

# INTER



# ALIA

SAN JOAQUIN COLLEGE OF LAW • SPRING 2023



## \$54,000 Awarded in Scholarships at Glittery Gala

Whether you know it as the Barrister's Ball, Law Prom, Spring Awards Banquet, or Amicus Curiae Gala, this year's event was as glamorous and exhilarating as ever, in spite of a three-year absence due to COVID. A delightful mix of more than 200 glittery and suited law students, alumni, scholarship donors, and faculty/staff celebrated scholarship awardees while connecting outside the classroom.

Over \$54,000 was awarded in scholarships, comprising of a record 54 separate awards. Deans Pearson, Atkinson and Tennerelli took turns announcing the winners along with eight of the scholarship donors who shared words of praise and encouragement. Among the presenters were Michelle (Law '99) and Richard Oleksa, parents of the late Jennifer Oleksa (Law '16), who served as a beloved adjunct professor at SJCL before her untimely death just over a year ago.

SEE BANQUET PAGE 10



Some of our generous scholarship donors presented their awards to student recipients (L-R) **Raquel Busani** (Law '18), **Andres Diaz**, **Thomas Diaz**, **Andrea Diaz**, **Richard Oleksa**, **Michelle Oleksa** (Law '99), **Susan Buckley**, and **Dr. Jerry Buckley**.



The Student Bar Association Officers (L-R) **Diana Malcolm**, President; **Jenna Sharma**, 2L Representative; **Milton Ramirez**, 1L Representative; **Karen Lopez Pena**, 2L Representative; **Raquel Chavez**, Vice President; **Stephanie Adams**, Secretary; **Madison Erickson**, 3L Representative; **Hannah Ravizza**, Treasurer; **Gabrielle Grieser**, 4L Representative; **Brittany Hieng**, 4L Representative; and **Ryan Dupras**, 3L Representative;

## A Message From the Dean

On March 7, 2023, the Blue Ribbon Commission on the Future of the Bar Exam released its Report and Recommendations.

A great deal of work went into this report, including examination of data from several studies attempting to identify the skills most important to the practice of law. The California Supreme Court decides whether the recommendations will be adopted.

Two things are clear from the recommendations, if adopted:

- There will be a new, very different, California-law based, bar exam.
- It will be many years before that new bar exam is ready to be administered.

The Commission recommended that a bar exam continue to be used to license attorneys in California. It recommended the creation of a California-law based exam, rejecting the adoption of the NextGen Bar Examination under development by the National Conference of Bar Examiners. The Commission felt creating California's own exam would allow for innovation, potentially including on-line testing and more administrations each year.

Creating a new bar exam will require many years of work at significant expense. Experts in exam development must be involved, followed by creation of testing mechanisms, and extensive testing of those mechanisms. How will lawyering skills be evaluated? Will there be simulations of client counseling? Real-time assertion of evidentiary objections? An exam must be crafted that is "fair, equitable, and minimizes disparate performance impacts based on race, gender, ethnicity, disability, and other immutable characteristics." Then there is the required two-year notice of changes in the bar exam. Will this be five years? Seven years? Ten years? Regardless, students currently attending law school or entering in the next few years should anticipate an unchanged exam.

Eight subjects were recommended for inclusion on the exam, rather than the 13 currently tested:

- Administrative Law and Procedure
- Civil Procedure
- Constitutional Law
- Contracts
- Criminal Law and Procedure
- Evidence
- Real Property
- Torts

Business Organizations, Community Property, Professional Responsibility, Remedies, and Wills and Trusts would be eliminated. The Commission recommended that memorization of doctrinal law be de-emphasized, but not eliminated, and that there be transparency on the topics and rules to be tested.

Seven skills were recommended for inclusion in the new exam:

- Drafting and Writing
- Research and Investigation
- Issue-spotting and Fact-gathering
- Counsel/Advice
- Litigation
- Communication and Client Relationship
- Negotiation and Dispute Resolution

The Commission also studied bar exam alternatives. It studied different pathways from the United States and Canada, most of which involved only a small number of exam takers, not the thousands that sit for the California bar exam. After much discussion of the advantages and challenges to an alternative, the Commission could not find an alternative upon which a majority of the Commission could agree.

You can read the entire report including dissents to its recommendations by downloading it from the State Bar webpage.

Sincerely,



Janice Pearson  
Dean



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# 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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# SJCL-8 Feature Home Grown Talent

Among the many law firms lucky enough to employ two or more SJCL alumni, Dias Law Inc., in Hanford seems to have hit the jackpot. All eight attorneys, plus one law clerk who is taking the spring bar exam, have pedigrees from SJCL, and have helped Michael Dias (Law '93) craft a community-minded firm that knows well the people it serves.

**W**ith graduating class years that span 29 years, the experience and areas of legal focus among the SJCL-eight are as vast as their backgrounds and interests.

Dias Law founder Michael worked on the family dairy as a kid and continued to manage both the dairy and a farming business through law school. As much as he enjoys the practice of law, his hands show the evidence of his continuing farming operations today. With his wife Germaine managing the law office from day one,



**Michael A. Dias** (Law '93)

Michael says he started by taking any case he could get. "Family law, criminal law, business law, I took it all." It takes time to build a practice.

One might think Dias Law seeks out SJCL graduates from the small but mighty law school to the north. "Not at all," Michael says. "It just happened." He attributes the exclusivity to the fact that he knows firsthand of the excellent legal education SJCL provides. "I've litigated against attorneys from other law schools, and they were great lawyers, but SJCL does an exceptional job," he added.

Jonette Montgomery (Law '03), a shareholder in the firm, grew up on a family dairy like Michael, and studied business at Fresno State. Jonette says her interest in law stemmed from a memorable conversation with her father. She was 13. "On the way to school, my dad asked what I wanted to do with my life." A straight-A student, Jonette says she had no idea. Her dad felt she would make an excellent attorney, which she took to heart and set as her goal that very day. Jonette says her dad also promised to pay for law school, with the caveat that she would be on a full-time retainer for his business for the rest of her life! As mom to two busy boys, Jonette says her free time is devoted to sporting events, band performances, dirt bikes, and family camping trips. "That's my life!" she said. Jonette's specialties include business law, civil law, and estate administration involving dairies and land, in addition to others.

