ADJOURNED

APRATIM VIDYARTHI ’22 and his mates decided to lighten up law school. Earlier this year members of the Penn Law Comedy Club put on a heckle-free show to a packed house of 200 people at the University Museum. The Club was co-founded by Vidyarthi (right) and Michael Weingartner ’21 in 2019. Vidyarthi studied stand-up, improv, writing, and acting at The Second City in Chicago. He’s now ensconced at Gibson Dunn in The First City, New York. He says the prospect of a judicial grilling pales next to the experience of bombing on a stand-up stage.
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Surge in Experiential Learning
A growing number of Penn Carey Law students are hanging a shingle of sorts before the end of law school, learning the practice of law in new and innovative ways. Think experiential learning.

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Taking Charge
Bursting with energy and ideas, 15 alumnae describe how they made their own way in the world of law by starting law firms.

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A Pipeline to Government
The Leo Model Foundation Government & Public Affairs Initiative continues to steer students to policy jobs, fostering the civic leaders of tomorrow.
As legal education continues to evolve and grow to best prepare students to enter the practice of law ready to hit the ground running, Penn Carey Law has increased its experiential learning opportunities to offer an extensive array of simulation classes, externships, and intensive bootcamps.

We are readying students for the transition to work in ways I could have scarcely imagined when I went to law school.

Last school year, there were 132 courses in this broad category—the largest number of offerings during my tenure as dean and ostensibly ever. This boom in practical skills training is an extension of our celebrated clinical education program, which is going strong after 46 years.

There has long been a debate about how students should spend the second and third years of law school. More than 20 years ago, the authors of a seminal report on law school training from The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching put forth what many were thinking: focus more on practice. And the American Bar Association eventually ran with that recommendation, requiring law students to earn six credits in experiential learning in order to graduate.

As you will read in this issue, numerous students have followed that injunction to good effect, taking the JD/MBA Capstone Course on the life cycle of a company, learning the intricacies of federal agencies through an Administrative Advocacy course, and weaving weekly work in judicial chambers into their curriculum through our new Judicial Externship program.

And all signs point to larger enrollments and more offerings in the near future.

Another welcome change: women are striking out on their own and starting law firms.

Nicole Galli C’89, L’92 has seen if not fomented this evolution. She’s the leader of Women Owned Law, a nonprofit trade association that mentors women with the ambition to run their own shops. Since 2015, the association has attracted 200 members.

We look at 15 alumnae who did just that: started their own law firms. They came from a spectrum of legal careers to go on a great personal journey of discovery and fulfillment, all of them true entrepreneurs who took their training and built something substantial, productive, and personal.

All of them exude joy in their work and in their decision to establish law firms.

They are enriching the profession, and we are proud of them.

Sincerely,

Theodore Ruger
Dean and Bernard G. Segal Professor of Law
“There is no escaping the conclusion that the opinion is dangerous on two fronts: for the climate and for administrative capacity more broadly.”

SHELLEY WELTON
Presidential Distinguished Professor of Law and Energy Policy
At Ballard, we came to understand that true diversity — representation across varied perspectives, backgrounds, and experiences — was possible only if we committed to two essential companion principles: equity and inclusion. Inclusion happens when we engage and integrate colleagues from all backgrounds, empowering them to contribute their perspectives and ideas. We incorporated the concept of inclusion into our diversity strategy in 2014. The adoption of equity into our diversity and inclusion strategy, in November 2021, was a natural evolution that reflects our firm culture and society at large. Our commitment to equity ensures that everyone has access to resources and opportunities that lead to success and removes barriers for those who may not have had full access to resources and opportunities in the past.

Ballard has sought to be a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion leader. Our efforts have been led by a
full-time diversity professional since 2006, and in 2011, when we elevated the position to Chief Diversity Officer, we were among just a few large law firms to have taken that step. Being a thought leader does not necessarily mean we value being a first mover in all things, however.

Our Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Council wanted the firm to be thoughtful in incorporating equity as part of our diversity and inclusion core values. We sought to understand and define what a commitment to equity would mean for Ballard, how it would look and feel, and how we would achieve it. Our intention was not to add equity as a performative gesture or out of social pressure, but as a genuine, informed, and deliberate shift in mindset and behavior.

Why add equity? The killing of George Floyd, Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and so many others. Hate crimes targeting Asian Americans. Voting restrictions that disproportionately impact communities of color. A heightened awareness of racial injustice. Pandemic-related gender and racial disparities. These and other societal scars shifted expectations; leaders were expected not just to talk about diversity, equity, and inclusion, but to drive social change.

Ballard made a public commitment “to continue our self-examination and to challenge ourselves, listen to those with lived experience, contribute to our shared humanity, and do our part to advance the change we know is necessary.” (Where We Stand, June 2020.) For us, that meant that our initial focus would be internal. We committed to assessing processes and systems, as well as experiences, resources, and opportunities, to ensure that no one is disadvantaged and everyone participates on a level playing field. The elected board developed a Plan to Strengthen Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion and is collaborating with the firm’s Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Council on its implementation.

Our words and actions make clear where we stand as a firm, and that certainty is especially important to our diverse lawyers and staff. They know that no matter what they may face outside the firm, they have our full support.

While our primary focus on equity is introspective, we have increased our commitment to addressing inequities in the justice system. The Litigation Department launched the Racial Justice and Equality Initiative, through which litigators take on pro bono cases that specifically address racial justice issues, such as policing, education, and voting rights. The firm’s Asian American Business Resource Group spearheaded pro bono work to address anti-Asian American and Pacific Islander violence. Our Media and Entertainment Law Group is representing Black-owned media outlets and news media that primarily serve communities of color. We provide financial support to partner organizations engaged in tackling racial injustice and inequity.

What actions are we taking within Ballard? We are reviewing our policies and practices to ensure that they do not confer an advantage on one group of people not shared by others. We know that certain practices — interviewing only at certain law schools, for example, or transitioning client responsibilities from a senior to a junior Partner without forethought — can work to the detriment of lawyers of color and women. If we determine that a practice does a disservice to some individuals, we will change it. We are looking at the actual impact of colorblind and gender-neutral policies. We are examining our election and leadership selection processes for negative bias.

The Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Council’s Working Groups are collaborating with the board on its Implementation Plan. The working groups also are assessing the results of our firm-wide Diversity + Inclusion Survey to identify ways we can examine and address bias. We are looking at data through an equity lens and generating more data with race/ethnicity details. We are examining the concept of equity in our hybrid work plans. We are developing metrics to look at areas related to bias.

Accountability for diversity, equity, and inclusion is shared among leaders across the firm not just within the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Department, the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Council, and the elected board.

Ballard Spahr is committed to unlocking the potential of diverse talent and delivering superior results for clients. Embracing diversity, equity, and inclusion is the right thing to do for our firm, our profession, our communities, and our business. ■

Mark Stewart L’82 is the Chair of Ballard Spahr. He and the firm were recipients of the Profiles in Diversity Journal’s Diversity Leader Award in 2015.
Memorial Mural Celebrates Larger-Than-Life Jurist A. Leon Higginbotham Jr.

In 1978, Wendella Fox CW’73, L’76 received a copy of Judge A. Leon Higginbotham Jr.’s new book with an inscription she’ll never forget. “To Wendella Fox, with fond memories of a superb student and with admiration for a superb lawyer,” the judge wrote in the just released In The Matter of Color: Race and the American Legal Process.

Fox was and remains astonished by his generosity. “I was a young whippersnapper back then, and he felt that way about me?”

Fox developed a lifelong friendship with Judge Higginbotham after taking his class on race and the law as a Penn undergraduate. The judge gave her a recommendation for law
school and signed a certificate for her admission to the Pennsylvania bar.

In mid-July, forty-four years after his message to her, Fox—who recently retired as the Regional Director of the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Civil Rights in Philadelphia—joined a throng of officials and the judge’s friends, family and former students for the unveiling of the design of a mural celebrating his life.

The 19 x 22-foot mural, located above the entrance to the Mercy LIFE medical facility on the 4500 block of Chestnut Street, commemorates, in larger-than-life fashion, Judge Higginbotham’s stature and unparalleled achievements in jurisprudence and racial reconciliation. The completed mural will be unveiled this fall.

The University of Pennsylvania Carey Law School, the lead funder, partnered with Mural Arts of Philadelphia and The Philadelphia Citizen to bring the project to fruition. Judge Higginbotham taught courses on race and law at the Law School for more than 20 years. His portrait hangs in the Law School.

“Murals capture people’s spirit in a way that is rather unique. I’m hoping that people will feel his presence,” said Jane Golden, Executive Director of Mural Arts of Philadelphia, reflecting on the effort to accord the judge proper recognition nearly a quarter century after his passing.

At the July ceremony, the judge’s nephew, F. Michael Higginbotham, described his uncle as “the Rocky Balboa of the legal profession” who overcame numerous obstacles to rise to the top.

“The family has always been inspired by Leon’s story. This project is so important because now even more people will be inspired,” said Higginbotham, the Laurence M. Katz Professor of Law at the University of Baltimore School of Law.

Following the ceremony, Higginbotham said the entire family—including the judge’s widow Evelyn (former history professor at Penn and current Victor S. Thomas Professor of History and of African and African American Studies at Harvard) and his son Kenneth Higginbotham C’89—is actively supporting the mural project.

The mural is the product of a years-long discussion that gathered steam and support over the last year. Larry Platt—former editor of Philadelphia magazine and Co-Founder and Co-Executive Director of The Philadelphia Citizen, a solutions-oriented news site that advocates for civic improvements—approached Golden about creating a timeless tribute to a man he considered an unsung hero.

“He spent his whole life speaking truth to power even after he became powerful, which is not always the case,” Platt said in an interview. “He was at the nexus of almost every inflection point of the 20th century.”

Like the city of Philadelphia, the Law School became a kind of second home to the judge. The Law School
co-hosts with Penn’s Center for Africana Studies The Honorable A. Leon Higginbotham, Jr. Memorial Lecture.
Via their pro bono commitment, a group of Penn Carey Law students are working with students at Motivation High, a magnet preparatory school in West Philadelphia. Together, the Penn and Motivation High students will use some of Judge Higginbotham’s most important legal decisions to examine constitutional issues.

“Judge Higginbotham was a compelling figure, a colossus in the world of law who imparted his wisdom to a generation of students at the Law School,” said Ted Ruger, Dean and Bernard G. Segal Professor of Law at the University of Pennsylvania Carey Law School. He and Chair of the Law School Board of Advisors Osagie Imasogie LLM’85, PAR’17 spoke at the design unveiling ceremony.

The Honorable Anne Chain L’76 was among the legions of students influenced by Judge Higginbotham. She took his class on “Race, Racism and American Law” and then served as his research assistant (she spent a year working with Dean Fitts gathering materials for In The Matter of Color) and his clerk on the District Court of the Eastern District of Pennsylvania and on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit.

She also co-taught the judge’s graduate-level class with him called “Race and the American Legal Process,” and later, when the judge turned it over to her, taught the class on her own as an Adjunct Professor.

“I had an extraordinary opportunity to work with him at many levels and I was very blessed to have that relationship,” said Chain, a former federal administrative law judge. “I can’t tell you how much respect and admiration I have for him.”

“I think it’s great that we’re going to be coming down Chestnut Street and looking up at him.”

Larry Shiekman W’68, L’71 also clerked for Judge Higginbotham when he was on the District Court. “He was a real legal scholar,” said Shiekman, Senior Counsel at Troutman Pepper. He remembers the judge as a craftsman, unfailingly meticulous in his opinions, always searching for more research to buttress his conclusions.

In one instance, Shiekman recalled, the judge labored over the opening sentence of an opinion in a case involving rival hockey leagues, writing that it was not about the “speeding puck” but rather how “to maximize the available buck.”

The Honorable Stella Tsai L’88 of the Philadelphia County Court of Common Pleas studied with Judge Higginbotham.

“He commanded the classroom, but he also made plenty of room for us to voice our perspectives,” Judge Tsai recalled. “And he impressed on us the importance of never forgetting that slave laws once existed, and of ensuring that we honor the struggles of those who came before us as we carry on the endeavor to make real the self-evident truth that all people are created equal.”

Shawn Theodore was commissioned to create the mural. He is an award-winning photographer in Philadelphia who has mounted numerous exhibitions including at the city’s African American Museum, The Barnes Foundation, and the University of the Arts. Tayler Daniels L’23 and Chris Wailoo, Associate Dean for Business Affairs and CFO at Penn Carey Law, served on the selection committee.

Mural Arts, the largest public arts program in the nation, was established in 1984 to combat Philadelphia’s growing graffiti problem. Since then, the organization has completed 4,200 murals, according to Golden, who said public art in aggregate paints an autobiography of Philadelphia. She said the Higginbotham mural is the first associated with a Penn Carey Law figure.
Fifty thousand years ago, a meteorite came crashing to Earth near what is now Winslow, Arizona, gouging a six-story-deep crater that is named for a Philadelphia mining engineer and Law School graduate, Daniel Barringer L’1882. That distinction belongs to Barringer because he was considered the first person in the world to prove the existence of a meteorite crater on Earth, owing to his dogged study of the phenomenon over the last 20-plus years of his life.

