just a little bit funny! Many a comedy sketch has featured firm names of dubious distinction - Payne & Sufferin, LLC, or Celia Fate - Attorney at Law, or Sue Yiu, Esq., but none elicit as many laughs. The attorneys agreed that Stammer, McKnight, Barnum & Bailey

does indeed cause occasional chuckles in the courtroom, but that's also part of the mystique. The gravity of the practice of law prevents too much revelry, or visions of litigating elephants and clowns, though Shelli says there have been a few circus themed Halloween parties over the years!

With the kidding aside, Joshua Milton (Law '18) will celebrate his first-year anniversary at Stammer McKnight in August. "The mentorship here is phenomenal," he said. "Being able to get face time with the partners, feedback, or advice...everyone is accessible and very interested in the associates." Jorge had introduced Joshua to the firm last summer and he was hired after he passed the bar. Joshua too had nurtured a childhood interest in becoming an attorney, but he and his wife married and started their family young. He says it took a while to complete his undergrad degree in Organizational Leadership. He worked in a lumberyard for 16 years before and during law school. Joshua says SJCL's four-year program allows working people to pursue the dream of a career in law. "I work with a bunch of superstars here (the firm)," he said. "I learn so much from these folks."

Each of the alums noted similarities between the culture of collaboration at their alma mater, and Stammer McKnight. "It really is like a family, both here and at SJCL," Jorge said. "Everyone truly cares about everyone."

Shelli said she had been introduced to the firm by one of her law professors who worked there, which confirms the vitality and substance of the SJCL alumni network. "We consider SJCL a great resource," she said.

"I think this sort of collaboration between attorneys is rare among law firms," Aaron added.

Aaron originally majored in English with his sights set on becoming a professor. He switched to law as a way to continue his education and realized he would enjoy the reading, research, and writing required. After clerking a great deal on the plaintiff side, Aaron says he also finds defense quite interesting. "Defense involves following the story line, trying to figure it out by making sure things are as they are stated." Aaron says he was struck by the frequency with which he runs into fellow alumni. "The networking thing is huge out there. You run into the same faces over and over again. Law students should be mindful and start establishing those connections now."

SJCL Adds 51st Bench Officer



For the third time in just 18 months, an SJCL Alumni has been added to the California Board of Parole Hearings as an Administrative Law Judge.

Hon. Ashley Allred (Law '11) joins Hon. Christine Nijjer (Law '04) and Hon. Mary Thornton (Law '08) on the bench, bringing the total number of San Joaquin College of Law bench officers to 51.

Aside from having their new positions in common, the trio share a common history as well; they all served as Madera County Deputy District Attorneys at some point in their careers.

At just 34 years of age, Judge Allred is perhaps the youngest SJCL alumna to attain a position on the bench. She served an internship with the Public Defender's Office during law school, but soon moved to an internship with the Madera D.A. She was hired there as a Deputy D. A. just weeks after passing the bar. Part of her duties included representing the District Attorney's Office at "Lifer Hearings," which

are held inside prisons and determine whether an inmate with a life sentence merits parole (this would not apply to a "life without parole" sentence).

She says she absolutely loved it, adding "There's something wonderful about the government serving the public through the criminal justice system. And I believe in that system."

The Parole Board is trying to handle a larger load due to passage of Prop 57, which gave more discretion to the Board. In the past, parole focused heavily on the gravity of the crime, but the focus is now shifting to whether an inmate has been rehabilitated. Judge Nijjer observes that those who show little remorse or understanding of the crime's impact on victims will likely be denied parole and not have another hearing for at least three years.

Congratulations to the Class of 2019!

(From Page 1)

plaining when he joined the Fresno County Bar in 1966, there were only 300 attorneys, including just five women. Typewriters and carbon paper were the rule when submitting court documents.

He turned his attention to the Law School's earliest years. While 34 students graduated from SJCL this year, the first two classes combined only held 25 students, five of which went on to become judges. Those 25 all passed the Bar on their first try.

As for the present? "Jury trials are an endangered species," he lamented, adding that they are expensive, and filled with delays and uncertainty. Wanger believes those pleading and presiding over cases need to be prepared, informed, skilled in the case, and know what laws apply in order to avoid some of those problems. Still, he says "I believe totally in the jury system."