Graduating just a year behind Jonette is Shareholder Ella Floresca (Law '04), a native of Juneau Alaska. For college, Ella moved from Juneau to San Jose and earned a B.S. in Administration of Justice. "I always knew I wanted to attend law school," Ella said. "But there were no law schools in Alaska prior to 2018!" Suffering a bit of



**Ella R. Floresca** (Law '04)

culture shock, (Ella noted that the city of San Jose was larger than all Alaskan cities combined), Ella chose SJCL because she knew she needed a smaller setting. "It was the perfect choice for me," she said.

Hired by the Dias Firm out of law school, Ella is now in her 15th year of a practice that includes business law, real property, contract law and civil litigation. Because her children are young, her favorite activities include visiting parks, the beach, and their current favorite place: Legoland.

Another long-time attorney and shareholder is Steven Alfieris (Law '97). Steven grew up in Visalia and completed a B.S. degree in Business Administration and Marketing at Fresno State. After earning his J.D. he worked for 16 years as in-house counsel for Pappas Telecasting. When the company sold off their holdings Steven joined the Dias firm. He continues to serve as outside general counsel to several companies in the restaurant, fitness and service industries.

Both Steven and Michael were part of the wall-hopping-donut shop-gang from the early Shields Avenue campus. As law students, they hung out over coffee and donuts while commiserating with fellow



**Jonette M. Montgomery** (Law '03)





Dias Law Firm Offices



**Steven E. Alfieris** (Law '97)

classmates. Since he served as a library proctor, as did both Jonette and Ella, Steven helped pack and schlep boxes of law books to the new Clovis campus when the law school moved in December of 1996.

Steven says his inspiration for law was his Uncle George S. Alfieris, a WWII veteran who became an attorney after the war and helped change the statute of limitations in a 1969 California Supreme court case. "Warrenton vs Pfizer Lab. Look it up," he said. "It was impressive."

In addition to serving on various non-profit boards and a focus in ag and business law, real estate law, and contract, employment and entertainment law, Steven is an avid collector of all things Star Wars. He has fond memories of a Star Wars promotion during his law school years. For two

Fruit Loop box tops you could get a special edition Star Wars action figure (Han Solo disguised as a Storm Trooper). Due to a limit of five toys per household, Steven bought cases of the cereal and used the names and addresses of numerous SJCL staffers to get the extra toys. In exchange, he gave them loads of Fruit Loops, which he felt was a fair trade. Today the figures are worth a nice chunk of change, (Steven would not reveal just how nice), but he says he has no plans to sell them!

Each of the SJCL-eight agreed that firm-founder Michael makes a real effort to keep the aesthetic of the supportive environment that was, and still is, so apparent on campus, alive and well at the firm. "Our doors are always open, we talk with one another all the time," Michael said.



**David M. Lange** (Law '11)

In addition to the support available just down the hall, the colleagues take a trip together every year. No spouses or kids. Just staff, so they can bond and have some fun. Past trips have included the mountains, the coast, and amusement parks.

If there was a contest for most interesting hobby among the attorneys, there would be some contention. Senior Associate David Lange (Law '11) enjoys flying his hot air balloon - the Phoenix - when he's not assisting clients. A veteran of the U.S. Air Force, David completed his undergrad degree in Hawaii, in computer science. He worked for Tulare County's IT Department for five years before enrolling in law school. "My family didn't have the resources to fund a college education, or the appropriate background to mentor me, but after 20 years in the Air Force, I think I figured it out," David Said. It was SJCL's good reputation and bar pass rates that made his choice for law school an easy one. After graduating, David was a solo practitioner in Visalia for several years, and then worked for the Department of Child Support Services before being hired at the Dias Firm.

Known among his colleagues as the "host with the most," David brings refreshments and board games on the firm's annual trips. His soft spoken demeanor at work apparently belies his cutthroat tendencies when it comes to Jenga, cards, and Mad Libs!

Dustin Moses (Law '21) is another soft-spoken attorney at the firm, but watch out if you catch him on the weekend. For



The attorneys at Dias Law say they like the small town feel of Hanford.

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**Dustin J. Moses** (Law '21)

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fun, Dustin is a Muay Thai kick boxer. The national sport of Thailand, Muay Thai is an aggressive form of kick boxing with a relaxed set of rules. This means moves like elbowing and kneeing are allowed. "I've come to work with some battle scars on Mondays," Dustin said. "I sprained my wrist last week," he said. But he quickly admitted it was due to a slip and fall during the recent heavy rains!

Dustin's path to law school was unplanned, at best. He studied psychology some and went through the police academy, but jobs were scarce at the time (recession). Prior to that he worked as a beekeeper. It was his father who suggested law school, so Dustin took the LSAT and surprised himself by doing well. "I could never have predicted that I would have ended up as an attorney," he said. "But I'm doing quite well here!"

Recent graduate Leonardo Piceno (Law '22) is also doing well at the Dias Firm. He majored in Journalism at Cal Poly, Humboldt, and worked in marketing and IT for a time. "I felt I could do more," Leonardo said. The representation of attorneys in the programs he saw on TV were a factor in inspiring Leonardo to think about law. He wanted to show the people in his community (he is from Armona, CA) that any of them could be more than the product of their environment. "Not much is expected from those who grew up in Armona," Leonardo said. His goal is to help change that.

SJCL alumni who were not present during our visit include Jimmy Rodriguez (Law '04), of Counsel, and Alicia D. Wrest (Law '10), of Counsel.



**Leonardo D. Piceno** (Law '22)

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Kings County Courthouse

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# As I Leave the Bench

Since my recent retirement from the Fresno County Superior Court, I have been reflecting on my legal career and those that helped and supported me along the way.

BY HONORABLE ROSEMARY MCGUIRE, CLASS OF 1994

There are too many to name in this brief article, but I will always be grateful for the support of those who helped me pursue my dreams.

I first ventured into the legal profession when I applied at San Joaquin College of Law (SJCL) in 1982 to enter the paralegal program. I had two children, ages five and six and the program at SJCL allowed me to attend classes in the evening so that I was available to care for my children during the day. After attending classes two nights a week for a year I received my paralegal certificate. I was hired as a paralegal by Jim Weakley who, at that time, was with the law firm of Eldridge, Newman, Weakley & Myers. I enjoyed my work as a paralegal. However, after several years I knew I wanted to take the next step and become an attorney. Again, I applied to SJCL, this time to attend law school. I began my law school experience in 1990. Fortunately, SJCL had a four-year night program which allowed me to continue working and attend law school in the evenings. I graduated in 1994, the same year my son graduated from high school.