The Barringer Space Museum, adjacent to the meteor crater, has become a major tourist attraction.
Congresswoman Mary Gay Scanlon L’84 and Senator Sheldon Whitehouse On How to Curb Big Tech and Big Money

U.S. Rep. Mary Gay Scanlon L’84 (D-PA) returned to the University of Pennsylvania Carey Law School to deliver a warning about the looming shadow “Big Tech” companies cast over Americans’ digital privacy rights.

In the Information Age, data has emerged as the coin of the realm; as a result, control of and access to this knowledge has become a hotly contested issue in Washington, D.C. “We’re playing catch-up as we try to address the critical privacy concerns our new digital age has wrought,” Scanlon cautioned her audience.

She delivered her remarks during the morning keynote address of “Privacy & Law in the Modern Age,” a symposium sponsored by local college chapters of the American Constitution Society (ACS) and the Center for Technology, Innovation and Competition (CTIC).

In addition to Penn Carey Law, which served as host, ACS organizations affiliated with the law schools of Drexel, Temple, Rutgers, and Villanova participated in the event. Jess Zalph ’23, Programming Director for the Penn Carey Law ACS group, played an instrumental role in managing the gathering’s logistics.

The daylong program also featured Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI) as the headliner for the afternoon session. The addresses from the Capitol Hill visitors bridged a series of panel discussions built around topics that included Reproductive Justice, Voter Privacy & Election Integrity, and Medical Autonomy and COVID-19 Mandates, among others.

Scanlon noted that while legislators have historically been slow to deploy regulatory measures in response to the creeping influence of “Big Tech,” she and her colleagues on the House Subcommittee on
Antitrust, Commercial, and Administrative Law have proposed legislation to curb large tech companies and increase competition in the marketplace. With market pressure reintroduced, the Congresswoman hopes that Americans will have more choices among service providers who value privacy, in turn pushing the legacy companies to reform.

Given the large bipartisan appetite to address this challenge, Scanlon predicted that corrective legislation would be advanced shortly. Nevertheless, she advised that comprehensive digital privacy rights laws were still badly needed, and the effort would have to expand beyond the United States.

“The Internet doesn’t have borders, and with tech companies operating globally, the only way to solve these privacy concerns is to work as an international community,” Scanlon said.

Later in the day, Whitehouse took a seat in the center of the Fitts Auditorium with Dean Ruger. The senator expounded on what he views as a pressing problem in American democracy—the pervasive and corrosive effect of large special interest groups powered by dark money from big donors. He asserted that dark money works in two lanes.

“In my political sphere, it operates as a way to disable citizens and encourage a slimier politics, a more special interest-based politics. And in the court, it has facilitated the capture of the Supreme Court and other courts.”

The Court’s 2010 ruling in Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission, Whitehouse observed, opened the floodgates for the infusion of special interest money in elections and judicial appointments. Moreover, the 2021 decision in Americans for Prosperity v. Bonta has curtailed the ability of states to compel disclosure of donors to nonprofit organizations.

Nevertheless, Whitehouse continues to champion the DISCLOSE Act to pierce the veil of anonymity under which special interest groups operate. The legislation would compel reporting from donors who gave more than $10,000 in an election cycle or a judicial confirmation battle.

“In drafting the bill, we made really sure that no matter how many screens, no matter how many shell corporations, no matter how many donors’ trusts, no matter how many ‘Russian nesting dolls’ they erected, we could drill through all of it,” he remarked.

For the senator, the root of the problem is the treatment of money as speech. He believes that the infusion of cash in the post-Citizens United environment has promoted corruption and bullying. As an example, he offered the stalled efforts to act on climate change, which he claimed had enjoyed some measure of bipartisan momentum prior to the 2010 ruling. The resulting pressure from fossil fuel companies operating through special interest shell corporations caused Republicans to back away from the issue, Whitehouse contended.

“You pull that Citizens United dark money cork out of the bottle in climate legislation, and things will begin to move.”

Ultimately, Whitehouse framed his efforts as an important step to empower Americans with the information they need to fulfill their duties in a democratic society. Armed with a better understanding of the identity of the messengers, the senator believes that citizens will develop a more nuanced view of the messages being delivered to them.

“At the heart of all of this, we have to have confidence and trust in the American people, in the American citizenry.”

“IN MY POLITICAL SPHERE, [DARK MONEY] OPERATES AS A WAY TO DISABLE CITIZENS AND ENCOURAGE A SLIMIER POLITICS, A MORE SPECIAL INTEREST-BASED POLITICS.”

SENATOR SHELDON WHITEHOUSE
Practicing Mindfulness in Prison
Cliff Neuman L’73 and his wife Margot offer incarcerated people a radical perspective on their situation: Imprisonment is a choice.

“Being a prisoner is a place and not necessarily a state of mind,” Neuman said. “You’re only in prison to the extent you allow yourself to be. You have a choice. And there are some people who can get their minds settled down to a place where they can be incredibly productive and creative while in prison.”

The Neumans, early followers of Tibetan meditation master Chogyam Trungpa Rinpoche, have practiced meditation for more than 40 years. They began the Mindfulness Peace Project in 2004, which aims to help incarcerated individuals not only cope but also transform their approach to life. Neuman, in addition to serving as the nonprofit’s CEO, is the semi-retired principal of his own corporate and securities practice.

The Mindfulness Peace Project comprises three programs for incarcerated people: The Ratna Peace Initiative, which offers a study of Buddhist texts and mindfulness; Veterans Peace of Mind; and Solitary Confinement, which the Neumans developed at the behest of the Colorado Department of Corrections because of the detrimental effects of solitary confinement on mental health. A fourth program, Fearless Victory, integrates equine therapy with mindfulness practice for traumatized veterans. The Neumans employ a full-time director of education at the nonprofit and manage a host of volunteers.

Teaching mindfulness is beneficial because it slows mental chatter that can become consuming, he said.

“What we tend to teach is you don’t need to be sitting on a cushion or chair to be meditating,” Neuman said. “You can be meditating doing the dishes or brushing your teeth or doing your job because what you can do in your mind is regardless of what you’re doing physically. You can learn how to be awake and aware of what your mind is doing, and that is meditating. And the more you meditate, the stronger your mind becomes.”

The Neumans’ mindfulness courses are offered at prisons throughout the country, with concentrations in Colorado and Florida, as those are the states where the couple resides. The reception to the programs, which the pair mostly self-fund, has been mostly positive, Neuman said.

“With some prisoners it clicks and it becomes transformational, and for others, they don’t relate,” he said, adding that many prison administrations support the programs, but not all.

The courses, Neuman said, are secular and simply aimed at helping some of society’s most vulnerable to quiet and control their own minds.

“The program tells them they have a choice—that they actually have the tools and the ability to liberate themselves even though they’re inside four walls,” he said. “It’s an eye-opener for a lot of people.”
Three Alumni Honored for Their Impact on Lives Through Public Service

Deuel Ross L’09, Senior Counsel at the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Inc. and Lecturer in Law at the University of Pennsylvania Carey Law School is the inaugural recipient of the Alumni Impact Award presented by The Toll Public Interest Center (TPIC).

Other finalists for the award were: Kristen Dama L’07, Managing Attorney of SSI and Medical-Legal Partnership at Community Legal Services of Philadelphia, and Jessica Feierman L’99, Senior Managing Director at Juvenile Law Center and Adjunct Professor at the Law School.

The Alumni Impact Awards are given to Penn Carey Law alumni who have demonstrated a passionate commitment to public service throughout their career and who have excelled in using innovative thinking to produce concrete and sustainable solutions to societal problems. The work of the Alumni Impact Awards’ honorees has substantially improved the lives of the country’s most vulnerable populations.

“The Alumni Impact Awards are intended to honor leaders and innovators in public interest law, and this year’s finalists represent the wide-ranging and all-encompassing legal advocacy expected of Penn Carey Law alumni,” said Ayanna Williams, Associate Director for the Toll Public Interest Service Corps. “Deuel Ross has been instrumental in securing voting rights and desegregating schools. Kristen Dama has engaged in multiple successful initiatives to help people with disabilities and low-income families in getting needed assistance. Jessica Feierman has worked to eliminate costs, fines, and fees in the juvenile justice system. We were thrilled to honor them and look forward to commemorating their future accomplishments.”

Thanks to a transformational gift from the Robert and Jane Toll Foundation, founded by Robert Toll L’66 and Jane Toll GSE’66, Ross was awarded $10,000, and Dama and Feierman received $5,000 each.

The event took place in conjunction with the Pro Bono Recognition Event.

Law Alumni Society Honors Seven Leaders in Their Fields

The University of Pennsylvania Carey Law School honored seven alumni for achievements in public service, academia, the judiciary, and private practice as part of the annual Law Alumni Society (LAS) Award ceremony.

The LAS awards were presented to Jena Griswold L’11, Damon Hewitt L’00, Tsiwen Law L’84, the Honorable Gene E.K. Pratter L’75, Ed Rock L’83, Andrew Jay Schwartzman L’71, and Tiffany Southerland SPP’08, L’11.

Griswold and Southerland were recipients of the Young Alumni Award, which recognizes extraordinary achievement in the 10 years following graduation.

Griswold, the Secretary of State in Colorado, has dedicated herself to the protection and expansion of voting rights, instituting automatic voter registration and increasing polling locations and mail-in drop boxes across the state. She was the director of the Washington, D.C., office of former Colorado Governor John Hickenlooper and served as a voter protection attorney for President Barack Obama’s reelection campaign in 2012.

Southerland is Director of Diversity & Inclusion at Troutman Pepper in Washington, D.C. She held similar positions at Pepper Hamilton and the Villanova University Charles Widger School of Law. She is a Lecturer of Law at the University of Pennsylvania Carey Law School and a member of the advisory board of the Law School’s Future of the Profession Initiative.

Hewitt received the Louis H. Pollak Award, named for the former Law School dean and advocate. The award recognizes an alumnus who has had a career advancing social justice through service to the public interest.

A civil rights stalwart over the last 20 years, Hewitt, who has been a voice for voting rights, fair housing, police accountability, and criminal justice reform, is President and Executive Director of the Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights Under Law. He also was Executive Director of the Executives’ Alliance for Boys and Men of Color and a top attorney at the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund (LDF).

The Howard Lesnick Pro Bono Award, named for the founder of the Law School’s public service program, went to Law, an activist for Asian Americans and founder of Law & Associates LLC in Philadelphia. The award recognizes sustained commitment to pro bono
or public sector work during a career in the private sector.

Law was one of the founding members of both the Asian Pacific American Bar Association of Pennsylvania and the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association. Among his many achievements, he successfully advocated for a program in Pennsylvania that requires the appointment and use of certified interpreters in administrative and court proceedings for those with limited English proficiency or hearing deficits. Law also helped stop the proposed construction of a baseball stadium in the heart of Philadelphia’s Chinatown.

Judge Pratter received the Alumni Award of Merit. She has served on the United States District Court of Eastern Pennsylvania since 2004. A prolific writer on professional responsibility and frequent speaker at Bar and other professional gatherings, Judge Pratter has been co-chair of the ABA Committee on Ethics and Professionalism, chair of the Philadelphia Bar Association’s Professional Responsibility Committee, and member of the Judicial Conference Rules of Practice and Procedures Standing Committee. Prior to the bench, she had a distinguished career at Duane Morris in Philadelphia, becoming the firm’s first general counsel.

This year’s winner of the Distinguished Service Award was Rock, former Saul A. Fox Distinguished Professor of Law at the Law School who, with Michael Wachter, William B. and Mary Barb Johnson Professor of Law and Economics Emeritus, built the Law School’s Institute for Law and Economics into a powerhouse cross-disciplinary research center that brings together practitioners, judges, and scholars to analyze high-level corporate issues.

Now Martin Lipton Professor of Law at the New York University (NYU) School of Law and Co-Director of NYU’s Institute for Corporate Governance & Finance, Rock spent 27 years at the University of Pennsylvania Carey Law School. He designed and initiated the three-year Francis J. & William Polk Carey JD/MBA program and launched dozens of Massive Open Online Courses as senior advisor to the President and Provost.

The final honor — the James Wilson Award for Lifetime Achievement — went to Schwartzman, considered the “dean” of public interest communications attorneys. Schwartzman is best known for his 34-year tenure at the Media Access Project, a nonprofit public interest telecommunications firm where he promoted media diversity and opposed media consolidation, advocated for affordable access to broadband, and fought for network neutrality and online privacy.

One of the first public interest lawyers to specialize in media and communications, Schwartzman serves today as a senior counselor to the Benton Institute for Broadband & Society, an organization rooted in the values of access, equity, and diversity.

In 2003, Scientific American honored Schwartzman as one of the nation’s 50 leaders in technology.
Professor Jasmine Harris Says It’s Time to Update Our Notions of Disability

New University of Pennsylvania Carey Law Professor of Law Jasmine Harris is here to challenge assumptions and shift the conversation about disability and the law in America.

“The classic symbol of disability is the wheelchair, or you think of white canes,” Harris said. “When people have a less visible disability—where, for instance, COVID and long COVID are going to fall—there’s this deep-seated distrust about accessing legal entitlements and exercising rights, primarily because of a pervasive fear of fraud that underwrites disability law.”

Harris is referring to President Biden’s proclamation last July that long COVID can qualify as a disability. She is referring as well to the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission’s (EEOC) subsequent decision to update its guidance to include symptoms like brain fog and difficulty remembering or concentrating, substantially limited respiratory functions, and chest pains as impairments that may meet the definition of disability under federal disability laws.