Looking to the future, Wanger advised new attorneys to "Read the Rules of Professional Conduct yearly," adding honesty, integrity, respect, courtesy, and listening skills all build reputations. "Don't resort to Rambo tactics," he added.

In closing, Wanger said "My association with the Law School has been a labor of love for 51 years." He felt it was important to mention his wife, Lorrie Anthony-Wanger, a 1994 SJCL alumna. "I lost my wife last year to cancer. She was a wonderful lawyer, a totally committed animal rights activist, a feminist. She was a liberal Democrat married to a Republican and somehow, we made it."

The 34 members of the graduating class arrived at SJCL with degrees from 12 universities, including 20 from Fresno State, four from U.C. campuses, four from Fresno Pacific University, and others from universities in Minnesota, Washington State, Utah, and Texas. Valedictorian Jodie Howard took them back to a unifying experience from orientation, where they "arrived better-rested than we would be for the few years." She quoted Dr. Seuss numerous times, using his line "Everything stinks till it's finished" to remind them that Bar Prep is just ahead. "Forge your path in

the directions of your dreams, and don't give your dreams an expiration date," she said, "Your mountain is waiting, so get on your way!"

Other graduates seemed to echo that. Adriana Gomez Santiago said "This was an arduous journey that was worth it."

Vaughan Rios said "I love you all! Life's an amazing journey – get out there and live."

Above all, the graduates expressed gratitude to those who made the journey possible. Shannon Wentworth, winner of the John Loomis Legacy Award, thanked her son "for reminding her that everything is awesome when we're living our dream." She also thanked "her family and friends for not reporting her missing. To the faculty, staff, and students of SJCL: thank you for making my midlife crisis so much fun."

Ali Huda thanked his parents and family members, but added he "dedicates this occasion to both of his late grandmothers, who would be proud to see him walking today."

Cassandra Kaur Sheanh said "Thank you Hon. Monica Diaz, Lisa Smittcamp, and Robert C. Abrams for believing in me even when I did the ugly cry."

Meanwhile, Timothy Miller has five children and worked fulltime as a registered nurse while attending law school. He says he's "been asked numerous times why I'm not stressed out about a test or class. My response has always been that even when you're on the hot seat in Purvis' class, no one's going to die."

At this point, Professor Jeffrey G. Purvis, who was presenting the grads, added "Maybe."

In another nod to classmates, Sebastian Santana thanked not only his parents and fiancé, but also "all SJCL students, past and present, who shared their outlines."

Jeremy Matthews said he would "like to thank his friends, family, and those who never gave up on him. You know who you are."

And from Joseph Good: "Each and every one of you mean the world to me. Thank you."







Celebrating Fifty Years SJCL's Picnic in the Park

About 200 friends, alumni, faculty and staff of SJCL played and picnicked in the park on May 11th as part of the Law School's year-long 50th Anniversary Celebration.

There was fierce competition in the cake walk and corn hole contests, hilarious courtroom shoots, and a kids area with everything from bowling and bocce to face painting and balloon headgear.

SJCL would like to thank the Alumni Association for entertaining the little ones, along with the Clovis Kiwanis for cooking and serving up the food. In addition, the Law School is extremely grateful to the many donations from the various "Friends of the 50th" who made sure everything else was covered!

The Picnic in the Park was the second party/gathering to celebrate the Law School's Golden Anniversary. The next event will take over the entire Law School Building on Friday, October 18th, with different rooms dedicated to the various decades of San Joaquin College of Law, along with free refreshments. Hope to see you there!



The Clovis Kiwanis grilled up some tasty hot dogs and burgers with extras on the side for a fabulous family picnic in the park.



Associate Academic Dean **Alicia Diaz Wrest** (Law '10) pleads her husband's case before the court (AKA kids).



Madera County District Attorney **Sally Moreno** (Law '95) visits with her former Academic Dean, **Sally Perring**.