I had been working in a supporting role in litigation as a paralegal and law clerk for 12 years when I graduated from law school. I knew I wanted to be a trial lawyer. My career as a trial lawyer began in the spring of 1996 when I was second chair in a three-week jury trial. I conducted jury voir dire and handled 25 of the approximately 50 witnesses called to testify. The jury returned a verdict in favor of our client, and I was hooked! Through the years I had the opportunity to try many cases in which I represented public, business and religious entities and their employees in a wide variety of matters in both state and federal court. In 2001 I became a partner with Weakley, Ratliff, Arendt & McGuire which later became Weakley, Arendt & McGuire.

It was through my experience trying cases and observing the dedication and commitment of judges in both state and federal court that I began contemplating becoming a judge. Again, I had much support along the way as I navigated the intricate process of applying to become a superior court judge and moving through the judicial appointment process. On December 2, 2010, I was appointed by former Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger. I was sworn in December 28, 2010, as a judicial officer on the Fresno County Superior Court and began my tenure with the Court. Being on the other side of the bench gives you a completely different perspective. You are no longer an advocate but a neutral, independent judicial officer tasked with the responsibility of becoming familiar with the facts, applying the law and making decisions that affect peoples' lives. It was certainly challenging but I will be forever grateful for the opportunity to serve in that role.

Because SJCL offered night programs and professors that had a passion for the law that they imparted to their students, I



was given the foundation needed to pursue a career in the legal profession. I am very grateful to the people who supported me in that endeavor, particularly my husband and family, who were always there to help and encourage me, and my former partner Jim Weakley who mentored me and helped me attain the skills necessary to succeed as a trial lawyer. I am also grateful for my colleagues on the Fresno County Superior Court who always made themselves available to help and support me.

The decision to retire was not an easy one, but I am ready to move on to the next phase of my life and look forward to what lies ahead.

# Six-Year-Old Shooter May Symbolize Sign of the Times

“Disability is a natural part of the human experience and in no way diminishes the right of individuals to participate in or contribute to society. Improving educational results for children with disabilities is an essential element of our national policy of ensuring equality of opportunity, full participation, independent living, and economic self-sufficiency for individuals with disabilities.”

– Congressional Amendment to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, Public Law 114-95, Every Child Succeeds Act, 2015



BY JODIE HOWARD, BREN PROGRAM DIRECTOR & DIANE SKOUTI, ALUMNI LIAISON

As tough as it may be to hear, “system failure” seems to be at the heart of the spiraling list of tragedies taking place across our nation. Each of the most recent mass shootings were carried out by someone with mental illness and a perceived score to settle with the world. In the case of the six-year-old who shot his first-grade teacher in Virginia, an “acute disability” is likely the root cause of the incident.

There is no shortage of debate on who is responsible for identifying and treating the growing instances of disability and special needs, or poor mental health among the population. Prior to 1970, many children with disabilities were denied access to education and opportunities to learn. Passage of the Education for All Handicapped Children Act in 1975 protected the rights of children and youth to have their individual needs met through the implementation of effective programs and services. That legislation reversed the trend that had excluded nearly 1.8 million children with disabilities from public schools through 1975. As of the school year 2020-21, more than 7.5 million children with disabilities had been provided with special education and services.

But the system suffers from a cyclical passing of the buck. Because of mandatory school attendance laws, parents of a

child with disabilities are forced to enroll their child in school. If the child is unable to function within the standard classroom settings, they are eligible through laws like the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) to receive an evaluation that can determine the supports and services that can help them in the “least restrictive environment appropriate.”

Jodie Howard, Director of the BREN Clinic at SJCL, says there is a very real conundrum between the rights of the special needs child to be educated through inclusion when possible, and the rights of the faculty and students to an appropriate and safe learning environment while at school. In addition, most school districts are hard pressed for the funds to successfully accommodate and serve all their constituents equally.

“School districts often provide cookie cutter approaches of extremely insufficient supports and services,” Jodie says. “Teachers are already overburdened, and are frequently expected to deliver individualized services to various students simultaneously.” Jodie says the services require expertise that regular classroom teachers do not have. “In the case of the six-year-old, who likely required intensive behavioral intervention designed to his individual needs, even the best intentioned of teachers would generally lack the skill to design or deliver this service.”

For the average Joe, or “neurotypical” individual, it is difficult to comprehend that individuals with special needs or mental health challenges perceive and experience the world in ways that are very different. What we often label as behavioral outbursts are responses to societal demands that these individuals have not learned how to handle. When the proper special education services are not provided in a timely manner, the sad result is often juvenile detention. This, then, feeds the school-to-prison pipeline that only exacerbates the problems these individuals face upon reaching adulthood.

While parental participation is essential in the development of a special needs child’s Individualized Education Plan, it does not mean the school district can impose upon parents the obligation to provide those services to their child at school, as perhaps may have been happening in Virginia. Jodie says it is rare to hear of parents staying in the classroom with their child throughout the school day, which the parents in Virginia were allegedly doing until the week of the shooting.

While policy and laws like the IDEA are meant to safeguard the proper supports and services to assist special needs children with development and education, the realities of budgetary issues are often what end up determining their fate.



## Alumni Association Board Members

# Message from the President

BY **MARLA GARCIA** (LAW '14),  
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOARD PRESIDENT

The Alumni Association thanks all our great alumni for your involvement and contributions in the Association and the legal community! We are excited to see so many graduates taking an interest in their alma mater and are happy to announce that membership in the Alumni Association is at an all-time high! The Association strives to be a resource for everyone, alumni and current students alike. It's exciting to see so many grads who wish to serve as mentors, guest speakers, event committee members, and so on.

We thank our alumni for supporting the law school! You continue to be the greatest source of referrals for potential new law students. These referrals are invaluable to the future of San Joaquin College of Law, and they enrich our strong SJCL alumni network!

Keep an eye out for exciting upcoming Alumni Association events like a Spring Mixer and Trivia Night! The Association is also working in conjunction with SBA on campus to organize a mentoring program that will match current students and recent graduates with alumni, and even alumni with alumni who are looking for some professional guidance. Please reach out if you are interested in being or receiving a mentor.