To qualify legally for a disability, an impairment must substantially limit one or more major life activities; having a medical diagnosis does not, without more, meet the legal definition of disability. Biden and the EEOC’s stance on something intangible like long COVID symptoms is significant, Harris said, because it helps bolster the idea that the degree of visibility or biological proof of a disability does not track its legitimacy.

Harris brings a remarkable practice and scholarly profile to Penn Carey Law, drawing from experience in both the private and public sectors. The Yale Law alumna practiced complex commercial litigation, securities, and government investigations as a Senior Associate with WilmerHale. She also worked as a staff attorney at Advancement Project, a national civil rights organization, where she assisted grassroots advocacy campaigns to advance racial justice in education and address the school-to-prison pipeline. Prolific on the topic of disability law, Harris has been published in several law reviews and major news outlets such as the New York Times and the San Francisco Chronicle. She also serves on the board of directors of one of the largest national disability rights organizations, The Arc of the United States.

Harris’ appointment to the Penn Carey Law faculty was a milestone for the school: Harris is its second Latina tenured law professor. A recent report from the Hispanic National Bar Association found Latina law professors comprise just 1.3 percent of the nation’s law professors. Harris is a proud first-generation college and law school graduate raised in the Bronx by a Puerto Rican father and Cuban refugee mother.

Furthermore, her personal connections to disability offer a unique window into disability rights. At a young age, Harris recalls helping her parents navigate the New York City public school system on behalf of her younger sister, a wheelchair user with spina bifida, before Congress passed the Americans with Disabilities Act. Harris also credits her dyslexia with allowing her to see the social construction of disability.

“Dyslexia is, of course, an actual impairment, but it becomes ‘disabling’ when we design environments in a way that assumes everyone reads at the same pace or learns best auditorily and when we attach value or merit to speed over accuracy,” Harris said.

Harris applies these insights to her scholarship and teaching. For instance, she structures her courses with learning differences in mind and presents key concepts in multiple ways to benefit all students and anticipate their learning needs.

Harris’ research agenda considers the relationship between law and social norms. Social norms (or public attitudes), she said, can undermine even the most progressive or remedial legislation. Judges and lay juries bring their own biases and experiences to how they interpret laws and determine facts.
Harris offered her work on conservatorship (also called guardianship in some states) as an example. Conservatorship statutes allow states to intervene when there are concerns an individual lacks the capacity to make decisions about their health, finances, and overall well-being. Prevailing thought has been that conservatorships are embarrassing and therefore cloaked in privacy. The lack of transparency, Harris said, creates vulnerabilities to abuse and prevents the public from engaging with their biases about the capacity of people with disabilities.

“The system is supposed to be the last resort, a nuclear option, because it strips individuals of their civil liberties. In practice, it’s often the first line of defense,” Harris said. Pop star Britney Spears’ widely publicized conservatorship and its subsequent end has put the practice under more scrutiny.

Harris believes three steps should be taken to alleviate some of the abuses and indignities created by conservatorships. The first is to make legal proceedings more transparent. “Sensitive information moves through the courts all the time,” she said, adding that there are ways to make properly redacted documents available. Second, data is needed at a national level. There is no standardized process of data collection at the state level including whether data is collected at all. This means that we do not have baseline information such as how many people are under conservatorships across the country, how many try to have their rights restored, and how many succeed. Finally, the public needs to be educated about disability and conservatorships. “The fact that someone has a disability doesn’t mean they’re incapable of making decisions,” Harris said. “We all make decisions with support, nondisabled people are just not accustomed to calling the assistance they receive ‘support.’”

When she discusses conservatorship with her classes, she asks students how they decided to enroll at Penn Carey Law. Answers invariably include discussions with family, Google research, and talking to current students.

“The decision to go to law school was a big one that had assistance, and it was ultimately your decision, but you had a process and a network you could tap into — that’s what guardianship is really taking the place of,” Harris said. The solution, she said, will be creating decision-making networks for people with disabilities without taking their civil liberties or agency in the process.

“There is a concept in disability studies known as ‘the dignity of risk,’” she said. “It means that there is something really dignified in having the space to make good and bad choices, and the ability to learn from them ... Society often denies this dignity to people with disabilities.”

Harris said the Law School’s investment in disability research and teaching can serve as a model for other schools where disability law has not yet become a regular part of the antidiscrimination and administrative law curricula. In addition to Harris’ appointment, the University of Pennsylvania Law Review devoted its annual symposium this year to examining disability as an intellectual enterprise.

“I see tremendous power and opportunity in being able to teach at Penn and to have my students see that disability is not a niche issue.”

JASMINE HARRIS

Published by Penn Carey Law: Legal Scholarship Repository,
IT IS REALLY REWARDING TO KNOW THE WORK YOU DO IS MAKING THE CAR SAFER, WHICH IMPACTS PEOPLE’S LIVES, AND SAVES LIVES.”

AREN RAISINGHANI C’19, ENG’19, GEN’21, ML’21
data engineer at Tesla
Aren Raisinghani C’19, ENG’19, GEN’21, ML’21 Helps Drive Crash Safety at Tesla

A self-proclaimed car enthusiast, Aren Raisinghani C’19, ENG’19, GEN’21, ML’21 recalls frequenting McLaren and Fisker dealerships near his high school in Palo Alto, California. Now as a data engineer at Tesla’s Fremont office, Raisinghani is thrilled to combine his love for cars with engineering ingenuity. He serves on Tesla’s safety and restraints team, where he focuses on crash safety. “We’re essentially working on safety for all Tesla cars—airbags, seatbelts, seats,” Raisinghani said.

At Penn, he studied computer science and cognitive science in the undergraduate artificial intelligence program and earned his Master of Science degree in systems engineering, which looks at optimization through a mathematical lens. At the University of Pennsylvania Carey Law School, he focused on business and technology. After interning at Tesla, he was happy to join the company permanently.

“It is really rewarding to know the work you do is making the car safer, which impacts people’s lives, and saves lives,” Raisinghani said, adding that he appreciates exposure to different disciplines, like mechanical and software engineering. He spends much of his time crunching lab and real-world data, but the hard work pays off: “The beauty of all this data is you can do exploratory analysis and come up with new initiatives.”

What’s the value of a law degree when you’re in engineering?
Knowledge of the law in an engineering field provides a different perspective, which I think is very cool. When working in a highly-regulated space, it is helpful to be able to read and interpret legal rules and regulations. It further helps to have a law background when working with legal teams. I’ve always had an interest in the law and engineering entrepreneurship, specifically contracting and business structures. Familiarity with the law can help navigate an entrepreneurial environment.

What’s your typical day?
Normally, day to day, I spend a lot of time coding on my computer. But I do get to go to the crash lab to watch crashes happen. It’s pretty sweet afterward—I get to see the car and check it all out.

What exactly are you coding?
A variety of things: programs to gather data from different sources, programs to turn that data into useful information, optimal ways to store and retrieve data, and machine learning and analytical programs to ultimately make our cars safer. Of these, I spend significant time converting data to useful information, a process known as data cleaning. For example, if I’m working with sensor data, the sensors may have limited memory so the type of data they yield might be sequences of cryptic letters and numbers. Then I have to clean and parse this data, so we can use it.

How does “clean” data translate into safer cars?
Because we have a ton of data and we’re able to use that data, we come up with new insights based on novel crashes. Maybe there’s a type of crash that isn’t an industry benchmark or required to be tested legally, but you see a significant amount of those crashes in the real world. We identify those gaps and calibrate the safety systems for our cars so they’re safer and continue to be safer. If you’ve already achieved awesome ratings from tests you need to do, well, how do you take that further? We use the data we get, then say, OK, can we make this even more optimal? It ultimately ends up influencing the cars and helping the people inside them.

Note: Crash test photos are captured from the official Tesla YouTube channel.
Anita L. Allen Receives High Honors from the American Philosophical Association and the Berkeley Center for Law & Technology for Her Work on Privacy

Henry R. Silverman Professor of Law and Professor of Philosophy Anita L. Allen has received two prestigious awards that recognize her leadership and pioneering scholarship on privacy.

The American Philosophical Association (APA) selected Allen for its Philip L. Quinn Prize, the greatest tribute the APA has to offer in recognition of service to philosophy and philosophers.

The award celebrates Allen, former President of the APA Eastern Division, for her extraordinary blend of scholarship and leadership.

“This award means the world to me,” Allen said. “It reflects the unexpected success of my interdisciplinary commitments as a scholar, teacher, and mentor. It was remarkable to have been the first Black woman APA president in 2018–19 and it’s a special achievement, as a Black woman, to be receiving the highest award for service to the discipline.”

In a separate ceremony, Allen received the 2022 Berkeley Center for Law & Technology Privacy Award at the 10th Annual BCLT Privacy Law Forum.

BCLT Faculty Director Chris Hoofnagle said, “Professor Allen’s scholarship has long been at the forefront, foreseeing shifts in the privacy zeitgeist. Her work *Unpopular Privacy* explores the complex reasons why restraints on freedoms might enhance liberties. This work presages the limits of pursuing an individual-focused, rights-based privacy approach and emphasizes the need to consider privacy as a group value that should be both a right and a duty. Her work on privacy and feminism demonstrates that much of the privacy afforded by institutions is the kind we do not want.”

Allen is an internationally renowned expert on philosophical dimensions of privacy and data protection law, ethics, bioethics, legal philosophy, women’s rights, and diversity in higher education. She was Penn’s Vice Provost for Faculty from 2013–2020 and chaired the Provost’s Arts Advisory Council.

Allen is an elected member of the National Academy of Medicine and the American Law Institute and has also served on the faculty of the School of Criticism and Theory at Cornell, for which she is an advisor, and a two-year term as an Associate of the Johns Hopkins Humanities Center.


She was presented with the Lifetime Achievement Award of the Electronic Privacy Information Center in 2015 and chaired its Board (2019–2022). Allen formerly taught at Georgetown University Law Center and the University of Pittsburgh, after practicing briefly at Cravath, Swaine & Moore and teaching philosophy at Carnegie-Mellon University.

She is a graduate of Harvard Law and holds a PhD in Philosophy from the University of Michigan.
New Certificate Provides Cross-Disciplinary Perspective to Better Serve the LGBTQ+ Community

The new LGBTQ Certificate at the University of Pennsylvania Carey Law School, the result of strategic cross-school collaboration, will prepare students to better serve and advocate for LGBTQ+ communities. The certificate program, also offered to students at the School of Social Policy & Practice, Penn Nursing, and the Graduate School of Education, provides a unique opportunity for students to delve deeply into law and policy issues that are crucial to the continued defense and advancement of LGBTQ+ rights.

Though several Law School courses already incorporate LGBTQ+ issues and advocacy, a formalized, cross-disciplinary program will enable students to study issues from multiple perspectives alongside students from other schools within the University of Pennsylvania.

Associate Professor at Penn’s School of Social Policy & Practice Dr. Amy Hillier spearheaded the creation of the interdisciplinary certificate in response to growing feedback from students in her Social Work courses who expressed that they would like more resources and support in preparing to serve LGBTQ communities. Learning that Penn Nursing and Graduate School of Education students had also expressed similar interests, Hillier applied for a Penn Futures grant to design the interdisciplinary program of study.

As the program continues to grow, Hillier said that she is excited to welcome law students, who play a crucial role in advocating for the protection and advancement of LGBTQ+ rights.

“There’s a lot of growing we want to do, and we look forward to having the support of the Law School,” Hillier said. “It’s really impressive to see the list of things that the Law School is doing, especially in the Office of Equity & Inclusion — and this is part of that, too.”

The LGBTQ Certificate is one of 17 certificate programs and over 40 cross-disciplinary offerings available to JD students. There is no application process for the certificate; students who wish to earn the LGBTQ Certificate must officially express their interest then create an individualized plan to complete the necessary requirements, which will be audited when they graduate.

In designing the certificate, Hillier noted that it was important to everyone to ensure that the content was truly cross-disciplinary and customizable to what each student needed to learn to best serve LGBTQ+ communities within their own profession.

“People have different values. Between law students, social workers, nurses, and teachers, there are probably going to be some differences, so we’ve tried to make the certificate that is not just everyone coming to take social work classes,” Hillier said. “Instead, it really is something that has a shared ownership.”
The Preservation of Art and Culture in Times of War: Ethics, National Security, and the Rule of Law
Algernon Biddle Professor of Law and Professor of Philosophy Claire Finkelstein, Derek Gillman, and Frederik Rosén
Oxford University Press

This volume seeks to deepen public understanding of the evolving nexus between cultural heritage and security in the 21st century. Drawing on a variety of disciplines and perspectives, the chapters in this volume examine a complex set of relationships between the deliberate destruction and misuse of cultural heritage in times of conflict, on the one hand, and basic societal values, legal principles, and national security, on the other.

The conflict over cultural heritage has increasingly become a standard part of war. Today, systematic exploitation, manipulation, attacks, and destruction of cultural heritage by state and non-state actors form part of most violent conflicts across the world.

The book includes contributions from a wide range of experts who discuss some of the most fundamental questions and tensions inherent in the foundations of democracy.

Research Handbook on Corporate Purpose and Personhood
Professor of Law Elizabeth Pollman and Robert B. Thompson Co-Editors
Edward Elgar Publishing

This insightful research handbook contributes to the theoretical and practical understanding of corporate purpose and personhood, which has become the central debate of corporate law. The book addresses the role of corporations in society and the nature of their rights and responsibilities.