Thank you to our Generous 50th Anniversary Sponsors

RAINMAKER (\$5,000 GIFT)
John Loomis, Esq., Founder

TRAILBLAZER (\$2,500 GIFT)
Caglia Family
Ruiz Law Offices

Eddie Ruiz, Esq., Class of 1995 & Board of Trustees

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Sierra IP Law, PC
Mark Miller, Faculty

FRIENDS OF THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY (\$250 GIFT)
Justin Atkinson, Academic Dean

Deborah Coe, Esq., Class of 1991 & Board of Trustees

Joyce Morodomi

Lisa Nilmeier

Janice Pearson, Dean

Carlyn Robbins

Phil Tavlian, Esq., Class of 1980



Courtroom props created impromptu judges out of **Lauren and Dustin (Law 4L) Gallegos**.



Academic Dean **Justin Atkinson**, Professor of Law **Jeffrey G. Purvis**, and Associate Academic Dean **Alicia Diaz Wrest** (Law '10).



Even princesses were lined up for the cake walk!



Staff members **Beth Pitcock** and **Diane Skouti** showing off the plethora of things to do that day.



Honorable **Ashley Allred** (Law '11), husband **Dave**, and **Rachel Cartier** (Law '11)











Back Row (L-R): Kyle Zimmer, Nicolas Urgesi, Jorge Gallegos Jr., and Kyle Martin.
Front Row (L-R): Marco Aguiar, Jennifer Nguyen-Bui, and Brittany Hines.
Also passing but not pictured: James Castleman, Andrea Chapman, Vismaad Gondara, Kelsey Seib, Preetpal Toor, and Jennifer Michelle-Arnold Wharton.

SJCL Toasts 13 February Barpassers

As if years of law school, studying for the Bar, and awaiting results weren't enough of a rollercoaster, Andrea Chapman hit an extra bump. There was a glitch in the computer, which initially showed she had not passed. And then she did. Anxiety turned to jubilation.

Meanwhile, Jennifer Nguyen-Bui felt the same anxiety. She put extra time into studying the MBEs, but walked away from the Bar Exam stunned at the complexity of the essay questions. She was also in the winners' circle.

Thirteen San Joaquin College of Law grads who passed the February Bar were toasted, hugged, congratulated, and applauded at the traditional Champagne Reception on May 20th. Dan Martin was

among those in attendance. He recalls being so excited during his first year of law school that he called his brother, Kyle, and told him he needed to check this out immediately. Kyle enrolled the following year, and graduated one year after his brother. Dan, who is currently an Associate Attorney at White Canepa, was there to celebrate Kyle's Bar passage.

Also in attendance were Charlie Palmer and Professor Andy Kucera, senior partners of Palmer Kucera. Charlie initially joked he was there to "Pick up chicks," but later admitted he came to congratulate Barpasser Nicholas Urgesi, who had clerked for their firm. Palmer expressed regret that Urgesi had already accepted a "you pass, you're hired" offer from the Law Office of Darryl B. Freedman.

Others holding those offers included Kyle Zimmer, who accepted the offer from the State Compensation Insurance Fund; Jorge Gallegos Jr., who becomes an Associate Attorney for Stammer, McKnight, Barnum and Baily LLP; Kelsey Seib, who accepted a position as Associate Attorney at Coleman & Horowitz, LLP; and Marco Aguiar, who accepted an offer from Peel Garcia LLP. Marco says the order for his new business cards and door sign went in first thing that morning.

Meanwhile, Jennifer Nguyen-Bui continues clerking for the City Attorney's Office as she awaits an opening for an attorney position, which she expects in a couple weeks.

We raise a glass to all of them. Sometimes "champagne wishes" do come true!

Senior Citizens Law Day

PRESENTED BY THE SJCL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION AND CENTRAL CALIFORNIA LEGAL SERVICES (CCLS)



SATURDAY JUNE 29, 2019

Alumni Association: Are You In?

If you haven't yet joined your SJCL Alumni Association, now is the perfect time. We have made it our mission to reconnect with as many SJCL grads as possible in this, our 50th year. We seek your wisdom and support as we embark on our next 50 years. Come join your fellow classmates and colleagues in support of your alma mater.

When you join your SJCL Alumni Association you join the vast SJCL legal professionals network. You can sign up on the sjcl.edu website, or by sending your dues payment to: SJCL Alumni Association, 901 5th Street, Clovis, CA 93612

Dues: \$40 per year, or three years for \$90.