We encourage you to email the Alumni Association at [sjclalumniassociation@gmail.com](mailto:sjclalumniassociation@gmail.com) if you have event ideas you'd like to see, would like to be involved in the mentoring program, or have any suggestions in general. We hope to hear from you!



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**Marla Garcia**

*Class of 2013*

Law Offices of Dan Endoso



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## A Mission of Service

The SJCL Mission statement says its goal is to educate and develop highly skilled attorneys and problem solvers who will benefit their communities through public and private service.

SJCL had nine alumni who have answered that call for the courts by volunteering their time this year. They will be honored at the "State of the Court Update" and "Pro Tem Recognition" luncheon on April 12th at the Holy Trinity Armenian Church and feted by featured speaker Hon David Kalemkarian, Presiding Judge of the Fresno County Superior Court.

If you'd like to attend, RSVP by noon on Monday, April 10, 2023 to the FCBA office at (559) 264-2619 or via email to [angelicanunez@fresnocountybar.org](mailto:angelicanunez@fresnocountybar.org).

Even if you are unable to attend, please join us in applauding their selfless efforts.

## 2022 Time Donations

### 25 Hours or More

- Annette Ballatore-Williamson (Law '97)
- Cheryl L. Browns (Law '94)
- Brenda Linder (Law '04)
- Amy L. Lopez (Law '95)

### Up to 24 Hours

- Todd Barsotti (Law '90)
- Russell D. Cook (Law '80)
- Donald Forbes (Law '78)
- David Moeck (Law '98)
- Jackie Yates (Law '92)



## Banquet FROM PAGE 1

James Mugridge (Law '13) presented the George J. Vasquez (Law '13) Memorial Scholarship, honoring the memory of his friend and classmate (who also succumbed to an untimely death) by sharing some of George's philosophy on a successful life.

"George was principled and always aimed to do good. He made the conscious choice to celebrate even the smallest of victories. When he finished a brief he would call a friend, go for a walk, or work out to celebrate." Mugridge urged the current law students to follow George's advice by finding balance between their studies, their careers, and their precious free time. As George would have said: "Let happiness – not hustle – be your measure of success," Mugridge added.







## SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Albert Ramirez Bail Bonds Scholarship	Bianca Lazzano
Carolyn T. Mirviss Scholarship	Nancy Flores-Castaneda
Judy Wiseman Memorial Scholarship	Jessica Hudson-Headley
Spirit of SJCL Scholarship	Helen Diaz
Andres Diaz Special Education Scholarship	Brittany Hieng
Baradat & Paboojian Trial Advocacy Scholarship	Gurjot Brar
Bertha & John Garabedian Military Service Scholarship	Travis Childress
	Vladimir Pacheco
	James Proctor
Cartier First Year Improvement Scholarship	Cherry Thomas
Central California Bankruptcy Association	Isidro Barragan Sanchez
	Carragan Huerta
	Brittney Torres-DeLeon
Darryl B. Freedman Bar Study Scholarship	Cindy Arredondo
Delta Theta Phi Scholarship	Aaron Draper
	Vivian Perez
Delta Theta Phi First Year Scholarship	Milton Ramirez
Elizabeth O'Neill Memorial Scholarship	Blanca Maravilla
Entrepreneurial Spirit Scholarship	Joanna Mendoza
Ernest Kinney Trial Lawyer Scholarship	Crystal Brightwell
First Generation Student Scholarship	Sandra Oseguera
Founders' Scholarship	Helen Diaz
George J. Vasquez Memorial Scholarship	Jacqueline Vazquez
	Reynaldo Alvarez
Ibarra Casillas LawSUIT Scholarship	Stephanie Adams
	Ryan Dupras
	Christina Rodriguez
James C. Pell Memorial Scholarship	Savana Perez
Janice Pearson Scholarship	Madison Erickson
Jennifer Lynn Oleksa Scholarship	Diana (Hyunjin) Malcolm
John Loomis Legacy Award	Brittany Hieng
Kharazi Bar Study Support Scholarship	Nicole Tow
Law Students for Community	
Advancement Community Action	Alejandra Tenorio-Zurita
LawSuit Scholarship	Rocio Lopez
	Lacey Phillips
Legal Edge Consumer Scholarship	Nathan Maltes
Leon S. Peters Foundation Leadership Awards	Holly Gallo
	Sumeet Kaur
	Ann-Marie Padilla
	Lisa Talley
	Alice Uribe
Proctor Scholar of the Year	Diana (Hyunjin) Malcolm
Proper Defense Law Corporation	
Employed Student Bar Study Scholarship	Jocelyn Stevens
Public Service Scholarship	Kyle Zoldoske
Mike Rhodes Social Justice Scholarship	Hannah Janigian
Notorious Ruth Bader-Ginsburg Scholarship	Rosa Nava-Garcia
Soroptimist International of Clovis	
Women's Advocate Award Scholarship	Hannah Ravizza
Student Bar Association's Academic Improvement	Vanessa Fayad
	Marisol Cruz-Rodriguez
Strong Academic Performance	Raquel Chavez
	Karen Lopez
Bar Study Support	Chelsea Chavez
	Gurjot Brar
Trudi Gale Manfredi Memorial Scholarship	Maranee Forsyth

## "..OF THE YEAR" AWARDS

Dedication to Service of the Immigrant Community	Joseph Lascano
Full-time Faculty of the Year	Logan Tennerelli
Adjunct Faculty of the Year	Honorable Jonathan Conklin
Student of the Year 4L	Brittany Hieng
Student of the Year 3L	Ryan Dupras
Student of the Year 2L	Isidro Barragan Sanchez
Student of the Year 1L	Andrew Shute

# MENTAL HEALTH MATTERS

## How Are You – Really?

As a major concern in our current social consciousness, mental health issues are causing all manner of conflict and violence, in addition to the pall of malaise that seems to be hanging over the populace.

BY DIANE SKOUTI, ALUMNI LIAISON

**D**emand for mental health practitioners is so great that self-help chat bots are already in use. These artificial intelligence applications can draw suggestions from online databases stocked with best practices and remedies from the field of psychology, based on the mental health issues expressed by a client.

It seems no age group can escape the worries of today's world, but there is one group in particular that seems especially hard hit. Generation Z, generally identified as those born between the mid-1990s and the early-2010s, is a group broadly defined by traits that seem in conflict. They are known in general to be globally aware, collaborative, and ethical. But they also tend toward instant gratification, information and entertainment addiction, and a preference for bite-sized, easy to absorb bits of knowledge. As the group representing many of the recent college graduates, graduate school students (law students), and young professionals or 2nd career folks who are beginning new careers, they

are one of the more educated generations in recent history - but are also extremely filled with angst.