Featuring contributions from leading scholars, the Research Handbook invites readers to reconsider corporate purpose and personhood by offering a perceptive route to better understand changes that are already apparent in the modern corporation across the world. It provides examples of how a 21st century lens for viewing corporate purpose and personhood will leave us with a different picture and a new understanding of these topics, as well as future directions in corporate social responsibility. Two members of the Law School faculty contribute chapters to the book: Lisa Fairfax, Presidential Professor and Co-Director of the Institute for Law and Economics, and Jill E. Fisch, Saul A. Fox Distinguished Professor of Business Law and Co-Director of the Institute for Law and Economics.

The Research Handbook will be a vital resource for students and academics in the areas of corporate and constitutional law, as well as for researchers with an interest in management, business, and social responsibility.
Dorothy Roberts, an award-winning scholar, exposes the foundational racism of the child welfare system and calls for radical change. Roberts reveals that the child welfare system is not designed to protect children from abuse but rather to punish Black families, writing that the system is better understood as a “family policing system” that collaborates with law enforcement and prisons to oppress Black communities. She writes that child protection investigations ensnare a majority of Black children, putting their families under intense state surveillance and regulation, and that these children are disproportionately torn from their families and placed in foster care, driving many to juvenile detention and imprisonment. The only way to stop the destruction caused by family policing, *Torn Apart* argues, is to dismantle the destructive child welfare system and replace it with an approach that truly supports families and cares for children.

*American Criminal Law: Its People, Principles, and Evolution*

This book is designed for both the general reader and university students, including non-law students. It offers an engaging approach to criminal law that aims to foster understanding of the principles and competing interests that underlie American criminal law.

A full range of criminal law topics are covered — general principles of liability, general defenses, and specific offenses — with a special focus on those that illustrate the law’s and society’s shift in values. The readings for each topic include a summary of the governing law and its development, a review of the current state of the law in different U.S. jurisdictions, and an examination of the law in action using a pair of cases, one historic and one modern. The case studies involve famous events — such as the shootout at the OK Corral, Lincoln’s assassination, the Hatfield-McCoy feud, Vanderbilt’s market manipulation — and famous people — such as the Marquis de Sade, Oscar Wilde, Billy the Kid, Aaron Burr, Lewis Carroll, Mafia boss Joe Bananas, and entertainers Bette Davis, Frank Sinatra, Elvis Presley, Ike and Tina Turner, and pornographer Larry Flynt.

By embedding legal material in interesting storytelling, this book provides a unique approach to understanding American criminal law, its underlying principles, and the change in criminal law as society has changed.
It’s a big development: the arranged marriage of theory and practice. Since 2019, law schools, under a mandate from the American Bar Association, have required students to earn six credits of experiential learning in order to graduate. Fortunately, the Law School is on it, offering what has been described as an “explosion” of new opportunities in which students translate doctrine into action in new settings such as judicial chambers, hospitals, and boardrooms.

By Larry Teitelbaum

When Eleanor Barrett L’05 was in law school, she had a thin catalog of experiential learning courses to choose from — a handful of clinics or appellate and trial advocacy classes. The situation is far different today thanks to Barrett’s diligent efforts as Associate Dean for Curricular Affairs.

How about 132 experiential learning courses — from transactional to litigation to regulatory to soft skills such as legal writing and public speaking? Penn Carey Law students can now pitch venture capitalists for start-up funding in real time, practice challenges to administrative rules, and perform substantive work in judicial chambers during the semester.

Take externships alone. Since 2010, the number of students enrolled in externships each semester has increased from 10 to 67, including almost 30 students during the spring 2022 semester who worked with the Law School to create their own new and varied placements.

“It’s a big explosion,” said Barrett, who stepped down from her position at the Law School over the summer to become the Deputy Director of the American Law Institute. “Our students like these intense real-world experiences and have found them to be really meaningful.”

And that’s a good thing since the American Bar Association now requires law school students to earn six experiential credits as a condition for graduation.

Just as in clinical education years earlier, a movement took root to ramp up practical skills training, sparked, in part, by a seminal two-year study conducted by The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. The study assessed the effectiveness of the law school curriculum and instruction in America and Canada during the 1999–2000 academic year.

The authors of the study recommended more emphasis on ethics and client service in addition to legal analysis, writing that lawyering should be integrated into the curriculum rather than treated as a subordinate area.

“Students need a dynamic curriculum that moves them back and forth between understanding and enactment, experience, and analysis,” the authors wrote, adding that “legal education should use more effectively the second two years of law school and more fully complement the teaching and learning of legal doctrine with the teaching and learning of practice.”

Barrett characterized the Carnegie Report as a major development in legal education, crystallizing gaps in law school training and stimulating discussion. But, she explained, the report and the accompanying movement to further integrate experiential learning into the curriculum actually came in response to students, alumni, and employers who pressed for better preparation for legal practice.

“I think it’s good to have both,” said Barrett, making a case for the combination of doctrinal study and experiential learning. “You need knowledge, and you need skills to be an effective lawyer.”
Genevieve Shaw L’22, WG’22 and her team stood before a group of savvy venture capitalists in San Francisco and pitched their idea. The law students-cum-entrepreneurs spoke with animation about the promise of their new robotic technology to increase crop yield and reduce reliance on workers in an industry plagued by labor shortages, laid out a market-driven plan to export the AI-based product to developing nations, and steeled themselves for a series of probing questions.

The content of their presentation in the shadow of Silicon Valley may have been fictional, but the intent was very real. Fifteen students in the yearlong JD/MBA Capstone class tracked the life cycle of a company with the goal of mastering the process inside and out in a culmination of the JD/MBA program at the University of Pennsylvania Carey Law School and the Wharton School.

When finished, they knew how to commercialize a product and get funding, how to negotiate the terms of a favorable merger and acquisition in the face of competitive bids, how to fulfill fiduciary duties, and how to restructure a distressed company without hemorrhaging value.

“Even if this was not a real company, we had to come up with a real pitch and a real story for why we needed funding, which made the class more tangible,” said Shaw, former Co-President of the JD/MBA Student Association.

The formula for the Capstone course: Take high-achieving students, place them in an environment where they test and expand their doctrinal skills through three experiential, hands-on sessions. Have students take their companies from conception to commercialization; from start-up to public company; from public company to unsolicited takeover; and from private company to distress and potential foreclosure. Mirror the real-world complexities they will encounter post-JD/MBA, and then release them into the worlds of law, business, banking, financial services, and consulting.

Sarah Pierce, the Denise A. Rotko Associate Dean for Legal Skills and Academic Director of the JD/MBA Program, put the program in perspective.

“Legal and business employers expect students to be ready to jump in and represent clients,” said Pierce, a former corporate restructuring attorney at Skadden Arps who teaches the course. “You can’t understand a fiduciary duty unless you’ve had a board meeting where those duties have played out. You don’t know what vital questions to ask unless you’re in a real-life transaction. What does it mean to have a duty of care? We know what the legal standard is. But when you’re actually advising a board, what does it really mean? How do you exercise that duty of care?”

Traditionally, the JD/MBA Capstone Bootcamp involved a series of lectures and papers. Three years ago, the class moved to experiential mode. Students are divided into small teams. They discuss the core legal and business issues on a weekday and spend weekends on real-life scenarios and high-level negotiations as lawyers, founders, investors, bankers, and industry leaders lend their expertise and work collaboratively with students on solving a range of complex legal and business problems.

One of those professionals was Frankie Arvelo L’10, who co-taught the first session with Pierce on the startup and capital raising phase. Arvelo is General Partner at Arvelo PLLC, which counsels startup companies on the same kinds of issues that confronted the Penn Carey Law students in the entrepreneurship portion of the Capstone.

Arvelo delves into the nuts and bolts of starting a company, including developing a business plan and go-to-market strategy, finding and evaluating funding sources, raising capital, positioning the company for growth, and protecting founders.

“I wish this course had been available when I went to law school,” Arvelo said. “The way to become a better attorney is by doing. I’m glad the school is focusing on this and developing a skill set for dealmakers. It makes our graduates a lot more attractive to employers.”

Bryan Dinner L’22, WG’22 has certainly become a more marketable commodity to his employer: himself.

He didn’t wait until graduation to start an ed tech company. He founded Clarifi during his 1L year. The company provides productivity software that helps
“Legal and business employers expect students to be ready to jump in and represent clients. You can’t understand a fiduciary duty unless you’ve had a board meeting where those duties have played out. You don’t know what vital questions to ask unless you’re in a real-life transaction.”

SARAH PIERCE
Denise A. Rotko Associate Dean for Legal Skills and Academic Director of the JD/MBA Program
students with attention challenges complete their homework more efficiently and independently.

The class gave Dinner—who grew up with ADHD—the know-how to form a public benefit corporation, which, he explained, operates similarly to a C corporation but with the ability to explicitly include the educational interests of the students the company aims to serve in the Certificate of Incorporation.

This unique structure, created under a newer provision of Delaware law, helped to communicate Clarifi’s and Dinner’s educational commitment to families, educational partners, and funders, empowering Dinner to receive grant funding from the Jacobs Foundation, through their partnership with Penn and the Penn Graduate School of Education. The grant funds and foundations that have provided approximately $100k to jumpstart Clarifi may not have been interested otherwise in investing in a private company, Dinner said.

Dinner said the Capstone course was a critical piece of his legal education.

“It’s important to constantly learn the pitfalls you can face,” said Dinner, who plans to concentrate on building his business now that he has graduated. “If you misunderstand the term sheet and the control provisions, that’s going to come back to bite you later on.”

“The MBA may teach us to build company value,” Dinner added, “but the JD and this capstone in particular teaches us to capture and protect the value we are creating.”

No argument from Shaw, who will be joining BlackRock, the investment juggernaut. “The simulation and the experiential portion of the Capstone has been one of the most valuable courses I’ve had at both Wharton and the Law School,” said Shaw, who credits Pierce for transforming the Capstone into such a memorable experience. “The structure of the course allows us to combine our knowledge of corporate law with critical thinking.”

The Capstone ended with a visit to PJT Partners, a New York-based boutique investment bank and spinoff from Blackstone that advises companies in financial distress. The last session of the course, which took place in PJT offices, required students to find a path forward for the company as it faced debt defaults, regulatory hurdles, and shareholder suits.

The visit brought things full circle for Michael McGilvery L’20, WG’20, an associate in PJT Partners’ Restructuring Special Situations Group and former JD/MBA student who participated in the first reworked experiential Capstone class.

Two years removed from the class, and now steeped in the world of banking and finance, McGilvery reflects on what he’s learned, saying that he understands better than ever that business problems sometimes stem from a simple clash of personalities rather than facts on the ground.

Arvelo, who taught McGilvery, came away duly impressed by the students’ curiosity, perception, depth of intellect and determination to find solutions to problems no matter how difficult.

Pierce, creator of the course, concurs. “The students demonstrated time and time again an innate ability to skillfully tackle the most complex challenges. Extremely resourceful, they met every issue with a great deal of diligence and creativity, auguring well for the success that awaits them in whatever careers they endeavor to pursue.”

“The way to become a better attorney is by doing. I’m glad the school is focusing on this and developing a skill set for dealmakers. It makes our graduates a lot more attractive to employers.”

FRANKIE ARVELO L’10
Matt Wiener says the exact number of federal agencies is unknowable — and he once led the Administrative Conference of the United States (ACUS), which is charged with improving the operations of the bureaucracy to protect the public interest.

If Wiener draws a blank, how are young lawyers supposed to work effectively in this environment and keep track of thousands of daily rules and regulations issued by the federal and state governments?

Here’s how: They can start getting up to speed during law school by taking Wiener’s class, “Administrative Advocacy,” a hands-on primer on how to interact, on behalf of clients, with the Office of Civil Rights, the Social Security Administration, the Securities and Exchange Commission, and scores of other federal bodies.

Depending on one’s specialty, Wiener said, lawyers need practical knowledge to contest proposed mergers, litigate enforcement actions, and decipher complicated tax law, all of which often come before administrative agency courts rather than the regular court system.

“What I try to do is focus on areas that students are most likely to practice in, and largely from the perspective of a private practitioner,” said Wiener, former head of the ACUS and Lecturer in Law at the University of Pennsylvania Carey Law School.

Wiener, who taught the class for the first time last spring (he is also teaching an administrative law course this fall), said in the simulated exercises students write memos, file Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests, and learn about decision-making power and politics at administrative agencies — “not something that students have a lot of exposure to in law school,” Wiener said.

Zach Persing L’22 found Wiener’s class compelling and useful. He took the course after studying administrative law with Cary Coglianese, Edward B. Shils Professor of Law and Professor of Political Science.

“I really liked the ability to take courses like this that built off my doctrinal studies,” Persing said. “The Law School has done a wonderful job of bringing in adjuncts and lecturers like Matt. When you’re in the field practicing, you get a different perspective.”

Jocelyn A. K. Walcott L’22, GEd’22 appreciated the realism and practical nature of the course. “I see the class as being helpful right away,” said Walcott, former Editor in Chief of The Regulatory Review, which publishes regulatory news, opinion, and analysis under the aegis of the Penn Program on Regulation.