2019 SJCL ALUMNI HALL of FAME



Thursday, September 5, 2019

Join us as we induct deserving alumni into the SJCL Hall of Fame for 2019. Start thinking now about fellow graduates you feel should be considered for this special honor. Nominations will begin soon.

Watch for an email with nomination information.

got mcle?

Saturday, January 4, 2020

Our annual MCLE program which is scheduled for the morning.



Paint Nite

Details Coming Soon!

A new event this year. Stop by after work for some painting fun. No need to be an accomplished artist as the leader walks us through step by step. Take home your own masterpiece!



A Golden Anniversary Barristers' Ball

With finals looming just two weeks away, San Joaquin College of Law students, faculty, staff and friends gathered for the annual Barristers' Ball at Tornino's on April 12th to celebrate successes so far. Those attending the Student Bar Association's Scholarship Banquet were not disappointed; more than three dozen scholarships were awarded.

The scholarships included a new one in honor of Fresno activist and journalist Mike Rhodes. The first Mike Rhodes Social Justice Scholarship was presented by Fresno Photo Laureate Howard K. Watkins, who teamed up last year with fellow attorney Steve Malm (Law '08) to begin raising money for it. Rhodes, who was in attendance, noted the scholarship winner said in her application that she is a "Dreamer," also known as a Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) student. Her application went on to say how she hopes "to one day work with a non-profit organization that provides free legal services to low-income individuals."

The keynote speaker for the Banquet was Fresno County District Attorney Lisa Smittcamp, a 1995 graduate of SJCL, who regaled the audience with her stories of struggles while in school. She also noted how far the Law School has come not just over the past 50 years, but even in the years since her graduation. Back then, a luncheon in sweatshirts would have been a big deal, let alone a gala like the Barristers' Ball. But perhaps even more engaging than Smittcamp's speech was her introduction; Rachel Baskin, an SJCL student who heads to graduation this year, recounted how Smittcamp had handled her case as a Deputy DA several years ago, leading to a conviction on three counts of attempted murder and a 77-year sentence for Baskin's ex-husband.

SBA would like to thank those who made the evening possible, including sponsors like the Clovis Veterans Memorial District, Centro La Familia Advocacy Services, Miles A. Harris, Esq., and The Law Office of Robert Abrams (Law '08). In addition, a special thanks goes to the scholarship sponsors and congrats go out to all the winners!



Rachel Baskin (Law '19) and Fresno District Attorney **Lisa Smittcamp** (Law '95). Smittcamp's previous efforts resulted in Baskin's ex-husband being convicted of attempted murder several years ago, along with influencing Baskin's decision to become an attorney.



Dozens of SJCL Scholarship winners teamed up for a group shot at the Barristers' Ball.



The Staff and Board of the *San Joaquin Agricultural Law Review* welcome new members.



SJCL student **Esmeralda Serapio** joins **Mike Rhodes** and **Howard K. Watkins** after winning the Mike Rhodes Social Justice Scholarship.

Scholarship Recipients

ABOTA Memorial Scholarship

Monica Rast

Alumni Association Carolyn T. Mirviss Scholarship

Anonymous

Alumni Association Spirit of SJCL Scholarship

Leticia Guzman

Baradat & Paboojian Trial Advocacy Scholarship

Adam Awad

Bertha & John Garabedian Military Service Scholarships

August Wolf-Petersen, Rodney Tuisavalalo, Raul Magana, and Amanda Hage

Cartier First Year Improvement Scholarship

Kelly Liu

CCBA Scholarship

Syuzanna Martirosyan

Clovis Soroptimist Woman's Advocate Award

Rachel Baskin

Delta Theta Phi Scholarships

Joslyn Hillberg, David Piercy, Ashley Emmerson and Nick Mancillas

Elizabeth O'Neill Memorial Scholarship

Shannon Wentworth

Ernest Kinney Trial Lawyer Scholarship

Jason Oleson

Florentino Jose Memorial Scholarship

Jodie Howard

Ibarra/Casillas LawSUIT Scholarships

Shannon Wentworth, Joseph Good, and Rena Harrison

Janice Pearson Scholarship

Ali Huda

Judy Wiseman Memorial Scholarship

Syuzanna Martirosyan

Ken Coyle Memorial Scholarship

Anonymous

Kharazi Bar Study Support Scholarship

Ali Huda

LawSUIT Scholarship

Grace Zeluff

Legal Edge Consumer Scholarship

Ivan Gomez

Leon S. Peters Foundation Leadership Awards

Maria Valencia, Fabian Perez, Leticia Guzman, Adriana Mendoza-Gurrola, and Daniel Cisneros