Also known as “Zoomers,” and “Digital Natives,” this group was the first to grow up with the internet and social media. They are the largest generation in American history (around 27% of the current U.S. population) and they have the dubious distinction of experiencing more depression than any other generation before them. As childhood witnesses to acute events like September 11th, mass shootings, civil unrest, economic and climate disaster, and COVID, Gen Z struggles with the notion that the world isn't safe.

While mental health issues among college students are nothing new, a trend among new professionals, as they transition from college to the workforce, has entered the scene in a bold way. A report from the Mary Christie Institute, a think tank focused on young adults' mental health, found that over a third (39%) of new professionals feel their colleges didn't help prepare them for the mental health challenges of this milestone. In society's current

state, poor mental health is so prevalent that some are calling on college leaders to partner with employers to prioritize the mental health and well-being of students and alumni, for the betterment of both higher ed and the workforce.

(Ames, M., Choudaha, R., Finley, A., Gatta, M., Humphrey, D., Lipson, S., Malpiede, M. (2022) *The Mental Health and Wellbeing of Young Professionals*)

The research, “The Mental Health and Wellbeing of Young Professionals,” was conducted jointly by the Mary Christie Institute, the American Association of Colleges, the National Association of Colleges and Employers, and the Healthy Minds Network. The methodology involved a survey of 1,005 adults between the ages of 22 and 28, all of whom held a bachelor's degree or higher. The survey was conducted in November of 2022.

Rather than the specialized skill-sets one expects to acquire in college, emotional intelligence was found to be lacking by many of the survey respondents. Nearly two out of five students said they felt unprepared emotionally for work and the workplace. Almost half, or 45% said their work environment was taking a negative toll on their mental health.

For new professionals who have graduated from college or started new careers in the last six years, entrance into the work-





force coincided with anxious and uncertain times. The disruptions caused by COVID changed the trajectories of many lives, and they remain as daunting reminders of the fragility of life in our modern world.

Among the survey findings, over half of new professionals admit to emotional or mental health challenges, far more than previous generations, but they feel less stigma surrounding mental health and seeking help, which is a positive development.

A much larger survey collected data from more than 350,000 students at 373 college campuses, called the Healthy Minds Study. Conducted between 2013 – 2021, nearly 60% of students reported meeting criteria for one or more mental health problems in 2020-21: a 50% increase over 2013. This survey also found that students of color had the lowest rates of mental health service utilization, making them the least likely to seek help.

As a matter of great public health importance, many are calling for an immediate response to what is being called a mental health crises across America. Among the roughly two million young adults who are enrolled in U.S. postsecondary education, mental health symptoms have nearly doubled in the past ten years. Providing a glimmer of hope, most educational institutions and employers provide resources to assist with the effects of these trying times, but so very much more is needed.

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*For SJCL students who are experiencing anxiety or crisis, SJCL has confidential resources that can help. Contact [bpitcock@sjcl.edu](mailto:bpitcock@sjcl.edu) or [ltennerelli@sjcl.edu](mailto:ltennerelli@sjcl.edu) for information.*

*For current and former attorneys, law students, and State Bar applicants, confidential resources are available at the State Bar website: [LAP@calbar.ca.gov](mailto:LAP@calbar.ca.gov) or 877-527-4435.*

## References

- Ames, M., Choudaha, R., Finley, A., Gatta, M., Humphrey, D., Lipson, S., Malpiede, M. (2022) The Mental Health and Wellbeing of Young Professionals). A survey about mental health. Higher Ed Dive. Retrieved from <https://marychristieinstitute.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/The-Mental-Health-and-Wellbeing-of-Young-Professionals-Survey.pdf>
- Lipson, S., Zhou, S., Abelson, S., Heinze, J., Jirsa, M., Morigney J., Patterson, A., Singh, M., Eisenberg D. (2022) Trends in college student mental health and help-seeking. Journal of Affective Disorders. Vol 306, pgs. 138-147. Retrieved from : <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0165032722002774?via%3Dihub>

# WE ♥ OUR ALUMNI

We appreciate our alumni for so many reasons.

As the pioneering legal professionals of the central valley, each graduating class since 1974 has distinguished themselves by the quality of their legal expertise. As each new class of students strives to achieve similar distinction, they look to your example for inspiration.

Your achievement, in addition to the endorsement and guidance you provide to would-be attorneys, has kept the SJCL legacy going strong for 54 years. With attorney shortages predicted to grow over the next decade, we count on you as our best ambassadors, to refer, encourage, and inspire each new class of legal scholars.

In appreciation, we want to share some of the wonderful outcomes that have resulted.

Cheers to you, our alumni!

“*In June of 2009 I was taking a Business Law summer course at Willow International (now Clovis Community College), and I devoured the textbook and subject matter. Professor Janet Fiorentino (Law '97) would allow a few points of extra credit if a student volunteered to brief a case in front of the class, which I enjoyed doing. One day she asked me if I had ever considered law school, and not long after I was attending an information night at SJCL. I had an encouraging conversation with Dean Pearson, and the rest is history, as they say! I enjoyed her teaching and personal interest, which illustrates the force for good that a professor can have on their students. Thank you Janet and SJCL!*”

– Anonymous

“*Not only did Thornton Davidson (Law '93) encourage me to purchase my first home at the age of 26, he made sure I looked into what SJCL had to offer before deciding to apply to other schools. Needless to say, I have more than one reason to be grateful for his guidance, mentorship, and friendship throughout the years.*”

– Anonymous

“*My dad, Jerry DeMelo Jr. (Law '95) entered law school at SJCL when I was 8 years old. I remember him becoming totally engulfed in his studies. I tagged along with him to general study group sessions in which he and his classmates endlessly discussed various cases using words that I had only heard in movies and TV, like hearsay and negligent. Lots of wine was consumed at these sessions. My dad spoke about law all day, every day, which was annoying at the time, but I definitely admired his drive and passion. Also, our family vacations got a lot better once he started practicing law!*”

– Robert DeMelo (1L)

# Side-Gig Businesses Abound Among Law Students

BY DIANE SKOUTI, ALUMNI LIAISON

In recent years, due mostly to the COVID onslaught, many small businesses were created from necessity. People, including students, sought ways to generate income by providing a product or service, often related to a favorite hobby, that could be managed from home. On campus this year – among the over-taxed and super stressed – is a startling number of law students who are also running side-gigs.