Walcott is clerking for two judges in the Middle District of North Carolina over the next two years, one of whom principally handles Social Security cases.

“I learned how important it is to be aware of the government’s position,” Walcott said. “To best advocate for your client, you need to know how the government is potentially constrained and also know when there is room for discretion.”

Patrick Gaughan L’22 said he took the course to learn how to advocate before an administrative agency effectively and how to incorporate persuasive policy arguments into his advocacy.

Gaughan has experience with administrative advocacy. During the summer of 2021, he had extensive exposure to administrative agencies, such as the Federal Reserve Bank, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, and the National Credit Union Administration, as a summer associate at Sullivan & Cromwell, where he was assigned bank regulatory matters as a member of the General Corporate Group. Among his duties, he wrote letters to regulators — a skill he regularly burnished in the Administrative Advocacy class. “It gave me practice that informed my actual practice,” said Gaughan, who, after clerking for
“I learned how important it is to be aware of the government’s position. To best advocate for your client, you need to know how the government is potentially constrained and also know when there is room for discretion.”

JOCELYN A.K. WALCOTT L’22, GED’22

Chancery Court of Delaware Vice Chancellor Paul A. Fioravanti, Jr., intends to go into private practice and continue his regulatory work.

For the first assignment, the students, who represented a public school district, were asked to prepare a FOIA request to the Office of Civil Rights at the Department of Education requesting clarification on shifting federal policy regarding transgender individuals and bathroom use.

Other assignments included responding to a university investigation initiated by the National Labor Relations Board and filing a rulemaking comment to the Social Security Administration (SSA) on behalf of the National Association of Social Security Claimants’ Lawyers, who expressed concerns about a proposed rule that would eliminate the option of an in-person hearing before an administrative law judge and make video teleconferencing the default. The hearings are held to determine eligibility for disability benefits.

Prior to composing his letter to the SSA, Persing reviewed Rule 43 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, a report on the legal considerations for remote hearings in agency adjudication, an ACUS recommendation on such hearings, and a letter from Congress opposing the change.

Citing congressional support for the existing system, Persing wrote that “relegating a claimant’s hearing to a computer screen violates basic norms of due process.”

Further, he wrote, video teleconferencing puts an added burden on clients with mental health challenges and may “frustrate communication between parties, attorneys, and decision-makers.” He also noted that federal courts, although not responsible for SSA policy and procedure, prefer in-person testimony.

Persing also made sure to compliment the agency, commending its commitment to efficiency.

Once Persing completed the simulation, based on a real case with a few factual tweaks, the instructor rendered a judgment.

“I can’t emphasize enough how thoughtful and detailed Matt’s comments were,” said Persing, who joined Sullivan & Cromwell this fall. “I learned a lot about nuances of substantive administrative law. It made me a better writer.”
For the first time last year, the Law School provided students with a new opportunity to enrich their academic experience through judicial externships. Given his interest in clerking, Noah Zimmerman L’23 got right on board. Zimmerman spent the spring semester working for the Honorable Cheryl Ann Krause of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit. He got a taste of the experience and loved it.

“Judge Krause was a terrific mentor. She made sure I had one-on-one projects with her where she would review my writing,” Zimmerman said. “I learned the importance of rigorous research. You learn that in law school, but it becomes even more important when you’re actually working for someone.”

The feeling is mutual. “The judges love our students,” said Eleanor Barrett L’05, who oversaw the program as Associate Dean for Curricular Affairs before stepping down over the summer to become Deputy Director at the American Law Institute. “They’re really welcomed and incorporated into the regular business of chambers.”

The school-year externship came in response to students who wanted to integrate judicial work into their regular studies, Barrett said. In the first year, eleven students took advantage, spending an average of 12 hours per week with judges and their clerks.

The new judicial externship is in the vanguard of a burgeoning externship program. Administrative Director of Curricular Affairs Rachel Mayover, who helps oversee the externship program, said 67 students enrolled for the spring semester, including 29 students who created their own ad hoc externships at, for example, Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia, the Federal Trade Commission, and the ACLU of Pennsylvania.

Elizabeth Pollman, Professor of Law and Co-Director of the Institute for Law and Economics, steered Juan Olavarria L’22 to his judicial externship. He took her Mergers & Acquisitions class and a seminar on Corporate Governance.

Olavarria ended up working for Vice Chancellor Morgan T. Zurn at the Delaware Court of Chancery. The Court of Chancery hears significant, high-profile corporate cases — just the ticket for Olavarria, who became interested in corporate law during law school and earned a Certificate in Management from Wharton.

“Working for Vice Chancellor Zurn really opened my eyes to how the law really develops,” Olavarria said.

Best part, he got to do real work. Olavarria reviewed filings, researched case law, and wrote bench memos. He was privy to discussions on the fiduciary duties of stakeholders, learned how corporate law applies to limited liability companies, and witnessed a major settlement hearing with accompanying arguments related to fatal Boeing plane crashes, all of which he saw as useful preparation for his entrance into corporate practice at Simpson Thacher in New York.

“If you’re interested in corporate law or transactional practice and want to get a more sophisticated, deeper understanding of how that system works, there is no better way to do that than to spend some time at the body that formulates and creates those standards,” Olavarria said. “I would definitely recommend the experience to anybody who has a transactional mindset.”

Ashlynn Dobbs L’22, a member of the Bankruptcy group at Weil Gotshal & Manges in New York, is ahead of the game due to her externship with the Honorable Jerrold N. Poslusny, Jr. of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court District of New Jersey.

She interned for Judge Poslusny during her 1L summer, but COVID-19 hindered her experience since she could not work in person. When another opportunity arose to do so through the judicial externship program, she jumped at the chance.

The judge, Dobbs said, had an open-door policy and encouraged questions. Dobbs drafted a decision and sat in on hearings, including a big bankruptcy case involving the Diocese of Camden.

Zimmerman also got his feet wet working on a variety of criminal and civil cases. Judge Krause and her clerks called upon Zimmerman to research state and federal law and document his conclusions.
“If you’re interested in corporate law or transactional practice and want to get a more sophisticated, deeper understanding of how that system works, there is no better way to do that than to spend some time at the body that formulates and creates those standards.”

JUAN OLAVARRIA L’22

He said feedback from the clerks taught him to always be prepared to back up his judgments.

“I learned the importance of precise writing,” said Zimmerman, explaining that the externship furthered his interest in appellate advocacy.

A quarterfinalist in the Keedy Cup competition during the spring 2022 semester, Zimmerman will be clerking for the Honorable Richard D. Bennett of the U.S. District Court for the District of Maryland in 2023 and the Honorable Paul V. Niemeyer of the U.S. District Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit in 2024.

Barrett said students have been “sophisticated and thoughtful” about the role of externships in their legal training.

Added Mayover: “Students really want to get the practical experience. Our program has been highly successful. The feedback we get is universally positive.”

Mayover said she has no doubt that externship enrollment will continue to rise as students see the value in and importance of gaining practical experience before they graduate.
When Nicole Galli C’89, L’92 opened ND Galli Law LLC in 2015, she wanted to join a network of other women who owned firms. She quickly hit a snag: no such network existed.

A year later, Galli approached seven other women about starting a group, and they agreed to form a host committee. “I thought it was brilliant, I thought there was absolutely a need for it,” said Laura Nussbaum Solomon L’92, PAR’25, who owns Laura Solomon, Esq. & Associates and became integral to the network’s launch. “I’d been mentoring women one by one because there was no such thing, and Nicole was the one who had the insight to create it.”

The network became Women Owned Law, a tax-exempt nonprofit trade association that today has approximately 200 members across the country.

Earlier this year, Women Owned Law held its third national symposium, attended by 100 women.

Studies in recent years have shown that women struggle to level the professional playing field with their male colleagues in American law firms. A 2019 study from the American Bar Association, “Walking Out the Door,” found that female partners near the age of 50 have been leaving in droves for various reasons.

Galli said she’s witnessed women leave Big Law to start their own firms after making connections through Women Owned Law. “If women were satisfied, they wouldn’t leave. It’s not worth it if we’re not getting the appropriate recognition and compensation.”

Solomon said men have long benefited from more networking opportunities on golf courses and in eating clubs, providing them with the ability to swap referrals. “This organization helps fill the gap, and also provides an established pool of successful female mentors and colleagues,” Solomon said.

Galli said women are not recognized enough for their entrepreneurship. She was also motivated to start Women Owned Law to challenge a persisting belief that women open firms because they can’t “cut it” in Big Law.

Here we examine how 15 alumnæ—with backgrounds ranging from Big Law to government to in-house counsel—made a decision to open their own law firms, and why they’re not looking back.
For lawyers considering starting their own firm, Poorvi Chothani’s advice is to work with a strong leader in the legal field a would-be business owner wants to work in. It doesn’t have to be a large firm; it could mean working for a solo practitioner or a small firm, she said.

“The person whom you work with is very important because the exposure you are going to get working with a good professional is going to be the foundation of your career and probably your new law firm,” Chothani said.

For Chothani, that meant starting out as a litigation lawyer for one of the leading lawyers at the Bombay High Court.

“Working with a very good lawyer in India helped me a lot,” she said.

The experience was short-lived, however, as she left the litigation practice to start a family. Then, in 2002, she came to the Law School to pursue an LLM degree and on the Monday after taking the bar exam she began working in New York for one of the foremost immigration lawyers in the United States.

“I would say that has been a very strong foundation for my immigration practice. Working with two stalwarts in the legal profession at two strategic points in my career has been very, very beneficial.”

Given the entrepreneurial nature of Penn Carey Law, what lessons did you learn that you applied to running a business?

“The university teaches you to be self-aware, and you need that when you’re running a law practice. And, also, it teaches you the importance of networking and scaling your business.”

What is meaningful to you about the practice of law?

“When we practice immigration law we are touching the lives of many individuals so if I miss a deadline, I affect the future of an individual. For me the ability to meet deadlines and to put up arguments and get my clients what they seek is extremely gratifying.”
I realized life is short, and you can’t really wait forever to do what you want to do.”

ROBIN COHEN C’83, L’86

What advice would you give other alumni about opening a firm?

“Someone said to me, ‘It’s not rocket science,’ and it’s not. You just have to be bold and a little more entrepreneurial. What was holding me back a little bit is that I’m not great with logistics and computers and furniture. A friend said, ‘You can hire someone to do that.’ One of the smartest things we did was hire a COO who is really focused on the business side and logistics so we could focus on legal aid.”
What’s an important quality for a solo practitioner?

“Confidence, definitely. I haven’t met a client yet who was willing to accept advice from a nervous attorney.”

DANIELLE DIGGINS L’15

Diggins Law
Hermosa Beach, California
digginslaw.com

Taking additional coursework at the Wharton School helped Diggins make the leap to open her own firm. “It helped me understand that law is a language of business in a lot of ways,” she said. Diggins began her career at media companies, where she took on operational roles. “I made it my mission to learn more about how business runs, how the law fits into the business, and how the counsel I was working with incorporated business into the advice they gave me.” Diggins took notes, literally, on the nuts and bolts of running a business, down to the kinds of software used for logistics. “Eventually, I looked at all the notes I had and realized, ‘This looks like a business plan.’”

People at networking events began asking her for business cards, and she decided to seek work that combined law and business. In January 2020, she opened Diggins Law, where she focuses on trademark maintenance, corporate maintenance and filings, reviewing of commercial contracts, IP licensing, and data privacy.

The pandemic forced her to get creative, and naysayers from previous employers abounded. Diggins remained undeterred, and her perseverance prevailed. “Each day that I’m able to help a client and add value to them, that’s proving [naysayers] wrong. I had a chip on my shoulder at first, but now I’m just trying to meet clients where they’re at and help them. I’ve realized I don’t have to try to prove anyone wrong.”

I made it my mission to learn more about how business runs, how the law fits into the business, and how the counsel I was working with incorporated business into the advice they gave me.”

DANIELLE DIGGINS L’15
What advice would you give to other alumni about starting a law firm?

“Decide whether you want to run a business or just have your own solo practice — those two things are not always the same and the skills needed for each are different.”

FRANCINE FRIEDMAN GRIESING L’81
Griesing Law, LLC
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (Main office)
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When Fran Griesing received her bachelor’s degree from Binghamton University, then known as the State University of Binghamton (Harpur College), she became the first person in her family to graduate from college. “I didn’t come from a family where anyone really knew what a lawyer did,” she said.

But the friendships she made and the support she received at the Law School made all the difference for Griesing as she began her career, which eventually led to her leading her own firm with 10 lawyers and offices in five cities.

“I developed a lot of friendships with people at the Law School who did come from more sophisticated backgrounds than I did. Many of those people were fairly generous with giving me advice and guidance on the interview process and what to expect when I went to work at a law firm.

“If nothing else,” Griesing said, “I learned from my peers at the Law School and the relationships I developed, how important relationships were in business, how much connections made a difference, how much your credentials and what people perceived your pedigree to be helps you at least in terms of getting in the door.”
Having spent her legal career in public service, Hacker said she never expected to open her own firm. “It was not a longstanding ambition of mine,” she said. Before opening Hacker Stephens in October 2020, Hacker served as Assistant Solicitor General in the Texas Attorney General’s office, where she represented the state in critical appellate litigation and advised senior officials and state agencies on pressing legal issues. Before that, she spent more than a decade as Legal Counsel at the nonprofit legal organization Alliance Defending Freedom.