Proctor Scholar of the Year

Anonymous

Mike Rhodes Social Justice Scholarship

Esmeralda Serapio

Rural or Low -Bono Practice Scholarship

Jared Bertoni

SJCL Student Bar Association Law Scholarship for Merit

Fabian Perez

SJCL Student Bar Association Law Scholarship for Need

Rachel Baskin

SJCL Student Bar Association Law Scholarship for Participation

Jared Bertoni

The Founder's Scholarship

Jodie Howard

A Trio of New Beginnings

Attorney Jaspreet Klar Joins NALC

Positively impacting the community by helping those who are most vulnerable is important to the new Staff Attorney at SJCL's New American Legal Clinic.

San Joaquin College of Law welcomes Jaspreet Klar, our New Americans Legal Clinic (NALC) Staff Attorney. She's a Valley native who left to attend law school, but ended up back home to study for the Bar. Along the way, she interned at Central California Legal Services, eventually becoming a Staff Attorney, where she assisted low income individuals with everything from housing to immigration.

Jaspreet later worked at Legal Aid and then County Counsel. Still, she wanted to get back to giving back through advocacy. That's when she heard about the opening at NALC. "When I first saw the job opening,

I wasn't actually looking to switch jobs, but I felt like I needed to apply because I knew I would regret it if I didn't," she says, adding "I feel so proud to be a part of this program."

Jaspreet is clear on her primary focus, saying the most rewarding part of her new job with the legal immigrants will be "keeping families together in the U.S. and keeping them safe." She will do everything from paperwork (reviewing documents, researching, and working on asylum applications) to legwork (attending naturalization interviews, interviewing clients, and meeting with clients in removal proceedings). "It's so exciting to interview our clients and hear how they've been here for 20 years and they're finally applying for citizenship. They're so happy and grateful for our help."

For as excited as she is to begin work, she's equally excited about the opportunities it offers for SJCL students. "I did a similar clinic when I went to law school and it's a wonderful way to prepare you for actually practicing law," she says, adding "This is an opportunity to put what you learn in the classroom to the test."

Lisa Nilmeier Officially Takes Over

Lisa Nilmeier has officially been SJCL's Director of Financial Aid for exactly two months and 14 days.

With the recent retirement of long-time Financial Aid Director Jeannie Lewis, Lisa says she is thrilled to have the opportunity to expand her horizons and learn new things. A nine-year SJCL veteran, most of Lisa's experience is in accounting. Prior to that she worked for 10 years in accounting for the county of Fresno. While it is still early days in her new role, Lisa says her favorite new duty so far is working directly with students. She has already sat down with incoming students to assist with financial



aid forms and procedures and met with 1Ls to explain the financial aspects of moving to the 4-year program.

Lisa says her biggest challenge to date is improving financial literacy among students and alumni. The Department of Education is asking schools to be more pro-active in financial education among student loan borrowers. "Financial Literacy is not a "no-brainer" skill that people magically acquire," she said. "Student loan debt is one of the largest issues facing higher education today. It is now surpassing credit card debt in our country." Financial literacy includes financial awareness, responsible borrowing, finance management, budgeting, and thorough knowledge of repayment options, to lessen the risk of default.

Lisa acknowledges that it's tricky to unravel the implications of taking on large loan debt for an intangible like education, and that learning how to manage that debt is no easy task. The rising number of student loan defaults is proof. "Millennials have the most student loan debt: of \$1.5 trillion in loan debt, they hold \$1 trillion if it. But there is a good return on investing in education because the job market is strong in the Central Valley," she said. These issues are important to Lisa personally as well as professionally.