Deanna Fernandez (4L) is a 58-year-old grandmother of three. She works full-time as an energy contracts and compliance manager at a small utility, Community Choice Aggregation (CCA). It's an intense job that requires a minimum of 8-hours of work a day, but she is able to work remotely, which helps.

When the chairman of CCA, Justin Brown (Law '05), suggested she consider law school, she thought: "Heck, law school? I can do that!" Deanna has just three classes to go before she graduates.

Impressive? There's more. A year before she started law school, Deanna opened Barmaids: a mobile bar service in a converted horse trailer that travels to weddings and other events with an all-female staff of 12 bartenders - which begs the question: WHY? Isn't law school difficult enough?

"My husband is a musician who plays bass as a side-gig," Deanna explained. My girlfriend and I would go to his gigs late at night and we realized they were opportunities to make money!" So they went to bartending school and started the business. Deanna says their craft cocktails have become quite popular. "We do smoked-drinks, fancy garnishes, and craft themes that are as visually fun as they are tasty," she says. And business is booming.

Due to her demanding day job and evening law school schedule, Deanna has limited herself to mainly contracts and schedules for Barmaids. "It takes me 10 hours to prep for each law class every week," she says. "I have no life." But there is a light on the horizon. "I'll knock it out next year and be done!" she said.

At her day job Deanna works with two attorneys, enabling her to complete her clinical hours at work. Upon passing the bar, she will have a job at CCA doing contract and energy law.

Deanna says between 50-60% of the people she knows have small businesses of their own. "I think it's about passion, doing things you really love," she said. "COVID really brought the idea of living happily to the forefront."

Deanna's law school colleague, Vanessa Fayad, became interested in developing a tea business as a 2L. "I encouraged her to go for it," Deanna said.

And go-for-it she did. As the founder of Relaxation Teas, Vanessa says her offerings are all about de-stressing and relaxation – common issues among law students. Vanessa's teas are "handmade, organic, herbal tea blends with a purpose". The purpose? Her first three blends were created to promote energy, focus, and sleep.



**Cherry Thomas** (2L) has made a name for herself as an award-winning wedding photographer based in Santa Barbara.

"I have always had an interest in helping people, and having the power to do so," says Vanessa. Her pursuit of a law degree came from a frustration that injustices ought to be corrected. "Whenever there is injustice, the answer is always a good lawyer," she adds.

Born in the Middle Eastern country of Lebanon, Vanessa immigrated to the U.S. with her mother at the age of six. She has worked non-stop since the age of 15, due in part to her entrepreneurial spirit, and a financial need to help support the household. At the start of law school she worked as a Court Liaison for SCRAM of California, a company that creates technological solutions to incarceration, like alcohol detecting ankle monitors.

Raised in a culture that values herbal remedies, Vanessa began creating tea blends to combat the stresses of her 1L year. "My mind never turned off, I couldn't sleep, so I dove into research," she says.





Vanessa Fayad's "Visit Space Tea"



"Most people I know can't afford (a good lawyer). I want to change that."

– Vanessa Fayad (3L)



*"The law is so precise and so serious. I have a creative side that I don't feel can be expressed within the study of law."*

– Joanna Mendoza (3L) with one of her Latinx candles.



*"COVID really brought the idea of living happily to the forefront."*

– Deanna Fernandez (4L)

Her first blend included butterfly pea flowers and blue lotus, which brews a beautiful blue colored tea. "It really helped," she said.

Vanessa has done lengthy research on the herbs she uses in her teas. "I make no medical claims," she says. "I just use the known benefits of tested herbs, and they work."

Vanessa hopes to wind up in Santa Barbara someday, ideally as an attorney in the beautiful Santa Barbara courthouse. Every Friday she takes the train from Fresno to Oxnard, then drives to Santa Barbara to sell her teas at a pop-up market. She also sells them at Tower Blendz in Fresno, but most of her business is online.

By sheer coincidence, another SJCL student also has a Santa Barbara-based business. Cherry Thomas (2L), also known as ByCherry Photography, has run her award-winning wedding business since 2005. Cherry's accolades include photos published in HuffPost, BuzzFeed, and The Knot, and her incarnations are as vast as her talent.

Originally from Lemoore, Cherry told her father as a child she wanted to be "everything" when she grew up. Although she dis-

covered her love for photography in high school, Cherry attended UC Santa Barbara as an English Literature major with a minor in Japanese. She later completed a program at a photography institute but continued working full-time in financial planning for 10 years. Her side work in photography, meanwhile, continued to grow until it generated more income than her day job, so she quit to pursue her hobby full time.

Once she joined the wedding community of Santa Barbara, Cherry was troubled by the horror stories of fellow vendors, mostly women, who had been cheated by bad business contracts. "The wedding industry is a creative business. A lot of people weren't business savvy or legally legit. Some couldn't understand their own contracts," Cherry said.

"Nobody seemed to know a lawyer that could assist with their specific needs. As someone who likes to change careers every few years, I decided – law school!"

Having hired others to staff her business while she pursues her J.D., Cherry says law school for her, is like "tinkering." She finds

she is learning a lot about herself, and her own thought processes in addition to the law. Once she becomes an attorney, Cherry wants to return to photography as a hobby, and hopes to pursue other areas of interest.

There's a lot of talk about building your own dreams. If you're going to work hard for someone, it should be (for yourself)!"

Joanna Mendoza (3L) agrees. Her business, Joy's Aroma Candles, gives her the freedom she needs for her studies, while providing an income from something she loves. Joanna brings her cultural heritage into her products by naming the candle scents in Spanish. They include Fresita Linda (cute little strawberry) and Dulce Amor (sweet love). Joanna says the nod to her culture helps her products stand out in the crowded candle market. She finds that people like having candles that represent their Latinx heritage.

She relates her other passion, law, to her culture as well. Growing up in an immigrant family, she has always been interested in immigration law. Joanna has participated in NALC for three semesters on campus, and hopes to become an immigration attorney.

After starting law school Joanna left a full-time job as a legal assistant. "E-commerce makes it easier to make money without a lot of work time," she says. "I wake up every morning to my phone "dinging" from deposits made to my bank account as people order candles online!"