She opened her firm with law partner Andrew Stephens, who had been a colleague at the Attorney General’s office. “Typically, it’s really hard to make the jump from government work to private practice because you don’t have clients,” she said. “I thought we had a client prospect lined up, and we felt confident enough that we’d be able to survive for a while, and hopefully build a business from there.” COVID work-from-home restrictions, she said, worked in their favor. “It helped with low overhead for the first several months and everyone was doing everything on Zoom anyway.” The firm has already had two cases go to the U.S. Supreme Court and the firm’s client list has steadily grown to include big names like the State of Louisiana, multiple Texas counties and municipalities, major nonprofit organizations, and recently, the firm was appointed as class counsel for a class of over 4,000 Navy servicemembers in a civil rights suit against the Department of Defense.

What is meaningful to you about the practice of law?

“I think the public perception of lawyers is that we make everything worse and more complicated, and that can definitely be true, but I think we also have tremendous opportunity to do good and help others. That was also a motivating factor in wanting to start my own firm, because money has never been the main motive for me. If you’re in charge, you have flexibility and decide where you take risk, and I’m always willing to do that for a good cause.”
Andrea Kramer | L’76, PAR’05

Andrea R. Kramer Law
Bala Cynwyd, Pennsylvania
arkramerlaw.com

Kramer began her law career in-house with Acme Markets in Philadelphia, which in 1976 had about 25,000 employees in 500 retail stores that operated in seven states. She started as Employment Counsel and then served in roles ranging from Manager of Labor Relations to Assistant General Counsel for Acme’s parent company at the time, American Stores. In 1994, American Stores moved all of its legal functions to Salt Lake City. “I was offered a promotion to be in charge of employment law for the entire company of 135,000 employees,” said Kramer, who by then was married with kids. “It was my dream job. But it was the wrong place and time.” Kramer turned the change into a new opportunity. “I told them I was going to start my own firm and they could become my first client. And they did. For one year, they gave me my old office and secretary back to do their work.” From there, Kramer grew her business and gained new clients mostly through referrals from big law firms she’d worked with when she was in-house, and that’s how she operates today. “I don’t take work unless it comes with a good referral. Of course, I have a website, but it’s for informational purposes and credentials only.”

Ancela R. Nastasi | L’89

Nastasi Partners
New York, New York
nastasipartners.com

Ancela R. Nastasi’s grandfather was a general surgeon at the turn of the century. Back in those days, she said, doctors didn’t specialize all that much. Now all doctors specialize. The same is true about the law.

“The day and age of the general practitioner handling everything from wills to criminal matters is part of the bygone era for any lawyer worth their salt,” said Nastasi, the founder of Nastasi Partners. “I think as lawyers specialize more and more, that to know clearly what your specialty is and to hold yourself out as open for business in that specialty just makes it a lot easier to attract clients and to keep the ones that you’ve got.”

They’re coming to you for the one thing that you do better than anyone else, she said. For Nastasi, that specialty is restructuring across a broad range of industries and business sectors. Forget 10,000 hours to master a craft. The lawyers at Nastasi Partners have worked in restructuring for 61 combined years across a broad range of industries and business sectors.

What’s an important quality for a solo practitioner?

“Always look for a way to give that added value. For example, when a client of mine is written up in The Philadelphia Inquirer or receives an award, I write a personal note. I send clients articles that may be of interest to them. I still send real holiday cards. People remember cards because no one does it anymore. It’s a personal touch. I don’t like to call that networking. This is client development and creating relationships.”

What qualities does a good law firm leader need?

“You’ve got to have a vision. You’ve got to have resilience. You’ve got to have determination. You’ve got to have really great people skills both on the client and the employee side.”

Published by Penn Carey Law: Legal Scholarship Repository,
Build a better mousetrap and the world will beat a path to your door. So the cliché goes. Patricia Smink Rogowski can testify that it is true. Rogowski practices under the moniker of Rogowski Law, which specializes in intellectual property legal services—patents, trademarks, copyrights and trade secrets.

And wouldn’t you know, one day a father and son came to her with a new mousetrap. “And we successfully patented it,” Rogowski said. The mousetrap is used in food warehouses and places where you can’t lay poison, she explained. “IP is a terrific field because you have the privilege of helping others every day,” said Rogowski whose undergraduate degree is in mechanical engineering. “You’re usually building things for people and helping them. They have a spark or a new innovation and then you figure out the best ways to build a business around that or to protect that so that they can achieve the goals they want for their business.”

Given the entrepreneurial nature of Penn Carey Law, what lessons did you learn that you applied to running a business?

“I’m a litigator at heart and I love to sit and write a brief. Even today I was writing a brief and thinking, ‘This is such a good argument.’ Every word means something, and I learned those fundamentals at the Law School. The Law School really taught me how to write logically and think logically. And I took all of those useful qualities and skills and put them to use as a litigator. And that’s what I’ve done for 30 years.”

What is meaningful to you about the practice of law?

“I went into IP because I wanted to merge my capacity as a good writer and my capacity as an engineer, but I’ve stayed because it’s truly a field in which every day you get to help someone, which I like a lot, and every day is different. Every day I get to think about a different industry or a different product or service and meet people from all fields.”
It was 2006 and the economy was just starting to sputter. Then it entered a recession and the law firm specializing in financial institutional work in Washington, D.C. where Bonnie Sanchez worked began laying off attorneys. And she and her husband had a newborn child.

“It was time to pivot and take control of the situation,” Sanchez said. “I didn’t want to give up the practice of law in my specialized field. I had worked very hard for it, and I genuinely love practicing law.” And so, Sanchez took a leap of faith, used her knowledge and experience, and opened her own law firm.

“It was the best thing I ever did for myself. I like the freedom and the responsibility of being captain of my own ship,” she said.

Sanchez’ law firm located in Northern Virginia specializes primarily in corporate and privacy and data law. She counsels startups, emerging growth companies, service companies, and government contractors.

“What really interested me about the law is information. I love the fact that as an attorney I was taught by Penn how to use the resources that are around me to find the information that I need, and I love sharing that information. Knowledge is powerful and a lot of people don’t know where to look for information and they don’t know how to analyze and use the information to achieve their goals once they have it. As an attorney what I really love is understanding where to find information, analyzing the information, and being able to share that information with my clients to help them to achieve their business goals within the law.”

What advice would you give to other alumni about starting a law firm?

“Make sure that you are up to date on the latest technology to manage and streamline your workflow. It is important for attorneys to be excellent practitioners providing high quality work product to their clients and to be as efficient as possible. Being knowledgeable and efficient frees up time and makes the client happy when there’s a shorter turnaround time. Also, love what you do. Love the practice of law and enjoy serving society within your profession. And you will quickly see success follow.”
After spending eight years at Ballard Spahr, Smith opened her own firm in 1998 with Gregory Liacouras, a fellow attorney at the firm whom she was dating. Smith judged her partner in law well: the pair married five years later, and Liacouras & Smith continues to thrive today in civil litigation, trademarks, copyrights, and licensing. “This was our first baby,” she quipped of the firm. A third lawyer also works at the firm.

Smith, who focuses her practice on trademark and copyright law, said a nice thing about branching out from Big Law was that she could control professional decision-making. “All of our matters are things we care about, and for clients we really like and respect,” Smith said. “I’m proud that we have really nice relationships with our clients. Most of them have worked with us for more than 20 years now, and I think that’s because we don’t have all those layers (of bureaucracy)—we’ve really been able to establish very meaningful relationships.”

What’s your advice for other alumni about starting a firm?

“If you’re doing this with somebody else, the most important thing is that you really do trust them implicitly—that you trust their lawyering, and judgment, and character. In terms of nuts and bolts, you should really have a good idea of how much things cost.”

“When we first opened, I remember meeting with another attorney who graduated from the Law School, and he ran through a list of all his expenses—reams of paper, phone lines, Lexis, and other things you took for granted—because at an existing firm, you showed up and everything is there. When you have a solid idea of what things cost, then once you know you can meet those costs, you can really grow the business.”
Heidi Tallentire didn’t think she would use the bachelor’s and master’s degrees she received in religious studies from Penn when she became a lawyer. But she has.

“What I liked about religious studies is that it was multidisciplinary. When I started law school, I wanted to do something that was similarly multidisciplinary,” said Tallentire, who is a co-founder of Krauss Shaknes Tallentire & Messeri LLP, where she focuses her practice exclusively on complex matrimonial and family law matters. “And when you are a matrimonial lawyer, you need to know a little bit about a lot of different things, and of course you need to know a lot about matrimonial law.”

She said there are so many issues that come up in divorces, such as people having differing belief systems, or belief systems that evolve during their marriage, which can often create conflict.

“You have to educate the courts; you have to educate yourself,” Tallentire said.

“It was surprising to me when I first started practicing the number of cases with components of religion within the divorce itself. How do you raise the kids? What religion? How religious will the parties and the children be within that religion? These issues come up every day.

Laura Solomon, Esq. & Associates
Ardmore, Pennsylvania
laurasolomonesq.com

Solomon had one goal in law school: to use the law to help charitable organizations further their missions, effectively. At the time, the multi-disciplinary career path she envisioned didn’t exist. “Lawyers doing this work were usually in big firms either in trusts and estates supporting the philanthropic goals of wealthy people, or in tax departments,” Solomon said.

She started at Ballard Spahr, where she began in public finance and eventually moved to the tax department. In 1999, Solomon lived for a year in Israel, where she was the development director of a social services organization. “When we came back to the United States, I wanted to continue this work that I loved, but I was also acutely aware that most charitable organizations were not well-served at big firms,” she said. “They either didn’t meet pro bono guidelines or couldn’t afford big firm rates.”

So, Solomon opened her own firm for advising charities and philanthropic individuals, which at the time did not exist elsewhere in Philadelphia and was rare nationally. “Twenty-three years later, there are more firms like it, but we are still one of the largest with five lawyers and two paralegals. The firm serves as outside counsel to hundreds of charitable organizations and philanthropists nationally and internationally, with a focus on corporate, tax, transactional, and Orphans’ Court work.

What’s your advice for other alumni about starting a firm?

“My father gave me the best piece of advice: He said business development should be like brushing your teeth, and you should do it every single day. Every day, do one thing, whether it’s making a cold call or getting coffee with someone or writing an article, giving a speech, or connecting with colleagues. If you do that, you’re investing in your own professional growth and success of your firm.”

What is meaningful to you about the practice of law?

“I’m able to take my clients through a difficult experience to the end. Oftentimes, there is a point when clients see the light at the end of the tunnel and accept that although their life is transformed in a way that they could not have been foreseen on the date of their wedding, it’s a new way that they can embrace, and move forward.”
Sherrod Smith L’22 is pursuing his dream. Starting this fall, he will be working on civil rights and public corruption cases, police policy, and post-conviction review on sentencing law as an Honors Attorney in the New Jersey Attorney General’s Office, Office of Public Integrity and Accountability.

For Smith, the Leo Model Foundation Government Service and Public Affairs Initiative “anchored his experience” at the Law School, connecting him to a supportive community of public service-oriented students and alumni and encouraging his personal and professional aspirations.

The Initiative — led by Director of Public Sector Careers & Government Programs Neta Borshansky, a former attorney with the U.S. Department of Justice, and by Cary Coglianese, the Edward B. Shils Professor of Law and Professor of Political Science — was established in 2014 by the Leo Model Foundation to fund programs that motivate and prepare students to work in government and public policy.

Coglianese conceived of the Initiative. “We are giving students unique learning opportunities. The program succeeds by helping students understand government better and teaching them how to analyze and improve legislation, regulation, and other public policies,” said Coglianese, who is also Director of the Penn Program on Regulation. “This is what this program is all about and why it has been extraordinarily successful.”

The Law School has a tradition of alumni who have used their legal training as a springboard to government service, including U.S. Representatives Conor Lamb C'06, L’09, and Mary Gay Scanlon L’84, Colorado Secretary of State Jena Griswold L’11, and Dallas Mayor Eric Johnson L’03.
“Knowing that I could attend Penn Carey Law, pursue public service and be supported with the unique resources the Law School has to offer has been a game-changer for me.”

SHERROD SMITH L’22
“It was very interesting to see how an enforcement body of a federal agency works.”

JOCELYN A.K. WALCOTT
L’22, GE’d’22
Allen J. Model L’80, Chair of the Leo Model Foundation, believes the program is even more relevant now than it was eight years ago. “Given the partisan divide in the United States, the need for people with objectivity derived from legal training to enter government service has never been greater,” he said. “The students I’ve met have been so positive about the program. Their level of enthusiasm makes me feel that the program has really accomplished its goals and is continuing to do so.”

For example, the Initiative supported Anthony Sacco L’22 to pursue work on the U.S. Senate Finance Committee’s tax team, an opportunity originally afforded to him through the Law School’s Legislative Clinic.

Noting the scarcity of opportunities in the legislative branch, Sacco seized on the chance to further his experience on the Committee as a Model summer fellow in 2021. Congress had just passed new legislation to extend pandemic-era unemployment benefits, so Sacco was well-positioned to conduct related research and write memos and talking points. In addition, he worked on state sales tax policy and attended meetings on proposed legislation for pass-through businesses.