As a daughter in a farming family (Lisa's family grew peaches, apricots and grapes), Lisa says she grew up with a good business sense and understanding of finance, which she knows will help a lot in her role. "When I was a kid, we talked about business and farming all the time, especially around the dinner table!" Lisa says common conver-



sation topics included the weather, crop yields, and production costs, which she attributes now to her “innate understanding” of financial issues.

Lisa’s pursuits off campus include hiking, nature and the mountains, but one of her lesser known interests is cars. Just the mention of the subject brought a notable spark to her already sparkly green eyes, betraying a true passion. Lisa explained how she learned at an early age to take apart a carburetor and put it back together. She described - with giddy detail - her first car, a 1969 four-speed Firebird (stick-shift, of course), which she says she raced in the streets back in the day. She could change brakes, too. At the age of 16, Lisa says she and her siblings had to show they could change a tire and jump-start a battery before they were allowed to drive. Always the tomboy, Lisa says she still has her sights set on her dream car, a 1969 GTO or Chevelle, which she says “would be fun!”

Lisa’s personal philosophy fits neatly with her passion for cars and sound finance. “Life is a journey, not a destination. There are no do-overs.” Words of wisdom suitable for a savvy street racer, and a highly responsible financial advisor. Congratulations Lisa!

Carlyn Robbins Retires

This year marks a milestone for both SJCL and our own Carlyn Robbins, Administrative Assistant/ Receptionist extraordinaire.

As SJCL celebrates its 50th year of instruction, Carlyn will retire. An integral member of Team SJCL for the past 13 years, Carlyn has served as an exemplary ambassador of good will, in addition to providing continuous and generous support as a donor to the law school. As the first point of contact for anyone arriving on campus, Carlyn’s hearty greeting and sincere desire to help are hallmarks of SJCL culture.

Before moving to Fresno, Carlyn lived in Southern California (Beautiful Downtown Burbank) for more than 30 years. She worked for several years at the Walt Disney Company in accounting for the Educational Media department. She says

that job came with a lot of perks. “We were spoiled with a car repair garage, Credit Union, and cafeteria right there on the studio lot!” Carlyn fondly remembers the Halloween costume contests at the studio and eating her lunch while watching the filming on the back lot.

In addition to sharing her time as a volunteer for community organizations and helping friends, Carlyn is a passionate traveler. Some of her favorite trips have been to Norway, Sweden and London. She’ll visit the Isle of Crete (Greece) soon after she retires at the end of June, and later she hopes to visit Italy.

She has no shortage of plans for her next chapter, including a desire to take some classes in pottery and painting. Unbeknownst to most, Carlyn is a bit of a daredevil. She previously earned a pilot’s license and may take up flying again, along with her plan to spend more time on her Can-Am Spider three-wheel motorcycle!

As a longtime donor to SJCL, Carlyn leaves a legacy of support of all kinds. In addition to the support she provided to staff, faculty and students from the front desk, Carlyn has made many generous annual fund donations, and has also placed a plaque in the library dedicated to the memory of her friend Vera S. Weiker, that reads: “Speak your truth quietly and clearly and listen to others, even the dull and ignorant, for they too have their story.”

In April, Carlyn donated a beautiful park bench to the law school, to honor the memory of SJCL co-founder Dan B. Eymann (deceased). She was inspired at a staff meeting when a letter from 94-year-old law school co-founder John Loomis was read aloud, ensuring that the mission began in 1969; “...to ensure that residents of the



San Joaquin Valley had a meaningful and quality opportunity to follow their dreams in law,” is as strong as ever. More than 1600 graduates later, Carlyn has personally assisted some 900 students from her post at the front desk.

We’re certain that current and future law students will enjoy Carlyn’s bench as a place to rest and reflect while soaking in its sense of stability and permanence, like SJCL itself. We send Carlyn our heartfelt thanks for her years of service and support, and wish her a very happy retirement.



Red Nose Day Food Drive



SJCL staffers (L-R) **Francisco Rosas**, **Beth Pitcock**, and **Lisa Nilmeier** delivered the haul.

A national campaign to raise awareness of child poverty, including food insecurity, is the message of Red Nose Day. This basic need continues to impact student success on college campuses.