For her start, Joanna attended an entrepreneur's class through the Fresno Area Hispanic Foundation. They assist budding business owners with financial help through grants and training. "Making candles is relaxing and fun," says Joanna.

Joanna, like Deanna Fernandez, says many of her friends too, own small businesses. Among them, classmate Vanessa Fayad, whose tea Joanne says keeps her alive!

There are more business-owning SJCL students as well. "Among them, Kashvinder Basara (3L), Swarns Kollection, an apparel business that features styles from India, and custom woodworking projects made by Adam Balakian (3L). Our hats are off to you all!



**Honorable Gabriel Brickey** (Law '04) swears in his brother, **DJ Brickey** (Law '09), a newly appointed Court Commissioner.

## Brothers on the Bench, Retired Judge/Uncle Admires via Zoom

BY **MISSY MCKAI CARTIER**

It's not very often that a judge is sworn into the bench by another judge who happens to be his brother, but that is exactly what happened in a Fresno County Superior Courtroom.

Prior to that, Daniel Jackson "DJ" Brickey, a 2009 San Joaquin College of Law alumnus, was in the center of a whirlwind of activity on January 26th at the Fresno County Public Defender's Office. "I have to hand off everything, all my cases, by the end of the week," he said, adding that his appointment as a Fresno County Commissioner was "unexpected."

Brickey says he expected he would have to apply at least another couple times, especially when he saw the pool of highly qualified candidates in the same hunt.

He was shocked and overjoyed when the call came announcing his appointment. When asked why he wanted to become a Commissioner, Brickey replied "service to my country." He pointed to his dad, a pilot during the Viet Nam War, and his grandfather, a pilot captured during WWII who spent his 21st birthday in a P.O.W. camp. Even his great-grandfather, Jackson Brown John Brickey (after whom he was named), was a Union Soldier in the Civil War. Brickey says he comes from a long line of those giving service to their

country and he sees this position as being in the same vein.

He also feels he has the temperament for the job, having overcome a lot of obstacles in his life, including the death of his wife in 2015 from lymphoma. While the loss was immense, he has since remarried and rebuilt his life.

On February 6th, DJ Brickey was sworn in by his brother, Fresno Superior Court Judge Gabriel Brickey, a 2004 SJCL grad. Meanwhile, their uncle, Hon. Eric Helgesen, a retired Riverside County Superior Court Judge, monitored the occasion via Zoom. Helgesen is a 1979 SJCL alum.

Brickey's first assignment is Traffic Court which, while not high profile, is still a place that can have a profound effect on lower income people who could lose their job without a license to drive to work or lose their housing if a fine overwhelms their household budget. He's looking forward to it but hopes to get back to criminal law in the next year or two.

In his new position, Brickey becomes the 11th SJCL Court Commissioner and the Law School's 66th Bench Officer. He says he's "thankful for my time at SJCL and am looking forward to seeing my colleagues around the courtroom."





## The Gifts of Joy and Hope

Thanks once again to the generosity and compassion of SJCL alumni, faculty and staff, the residents of the Marjaree Mason Center were treated to a special evening of holiday cheer in early December. While COVID has permanently changed the format of the Children's Holiday Party, the delivery of gifts, holiday goodies, and a visit with Santa was as welcome as ever.

A caravan of SUV's packed to the max - along with a full truck and trailer - arrived early on a foggy Friday afternoon in preparation for the arrival of the families that evening. Awaiting them were large baskets filled with toys, games, and an assortment of useful items. After dinner was delivered, the visits with Santa commenced. Smiling faces revealed the most precious gift of all: hope.

The Marjaree Mason Center, along with the SJCL Alumni Association, are ever grateful to our enduring donors. If you would like to assist with this wonderful event next year, please contact [dskouti@sjcl.edu](mailto:dskouti@sjcl.edu).



## *With Heartfelt Thanks*

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## On the Move... Moves!

We are changing the way we keep up with all your endeavors and accomplishments. Please keep us in your loop by completing the form at [www.sjcl.edu/onthemove](http://www.sjcl.edu/onthemove). Emails and phone calls are welcome too. Contact Diane Skouti at [dskouti@sjcl.edu](mailto:dskouti@sjcl.edu) or (559) 326-1463 to share your news!

**Daniel Jackson "D.J." Brickey** (Law '09) is now a Fresno County Court Commissioner. He becomes the 11th SJCL Court Commissioner and the Law School's 66th Bench Officer.

**Cheryl Browns** (Law '94) is now Senior Counsel in the Fresno office of Borton Petrini, LLP, where she specializes in Family Law.

**Daisy E. Castro** (Law '12) is now Managing Attorney of the Gilson Daub West Los Angeles office.

**Kirsten K. Corey** (Law '99) is now General Counsel for the State Center Community College District.

**Faith Driscoll** (Law '13) is now Chief Legal Officer at United Health Centers of the San Joaquin Valley.

**Besan Farra** (Law '22) is now an Associate Attorney at Habbas & Associates in San Jose.

**Jessi Fierro** (Law '13) is now a Senior Attorney for the California Air Resource Board.

**Jacob A. Gelegan** (Law '13) is now an Associate Attorney at Macdonald & Cody LLP in Irvine.

**Austin G. Insko** (Law '22) is now an Associate Attorney at Stuart R. Chandler, a Professional Corporation.

**Cassandra Kaur** (Law '19) is now an Associate Attorney in Workers' Compensation at Wintersteen Casarez Law Corporation.

**Ryan McAbee** (Law '14) is now BSA Practice Director at AuditOne, LLC. The company's core business is outsourced internal audits for financial institutions – from de novo institutions up to those with multi-billions in assets.

**Angela E. Meakin** (Law '13) is now an Employment Attorney at Littler Mendelson P.C.

**Toni Mims-Cochran** (Law '96) has been appointed as an Alameda County Superior Court Judge. Hon. Mims-Cochran has served as a Commissioner for the Alameda County Superior Court since 2016. She was a Sole Practitioner from 2002 to 2016 and an Attorney at the Eviction Defense Center from 2000 to 2002. With her elevation, SJCL now has 29 Superior Court Judges in the alumni ranks, but Hon. Mims-Cochran is the first SJCL grad to serve in this position on the Alameda County Superior Court.