“It had long been my dream to have a career in government and public policy on the national level, and the program helped me start on that path,” Sacco said. “I found my way to an incredible opportunity at the IRS Office of Chief Counsel for after graduation. The support and funding from the Leo Model Foundation was crucial to pursuing these opportunities and building a network in Washington, D.C., and I am forever grateful.”

Prior to law school, Sacco spent five years working on the Joint Committee on Revenue in the Massachusetts Legislature. After completing his four-year dual degree program with the Law School and the Harvard Kennedy School of Government, Sacco in September joined the Internal Revenue Service as a staff member in the Passsthroughs & Special Industries Division, where he helps draft regulations, provides guidance to the public on rules and regulations, and advises field offices on litigation.

Jocelyn A.K. Walcott L’22, GEd’22, also a Model summer fellow, gravitated to government service because her parents and grandmother worked for the State of New Jersey and for county and local government.

In the summer of 2020, Walcott completed the fellowship at the Department of Education’s Office of Civil Rights where she investigated alleged civil rights violations, reviewed complaints for which she developed the factual record, and conducted interviews.

“I had an exciting experience. It was very interesting to see how an enforcement body of a federal agency works.” She reported to Wendella Fox CW’73, L’76, who, before her recent retirement, was Regional Director of DOE’s Office of Civil Rights in Philadelphia. “Over the course of my internship, I was fortunate to see almost every part of the complaint process. By the end of the summer, I was able to take the lead in conducting interviews.”

Walcott will be clerking for two judges in the Middle District of North Carolina over the next two years, after which she expects to practice equity law throughout her career.

As part of the Initiative, senior government officials and policy experts have visited the Law School to teach seminars and short courses, give lectures, and advise students on career options. These visiting fellows have ranged from top-level White House officials to heads of federal agencies to major local leaders. Among them was Richard Cordray, the first Director of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau.

“The Penn Carey Law community — both students and faculty alike — presented a rich and challenging atmosphere,” said Cordray, now the Chief Operating Officer of Federal Student Aid in the U.S. Department of Education. “They were constantly questioning how and why we organize ourselves and about our rules. It made me think anew about many issues I had come to take for granted.”

Since the program’s inception, approximately 150 students have received direct financial support to pursue their career goals through summer and post-graduate fellowships and externships, Borshansky said. There have also been more...
than a dozen policy research seminars along with numerous conferences and panel discussions through which many students and alums have found inspiration for public service and prepared themselves to pursue government careers.

Domenic Powell L’20 was one of them. He came to the Law School with a desire to work on government policy, having served as an advocacy and policy strategist for the American Civil Liberties Union and other organizations following college. He left law school with a semester-long externship in Washington, D.C., under his belt.

Powell, who took Coglianese’s Regulatory Law and Policy seminar and served as Chair of the Environmental Law Project, spent a semester working as a full-time legal extern at the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Antitrust Commercial and Administrative Law, an opportunity made possible through the guidance and support of the Initiative.

Powell had his hands full with his congressional internship—carrying a broad portfolio of duties that had him preparing congressional briefings and attending hearings related to mergers, arbitration clauses, and the competitive practices of Big Tech.

“I learned so much that it was easily the best experience a future government lawyer could have,” Powell said.

Nearly three years later, Powell is about to complete his second year as an Honors Attorney at the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau.

“I’m a first generation (college) student. I don’t have any connections on the Hill,” Powell said. “I don’t know anybody who’s doing anything like this. For a student like me to have the opportunity I did, I absolutely needed people like Professor

“I learned so much that it was easily the best experience a future government lawyer could have.”

DOMENIC POWELL L’20
Coglianese and others to make those connections. It wouldn’t have happened any other way.”

Fellow Honors Attorney Smith came to the Law School with an impressive government resume, looking to add legal training to his portfolio. He served five years in the Obama Administration, working on immigration executive actions and playing a role in employee professional development.

He then worked for the Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, helping to launch the Stop Hate Project, coordinating with community-based organizations, law enforcement officials, civil rights organizations, and academic experts to develop a cohesive hate crimes response strategy.

During law school, Smith served as a Model summer fellow with the Civil Rights Bureau of the New York Attorney General’s Office. Putting his legal education to use, Smith worked on a hate crime investigation and assisted the Office’s litigation efforts to preserve the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program.

Smith, who graduated with a four-year joint degree from the Law School and the Princeton University School of Public and International Affairs, recognized that students at top law schools like Penn Carey Law have their choice of exceptional career paths.

But he said that, “knowing that I could attend Penn Carey Law, pursue public service, and be supported with the unique resources the Law School has to offer has been a game-changer for me personally and for many of my peers. Through the Leo Model Foundation, the Law School encouraged me and nurtured my interest in serving as a public service attorney.”

“IT HAD LONG BEEN MY DREAM TO HAVE A CAREER IN GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC POLICY ON THE NATIONAL LEVEL, AND THE PROGRAM HELPED ME START ON THAT PATH.”

ANTHONY SACCO L’22
Barton Post W’52, L’55 was awarded a Fellowship in the College of Physicians for lifetime advocacy on behalf of physicians and hospitals, an unusual recognition for an attorney.

Stephen Yusem L’63, one of the Delaware Valley’s most respected arbitrators and mediators, was honored with the Montgomery Bar Association’s first-ever Lifetime Achievement Award. Yusem has achieved Fellowship status with both the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators and the prestigious 250-member College of Commercial Arbitrators. He is also accredited as a mediator by the Center for Effective Dispute Resolution in London. In 2015, he received the Sir Francis Bacon Award from the Pennsylvania Bar Association as “an individual who excels and who has had a significant professional impact in the area of alternative dispute resolution.” He also received the Pennsylvania Bar Association Special Achievement Award for his work in guiding the Revised Uniform Arbitration Act through the Pennsylvania Legislature and co-authored a 2019 article for the Pennsylvania Bar Association Quarterly titled, “Major Changes to the Pennsylvania Arbitration Law.” Yusem has been an American Arbitration Association panelist for many years and is a former co-chair of the American Bar Association Section of Dispute Resolution Arbitration Committee and a director of the Association for Conflict Resolution Commercial Section. He is an Adjunct Professor of Law at the Cornell University Law School, where he teaches mediation and arbitration. He has also taught conflict resolution at the National University of Mongolia Law School, the Saint Cyril and Methodius University in Macedonia and the Tehran University in Iran. He serves in the U.S. Department of State Fulbright program as a Fulbright Specialist on short-term assignments, the most recent being at the Royal University for Women in Bahrain, teaching International and Commercial Arbitration.

Yusem has also dedicated much of his life to military service. He served as a United States Navy Reserve officer rising to the grade of Rear Admiral, ultimately becoming the highest-ranking Navy Reserve Surface Line Officer in the United States. He served as national President of the 120,000-member Reserve Officers Association of the United States working with the late Senator John McCain to provide health insurance for military veterans. In addition, he represented the Reserve Officers Association at the North Atlantic Treaty Association (NATO) working with the former nations of the Warsaw Pact in support of the Partnership for Peace Program for their admission as NATO members. He provides arbitration and mediation services to lawyers around the country.

Norman Pearlstine L’67 will serve as an independent director at Blue Ocean Acquisition Corp. He was Executive Editor of the Los Angeles Times from June 2018 through December 2020. Pearlstine previously served as Time Inc.’s Editor-in-Chief, Chief Content Officer, and Vice Chairman. He serves on the boards of the Committee to Protect Journalists, the Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press, and the Center for Communication Leadership and Policy at USC Annenberg. He is a member of the American Academy of Arts & Sciences, and the Council on Foreign Relations. He is also an advisor to North Base Media.

Peter Glenn L’68 was the commencement speaker for Penn State Dickinson Law’s 2022 graduation. He served as the ninth Dean of the law school, where he played a significant role in the 1997 affiliation and 2000 merger of Dickinson Law with Penn State University. Following his time as Dean, Glenn became an Executive Deputy General Counsel in the Pennsylvania Governor’s Office of General Counsel. He was appointed General Counsel of Stevens & Lee, a multistate business law firm, where he served from 2006 to 2015. Glenn then became an adjunct member of the Dickinson Law faculty, teaching Professional Responsibility; Transactional Writing and Drafting; and Law Practice Management. He held this position until the end of 2020 when he retired.

Joseph Cooper W’69, L’72 has transferred out of the op-ed realm to matriculate into picture-book publishing. Cooper’s debut is Grandpa’s Lonely, Isn’t He? He drew inspiration as a grandfather himself and in envisioning the loss of connection between grandchildren and their grandparents during shelter-in-place recommendations and other warnings of the COVID-19 era. The book is set in the height of the COVID-19 contagion and features a youngster who is worried about his grandpa, who lives alone. Out of concern, they stay apart. In toned black-and-white illustrations, we see their realities, in their respective homes. In color illustrations, we see how they engaged prior to COVID-19, and how they imagine being together.
again. Positioned as Juvenile Lit, the story is intended to serve as a tribute to all those — of all ages and backgrounds — who, by various means and strategies, managed to deal with the separations, uncertainties, isolation, and loneliness of the COVID-19 years.

**H. Ron Klasko L’71** was honored for his leadership and support of immigrants at the annual Golden Door Awards hosted by HIAS Pennsylvania. He supports college-bound immigrants through the Ron Klasko Family Scholarship program. Klasko has been involved with HIAS Pennsylvania for decades, previously as a board member and the VP for Immigration Policy. He is the founding and current Chair of the American Immigration Lawyer Association’s High Impact Committee, having won many federal lawsuits on behalf of immigrants and their U.S. employers.

**Jonathan Cannon L’74** joined the Environmental Law Institute’s Leadership Council. Council members participate in events and have an opportunity to network and engage other leaders in discussions about key environmental law and policy issues. Cannon retired from the University of Virginia in 2021. He had served as the inaugural director of the Law School’s Program in Law, Communities, and the Environment (PLACE). He joined the Law School faculty in 1998 from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, where he served as general counsel and assistant administrator for administration and resources management. Cannon is the author of the book *Environment in the Balance: The Green Movement and the Supreme Court*.

**H. Ronald Klasko L’74** spoke on an EB-5 panel at the 2022 Investment Migration Forum. The premier event, which attracted global leaders in investment migration from more than 40 countries, was held in June in Brussels, Belgium.

**Carrie Menkel-Meadow’s L’74** scholarship and legal contributions were the focus of a March symposium hosted by the Aggie Dispute Resolution Program and *Texas A&M Law Review* titled “The Renaissance Woman of Dispute Resolution: Carrie Menkel-Meadow’s Contributions to New Directions in Feminism, Ethics, and ADR.” The symposium featured panels on dispute resolution, legal ethics/legal profession, and feminist legal theory, which have all been the subject matter of her scholarship. Menkel-Meadow is the Distinguished and Chancellor’s Professor of Law at UC Irvine.

**Barbara Hauser L’76** completed a PhD program at the University of Zurich Law School. Her dissertation was titled “The Benefits of Applying the Rule of Law in Family Governance.”

**Marvin Benton L’78** was featured in the Harvard Kennedy School Magazine, Winter 2022 issue. The article titled, “Growing Diversity and Community,” focused on his contributions in improving diversity at the Harvard Kennedy School (HKS) while he served as President of the HKS Black Alumni Association from 2017 to 2021. The article points out that Benton “was one of the first voices pushing the school to institute a requirement that students take a course on race, diversity, and public policy. Today, HKS requires all first-year students to take a course on diversity, race and public policy.” Benton received his Master’s in Public Administration from HKS in 1988, and during his time there, he was selected as a Lucius N. Littauer Fellow.

**Niki Ingram L’79** was named Vice President of the Philadelphia Bar Foundation. Her two-year term began at the start of 2022. Ingram, who also serves as the Foundation’s Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion officer, is Senior Counsel at Marshall Dennehey Warner Coleman & Goggin. Through programs, grants, and partnerships, the Philadelphia Bar Foundation removes barriers to justice, engages the community in support of civil legal aid, and builds systemwide capacity to strengthen the provision of quality legal services and to ensure that all individuals understand their rights to equal justice under law. Ingram is a member of Marshall Dennehey’s Diversity Equity & Inclusion Committee and is a current board member of Christian Legal Clinics of Philadelphia. She also volunteers for Friendship House, an organization serving children and families in need in Delaware. Ingram additionally spearheads Marshall Dennehey’s partnership of support with Chester A. Arthur Elementary School in Philadelphia.

**Norma Brown Hutcheson L’80** received the 34th Annual Charlotte E. Ray Award from the Greater Washington Area Chapter, Women Lawyers Division, National Bar Association (GWAC). The award recognizes an outstanding African American woman from the local bar in honor of Charlotte E. Ray, the first woman admitted to practice in the District of Columbia and the first African American woman certified as a lawyer in the United States. In keeping with the mission of GWAC and the trailblazing spirit of Charlotte E. Ray, awardees demonstrate a strong commitment to community involvement, mentorship,
advocacy, and excellence in the Metropolitan Washington community. Hutcheson, a past president of GWAC and past chair for GWAC’s charitable arm, GWAC Foundation, Incorporated, is a native Washingtonian and a beacon in the GWAC, D.C., and legal communities. Currently serving as the chairperson for the D.C. Board of Ethics and Government Accountability (BEGA), Hutcheson has been an active participant not only in GWAC, but in various organizations like the Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights Under the Law, where she worked on the National Bar Association (NBA) Election Protection Project, the Women’s Bar Association of D.C., the Potomac Chapter (VA) of The Links, Incorporated, and Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, Theta Omega Omega Chapter. She retired from her position of Deputy Managing Counsel for the Capital Metro Law Office of the U.S. Postal Service Law Department in 2016 after 36 years of federal service.