The Cupboard, Fresno State's on campus food pantry, reports 30.7% of students surveyed experience food insecurity. In response the SJCL community (Faculty, Staff and Students) connected these two events for our 3rd Annual Red Nose Day Food Drive. The SJCL community was more generous than ever. This year, we delivered a carload of food and supplies to the Cupboard on Red Nose Day on May 23 and yes, we were in Red Nose fashion!

On average 40-50% of our law students received their undergrad education from Fresno State so our support is a natural! A big thank you to all who helped with donations and spreading the word- this is a worthwhile effort!

O'Neill Book Drive is a Record-Breaker!

The chorus of kids and chaos enveloped the arrival of a truck on campus filled with books donated to the Elizabeth O'Neill Memorial Drive on March 20th. The books will be split between Miramonte and Reagan Elementary, two Title I schools in Clovis Unified.

The 1,133 represent both a boon to the two libraries and a record-breaking number for the eleven-year-old O'Neill Drive, which has now contributed well over 5,000 books to Clovis Unified Title I school libraries.

The San Joaquin College of Law Student Bar Association spearheaded this year's drive, which may account for the record-breaking book haul. Who helped? Law School faculty, staff, students, alumni, attorneys throughout the community, friends of students, friends of alumni, friends of friends and more. Friends of the Fresno County Library also contributed to this year's success.

Miramonte Librarian Sue Hamilton expressed joy over the "huge, wonderful variety" filling 31 boxes, adding "This



Reagan Elementary students stand in front of boxes of books headed to the library. Back row (L-R): SBA Members **Joslyn Hillberg**, **Grace Zeluff**, and **Jared Bertoni**, followed by Reagan Librarian **Kyla Rose** and Miramonte Librarian **Sue Hamilton**.

is a librarian's dream; our kids love new books!"

Meanwhile, Reagan Elementary Librarian Kyla Rose says kids nowadays do like high tech things, but they also love "the feel of a book in their hands."

The Drive commemorates a woman whose concern for children is a lasting legacy for the Valley. Elizabeth O'Neill's life was at first focused on raising five children before completing her law degree

from Boalt Hall in 1969, but her concern for children never ended. She became a nationally recognized expert in family law including child custody, visitation, and child abuse. She was one of the founders of Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of Fresno County and the Fresno Council on Child Abuse Prevention.

Miramonte's librarian may have summed up the schools' gratitude best. Sue Hamilton says "We feel very blessed."

Community Matters



Constitutional Law Professor **Jeffrey G. Purvis** and Justice **Kathleen Meechan**, 5th Appellate District Court of Appeal, served as the panelists for this year's Law Day Luncheon. The theme for this Annual Fresno County Bar event was "Free Speech, Free Press, Free Society."



Congratulations to **Victor E. Salazar** (Law '93), winner of the Fresno County Bar Association's Pro Bono Attorney of the Year Award. Salazar's career ranged from managing Fresno County's Consumer Protection Program to serving as Fresno County Clerk/Registrar of Voters for more than a decade. In his retirement, Salazar serves on the Board of the Poverello House, Proteus, and the Central California Employment Roundtable, along with volunteering pro bono hours to Central California Legal Services.



Congratulations to **Maria Valencia** (Law '19), winner of this year's Fresno County Bar Association Scholarship! She is a former foster youth who graduated from Fresno State with her degree in Business Administration before attending law school. She is pictured here with FCBA President **Deborah Coe** (Law '91).



Shout out to Fresno City College students who took part in the Criminal Trial Practice final trial, playing witnesses & defendant! Also pictured are SJCL students are **Amanda Hage**, **Rena Harrison**, and **Whitney Hendricks**.

SJCL ON THE MOVE

New job? Big promotion? Special honor? Send your info to mcartier@sjcl.edu and be part of the “SJCL on the Move!”

Ashley A. Allred (Law '11) is now an Administrative Law Judge for the California Board of Parole Hearings, bringing the total number of San Joaquin College of Law bench officers to 51.

Marco A. Aguiar III (Law '18) is now an Associate Attorney at Peel Garcia LLP.