**D'Artagnan R. Montrose** (Law '17) is now a Partner at Michael Sullivan & Associates LLP.

**Leonardo D. Piceno** (Law '22) is now an Associate Attorney at the Dias Law Firm in Hanford.

**Tomas J. Ross** (Law '13) is now Senior Trial Managing Counsel for Loya Casualty Insurance Company, overseeing the entire California staff counsel operation. The Firm plans to open an office in Fresno this year. Ross specializes in insurance defense and complex civil litigation.

**Nicole D. Rothford** (Law '12) is now a Partner at Yruegui & Roberts.

**Heather M. Thomas** (Law '22) is now a Deputy Fresno City Attorney.

**Jenell Van Bindsbergen** (Law '96) is now Of Counsel for the Fresno Offices of Dannis Woliver Kelley, Attorneys at Law, and is a member of the Labor, Employment and Personnel practice group.

**Shannon Wentworth** (Law '19) has opened the Wentworth Law Firm.

**Mark Wilson** (Law '10) is now an Associate Attorney for the Fresno-Bakersfield offices of Gilson Daub, LLP.

## In Memoriam

*San Joaquin College of Law notes with sadness the passing of*

**Nancy Winston Silacci** (Law '80) on August 20, 2022.

**John Shehadey** (Law '81) on January 4, 2023. Along with his numerous agricultural and business endeavors, John was also an avid athlete, and volunteer. He is survived by his wife, Mary, along with four children, stepchildren, and numerous grandchildren.

**Kathleen A. Gregory** (Law '86) on February 3rd. Kathie is survived by her husband Woody, daughter Jeannie Goshgarian and her husband Rich Grohmann, son George Goshgarian and his wife Caitlin Chinn Goshgarian, step-daughter Erin Oliver and her husband Scott Oliver, step-son Jonathan Gregory and his wife Julie Panebianco, and seven grandchildren.



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Adam Baiza, Jr.  
Diane Skouti Baiza (Staff)  
Brandon Baker  
Ana M. Ramirez de Berber  
Hon. Robert Broughton ('78)  
Margarita Cabrera  
Claire ('05) & Devin Carroll  
Melissa Carver  
Herlinda F. Centeno  
Rita O. Chijioko  
Frances Christiansen ('79)  
Peter Cowper ('88)  
Sofian Dawood ('04)  
Greg & Jeanne Durbin  
Kristina Eurgubian  
Marsh Family  
Maria Garcia de Flores  
Benjamin Gutierrez  
Suzanne M. Gutile  
Douglas ('82) & Marcia Haas  
Diane Harris  
Christina Hathaway ('07)  
Mary Hoagland ('85)  
Hon. Dale & Deborah Ikeda  
Rhea Ikemija ('09)  
Flora Istanboulian ('87)  
David C. Kalemkarian  
Linda Walker Kelly ('86)  
Joan Lassley  
Christopher Martin  
Cecilia Martinez  
Jon McClarty  
Hon. Rosemary McGuire ('94)  
Flora Medina  
Maria D. Vera Meza  
Clifton Mickelson  
Joseph Oleksa  
Tejumola Olubeko ('18)  
Francisco M. Ortiz  
Katherine Perymon  
Patricia Pinto ('94)  
Ofra Pleban ('96)  
W. Scott Quinlan ('81)  
Fabian Ramirez

Maria Rangel  
Aristeo Rayas  
Cynthia Robinson (Staff)  
Adan Rodriguez  
Ryan Rubin  
Rena Rutledge  
Ann Shalla  
John Shehadey ('81)  
Jorden Sobonya  
Diane Steel (Staff)  
Laurel Torrelli  
Douglas Treisman (Faculty)  
Froylan Vargas  
Jose Villatoro  
Howard K. Watkins  
Sara Widener-Brightwell ('94)  
Stephen Wright ('96)  
Jacqueline Yates ('92)  
Jose L. Moreno Zermeno  
Thomas Zynda ('93)

## **Other**

Reyna Albarran  
Karen Bargamian  
Suren Barseghyan  
Jason ('00) & Kim Bell  
Judy Berman  
Rhonda Bopp  
Lee Brown  
Betty A. Charles  
Wendy Chavez  
Phillip Cherney (Faculty)  
David Chiappetta (Faculty)  
Rosaura Contreras  
Joby Dupuis ('85)  
Sara Espinoza  
Robin Eurgubian  
Gerald ('80) & Judith Farrington  
Miguel Fierro  
Anahi Frias  
Susana Garcia  
Glenda Glosa  
Christine Goodrich (Faculty)  
Diane Hamp  
Travis Ishikawa ('12)  
Hon. Walter Johnsen ('74)  
Kristina Katsounakis  
Stephen Malm ('08)  
Guillermo Mora  
Louis V. Moreno  
Janelle de la Motte  
Esperanza Navarro  
Marianne Pansa  
Marybeth Peckenschneider  
Carment Estrella de Perez  
Theresa Pike  
Lori Raichilson  
Jerry Sanchez  
Miguel Iniguez Sanchez  
Jason Shalla  
Malkeet Singh  
Roger Stewart ('87)  
Ma. Guadalupe Maciel Viveros  
Greg Wagner  
Jillian Williams  
Jane Worsley  
Karen Zarsadias-Ige

You deserve to be properly recognized for your contributions, and we strive for 100 percent accuracy.  
If we have made an error, please contact Victoria Denny at 559/323-2100 or vdenny@sjcl.edu.



# SAN JOAQUIN COLLEGE OF LAW

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2020-2022 by the Numbers

# NALC

# 1,665

Prescreens

# 302

Legal Consultations

# 887

Naturalizations Submitted

# 816

Clients who Took Their Oath of Citizenship

# 334

Other Immigration Remedies Submitted (adjustment of status, U visa, T visa, SIJS, work permits, DACA, etc)

# 27

Clients represented in Immigration Proceedings

The New American Legal Clinic provides immigration services while the BREN Clinic serves individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities. Serving in these clinics helps prepare our students by offering a practical learning model and overarching values necessary to succeed in the legal profession.

# BREN

# 112

IEP Meetings

# 24

Clients Moved to a Less Restrictive Environment

# 32

Clients Received 1:1 Aides in their IEPs

# 7,975

Hours of Compensatory Remediation Services

# 3,900

# 16,524

Hours of Weekly, Ongoing Services at School

Families Attended BREN Clinic Classes or Trainings