Deborah K. Boyett (Law '01) is now an Associate Attorney at Wanger Jones Helsley PC. A press release from the firm notes “Deborah K. Boyett brings to Wanger Jones Helsley her vast legal expertise in trusts, estate planning, probate, elder law and business succession planning. Her 18 years of legal experience will enhance Wanger Jones Helsley’s rapidly expanding estate planning, probate litigation and nonprofit practice. Boyett is a sought-after speaker on the topic of trusts and estate planning and has served as a director on several local nonprofit boards. She is a regular presenter at the San Joaquin College of Law Senior Day.”

William G. Buttry (Law '12) has passed the Missouri Bar exam. He has family in Missouri. Will says he wanted to “keep his options open,” and feels this brings exciting new opportunities for his future. He is now an Associate Attorney at the Law Offices of Dan D. Endoso.

James “Preston” Castleman (Law '18) is now an Associate Attorney at the Farley Law Firm.

Jorge Gallegos Jr. (Law '18) is now an Associate Attorney at Stammer McKnight Barnum & Bailey LLP.

Vismaad Gondara (Law '18) is now an Associate Attorney at the Law Offices of Vivek Malik.

Michael T. Haw (Law '16) is now an Associate Attorney at White Canepa.

Carey L. Haydon (Law '15) is now an Associate Attorney at Borton Petrini LLP, where she specializes in Family Law.

Brittany E. Hines (Law '16) is now an Associate Attorney at Mark A. Broughton PC.

Angela E. Martinez (Law '13) is now an Associate Attorney at Littler, the largest global employment and labor law practice.

Jennifer Nguyen-Bui (Law '18) is now a Deputy City Attorney with the Fresno City Attorney’s Office.

Gabriel J. Pacheco (Law '14) has opened the office of Gabriel J. Pacheco, Attorney at Law.

Tiffany A. Pack (Law '18) is now an Associate Attorney at Quall Cardot LLP.

Christina A. Roberson (Law '12) is now a Supervising Deputy City Attorney for the City of Fresno.

Tomas J. Ross (Law '13) is now Senior Trial Attorney at The Law Offices of Raquel Birch, Staff Counsel for Allstate, Encompass and Esurance.

Victor E. Salazar (Law '93) has won the “Pro Bono of the Year Award” from the Fresno County Bar Association for his outstanding contributions over the past year.

Kelsey A. Seib (Law '18) is now an Associate Attorney at Coleman & Horowitz, LLP.

Preetpal Singh Toor (Law '18) is now an Associate Attorney at Stockwell Harris.

Nicholas R. Urgesi (Law '18) is now an Associate Attorney at the Law Office of Darryl B. Freedman, Inc.

Chester E. Walls (Law '12) is now an Associate Attorney at Overstreet & Associates.

Jennifer Michelle-Arnold Wharton (Law '18) is now at Associate Attorney at the Arnold Law Group.

Kyle M. Zimmer (Law '18) is now an attorney with the State Compensation Insurance Fund.

In Memoriam

San Joaquin College of Law notes with sadness the passing of Lorrie Anthony-Wanger (Law '94) on October 17, 2018. She is survived by her husband, Oliver W. Wanger, along with children and grandchildren.

Thank you for your support!

March 1, 2019 - May 31, 2019

San Joaquin College of Law thanks the following individuals and organizations for their gifts. Their generosity helps SJCL deliver an outstanding academic program to students.

Gifts of \$5,000+

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Leon S. Peters Foundation

Gifts of \$2,500 - \$4,999

American Board of Trial Advocates-
San Joaquin Valley Chapter
Richard & Lucille Caglia
Eduardo Ruiz (Board & '95)
Ruiz Law Offices

Gifts of \$1,000 - \$2,499

Hal and Debora Bolen
Central Valley Community
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Gifts of \$500 - \$999

Mark Miller (Faculty)
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Justin Atkinson (Faculty)
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Philip Tavlian ('80)

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please contact Lonsetta Hightower at 559/323-2100 or lhightower@sjcl.edu.



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SAVE THE DATE

*50th Anniversary
Reunion Reception*

OCTOBER 18, 2019

4:00PM - 9:00PM

*50
Years*

1969-2019