Raymond Morales L’80 received the Association of Labor Relations Professionals’ Raymond J. Compton Lifetime Achievement Award in recognition of his contributions to the labor relations field. This award is given annually to an individual who has distinguished themselves in this field in Puerto Rico.

Christopher Graham L’82 joined White and Williams as a Partner in its New York office. He brings nearly 40 years of experience representing clients in bankruptcy and insolvency matters to the firm’s Financial Restructuring and Bankruptcy group. Graham represents secured creditors in Chapter 11 matters and counsels creditors and shareholders, purchasers in bankruptcy sales, outside board of director members of Chapter 11 debtors-in-possession, mezzanine lenders, trustees, receivers, state regulatory agencies, foreign liquidators in international cases, and debtors-in-possession. He is recognized for his experience in Chapter 11 cramdown plans and defenses and Chapter 9 municipal bankruptcies. He also handles complex real estate foreclosures and related litigation and has experience counseling receivers in matters involving real estate, mortgage-backed securities, asset-backed securities, and related Uniform Commercial Code foreclosures.

David King L’82 was appointed to the Board of Directors for BioAglytics Labs, LLC, a global contract research organization focused on supporting pharmaceutical and biotech partners in all phases of drug development. King brings with him more than 20 years of leadership and operational experience in the life sciences and healthcare sectors. He is the former Executive Chairman and CEO of Laboratory Corporation of America Holdings (Labcorp). King led Labcorp’s transformation from a pure-play U.S. testing laboratory into a leading global life sciences company. During King’s tenure, Labcorp established itself as a market leader in laboratory testing and global drug development. He also guided the corporation through 10 years of substantial M&A activity and major changes in government healthcare reimbursement policy. One of those transactions was a $6 billion acquisition of contract research business Covance Inc. in 2015, which significantly increased Labcorp’s revenue and global presence. King currently serves on several professional boards, including Priva Health, ZimVie, and VaxCare. His volunteer board involvement includes Novant Health, PATH, and the Emily Krzyzewski Center. In May, the Triangle Business Journal profiled King as one of its 2022 Healthcare Leadership Awards Lifetime Achievement Winner in Life Sciences.

Joy Thompson L’82 was named Acting Deputy Director and Acting Associate Director of the Private Funds Unit at the Securities and Exchange Commission. She joined the SEC’s Philadelphia Regional Office in 1986, where she held several roles including Staff Attorney, Branch Chief, and Assistant Director before becoming the Associate Regional Director for Examinations. Previously, Thompson has served as the Acting Regional Director of the Philadelphia Regional Office and the Acting Deputy Director of the National Examination Program.

Antoinette Hubbard L’84 was promoted to Member at Maron Marvel Bradley Anderson & Tardy LLC’s Wilmington, Delaware office. She defends asbestos, product liability, premises liability, and personal injury matters. Hubbard chairs the firm’s Asbestos Practice Group. She also has handled a broad spectrum of litigation matters, including commercial and environmental disputes. Since 2013, Hubbard has served as Maron Marvel’s Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Director and is a principal architect of the firm’s diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives.

The Honorable Lynn Toler (Judge Lynn) L’84 stars in the new WE television series, “Commit or Quit with Judge Lynn Toler,” which premiered in May. Couples in crisis turn to Judge Lynn for a life-altering decision to get married or break up for good. In the eight, one-hour episodes, eight couples are under her microscope. Secrets are exposed, core issues uncovered, and those closest to them give shocking testimony. Judge Lynn is also a co-host on WEtv’s “Marriage Bootcamp.” She began her television career in 2001 when she became the host of the nationally syndicated television show, “Power of Attorney.” In 2006, Judge Lynn became the host of the nationally syndicated television show, “Judge Lynn Toler.” In
show, “Divorce Court,” and remained there until 2020. Judge Lynn is actively engaged in both local and national initiatives to prevent domestic violence through her work as a board member on Bloom365.org. She is also an advocate for mental health awareness and supports The Whole Brother Mission, an organization committed to providing mental health access to black men.

Kenneth I. Trujillo L’86 has been named to the 2022 Pennsylvania Super Lawyers list. He has been selected for the list annually since 2005. Trujillo is a Shareholder at Chamberlain Hrdlicka in Philadelphia. He represents U.S. and foreign corporations, as well as government entities, executives, lawyers and other individuals with a focus on contract disputes, securities, antitrust, education and other regulatory issues. Trujillo is an Adjunct Professor at the University of Pennsylvania Carey Law School.

Frank Lee L’87 joined Bracewell’s New York office in April 2021 as a Partner in the corporate and securities practice. Lee advises renewable energy developers, project sponsors, and solar panel manufacturers on acquisitions, divestitures and commercial arrangements, as well as electric utilities on corporate finance and securities, SEC compliance, and corporate governance matters. He also represents issuers and underwriters in various securities offerings and other financings.

The Honorable Allison Dale Burroughs L’88 received an honorary degree from her alma mater, Middlebury College. Judge Burroughs, who has been on the U.S. District Court of Massachusetts since 2015, was appointed to the federal bench by President Obama. Judge Burroughs was previously a Partner at the Boston law firm of Nutter McClennen & Fish, where she focused on complex litigation and white collar criminal defense. Before entering private practice, she served in the Boston and Philadelphia offices of the U.S. Attorney’s Office for 16 years. Judge Burroughs serves on the Board of Directors for Agassiz Village, an overnight camp for youth from underserved communities. She is a frequent speaker on topics such as computer crime, sentencing, health care, and general criminal and civil litigation.

The Honorable Hector Gonzalez L’88 was confirmed by the U.S. Senate as a judge for the Eastern District of New York. He was previously a Partner at Dechert LLP, where he chaired the firm’s global litigation practice. In that role, he focused his practice on complex commercial and securities litigation, including U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission and Commodity Futures Trading Commission enforcement proceedings.

Edward Berg L’89 was appointed Senior Vice President and General Counsel of Vaxart, a clinical-stage biotechnology company that develops oral recombinant vaccines. He was previously at BioMarin Pharmaceutical, Inc., where he served as Vice President, Deputy General Counsel and counsel on product launches and supported internal and external collaborative efforts that led to the development of an innovative early pipeline in the competitive gene therapy space.

David Crichlow L’89 was named to Savoy magazine’s 2022 list of Most Influential Black Lawyers in recognition of his distinguished legal career and outstanding commitment to his community. Crichlow, the Commercial Litigation National Practice Chair at Katten’s New York office, is also a member of the firm’s Executive Committee and Board of Directors. He supervises more than 40 Commercial Litigation practice members in the United States and London and serves as lead trial counsel on high-stakes commercial, class-action, and bankruptcy litigation. He served as Managing Partner of the New York office at his previous law firm and currently serves on the board of the Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights Under Law and the Board of Advisors for the Legal Aid Society in New York. Crichlow has been recognized as a National Law Journal Litigation Trailblazer, New York Law Journal Distinguished Leader and among the Crain’s New York Business list of Notable Black Leaders and Executives.

Todd Girolamo L’90 was named General Counsel at ProKidney LP, a clinical-stage cellular therapeutics company focused on therapies for chronic kidney disease and prevention of end-stage renal disease and need for dialysis. Prior to joining ProKidney, Girolamo spent 11 years at Caladrius Biosciences where he served as Chief Legal Officer, SVP of Corporate Development and Corporate Secretary.

Christopher Pace L’90 joined Winston & Strawn LLP as a Partner in the firm’s Dallas office and as a member of the litigation practice. Pace is an experienced national litigator who has secured more than 20 trial victories and prevailed in more than 25 appeals. He represents clients in the health care, financial services, and technology industries (including health tech and fintech) in commercial disputes,
antitrust and unfair competition cases, and government investigations. He has appeared on behalf of Fortune 500 companies in courts across the country, including in multidistrict litigation proceedings.

Albert Parker L’90 was appointed Chief Legal Officer and Corporate Secretary of Zyenba Pharmaceuticals, Inc., the leader in innovative pharmaceutically produced cannabinoid therapies for rare and near-rare neuropsychiatric disorders. He served most recently as Chief Operating Officer and Corporate Secretary of Oncocyte Corporation, an oncology-focused precision diagnostics and monitoring company.

Kenneth Ziman L’90 joined Paul Weiss Rifkind & Garrison LLP’s restructuring group in New York as a Partner. He was previously the Managing Director of the restructuring group for financial and asset management firm Lazard Ltd. His significant debtor-side representations have included, among others, PG&E Corporation, Takata Corporation, Gavilan Resources LLC, CGG Holdings (U.S.) Inc., Millennium Health, LLC, Dendreon Corporation, Exide Technologies, Savient Pharmaceuticals, Inc., Select Staffing and MF Global Holdings Ltd. Ziman has also represented several private equity portfolio companies in their restructurings. In addition to his debtor-side work, he has advised lienship creditors and lender groups and sponsors in restructurings across many industries, including the automotive, healthcare, industrial, energy, finance and telecommunications sectors.

Elise Zoli L’90 has joined Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati as a Partner in the firm’s Energy and Climate Solutions practice in Boston. She will focus her practice on global strategic alliances and market-opening transactions in the clean energy, water, agriculture, and de-carbonization sectors. Zoli is recognized in the United States and in Europe for her energy and climate-focused practice. She has substantial experience representing clients engaged in clean energy technologies, including renewable energy, hydrogen and alternative fuels, energy storage, electric vehicles, micro- and smart grid, water, and regenerative agriculture. In recent years, Zoli has been recognized as a trailblazer in clean energy (The National Law Journal, 2021), a global power broker in sustainable infrastructure (Financier Worldwide, 2021), among 100 global leaders in wind energy (Word About Wind Legal Power List, 2020), and one of the 10 most influential women in U.S. energy law (Law360). Zoli serves on the board of directors at the Stimson Center, a leading nonprofit global think tank seeking to advance global peace and prosperity, including through climate resilience, where she co-founded and is on the board of counselor for the Stimson-affiliated Climate Change Resilient Alliance for a Climate Resilient Earth (ACRE).

Anthony Cianciotti L’91 joined Baker Donelson’s Atlanta office as a Shareholder in the Financial Services Transactions Group. He represents financial institutions and borrowers in structuring, negotiating, and closing complex loan transactions. His experience includes asset-based and cash flow working capital facilities, equipment and acquisition financing, and venture debt and growth capital financing. He has frequently advised clients in structuring credit agreements to allow for financing inventory manufactured outside the U.S. while it is in transit. He has also helped develop client-specific supply chain finance programs. Cianciotti was previously an attorney at McGuire-Woods LLP.

Joe Halprin C’87, W’87, L’91 joined Mobility Capital Finance Inc. as General Counsel. He was most recently Mastercard Inc.’s Assistant General Counsel of global consumer products and processing. In his new role, Halprin assists the company—which is known as MoCaFi and is focused on people in the U.S. who are unbanked and underbanked—in building out its platform and its processes and procedures team.

Aaron Krauss L’91, along with additional attorneys, authored chapters of the American Bar Association’s (ABA) latest book, titled Litigating Fiduciary Duty Claims. It was published in February. Topics covered include an explanation of what a fiduciary duty is and what triggers the duty; direct and derivative claims; claims involving majority shareholders, limited liability companies, partnerships, trusts and estates, the government, lenders, and financial professionals; insuring breach of fiduciary duty claims; and more. Krauss is a commercial litigation attorney at Cozen O’Connor who concentrates his practice on litigation in business, healthcare, labor and employment, and intellectual property. He has tried multiple fiduciary duty cases in state and federal courts, and before arbitration panels, on behalf of companies (or their officers, directors, or shareholders). He has held various leadership roles within the American Bar Association’s Litigation Section, including serving as a member of the ABA Book Publishing Board since 2019.

Michael Stovsky L’91 has been listed in Chambers USA (Chambers and Partners) — Intellectual Property. He is Chair of the Innovations, Information

Published by Penn Carey Law: Legal Scholarship Repository,
Technology, and Intellectual Property Group at Benesch, Friedlander, Coplan and Aronoff LLP, an AmLaw 200 firm, and a member of its Executive Committee.

Scott Coffina L’92, a former Burlington County, New Jersey prosecutor, has rejoined Montgomery McCracken Walker & Rhoades LLP as a Partner in its Litigation department and White Collar and Government Investigations practice. He will focus his practice on representing corporate, university, and individual clients in government enforcement actions, internal investigations, litigation, crisis management, and political-legal controversies. Coffina worked at McCracken on two previous occasions. In addition to McCracken, Coffina has worked at three other law firms and in government positions as an Assistant U.S. Attorney in the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, as Associate Counsel in the George W. Bush administration, and as Senior Deputy Chief Counsel for New Jersey Governor Chris Christie.

Andrew Merken L’92, Co-Chair of the Life Sciences Group and the Securities Group at Burns & Levinson in Boston, has been named a 2022 Go-To Life Sciences/Healthcare Lawyer by Mass Lawyers Weekly. Over the past 30 years, Merken has developed a reputation as one of the leading corporate lawyers in Boston focused on emerging, growth-stage, and middle market companies. With broad experience across the entire life cycle of companies—from startup to venture capital to third party collaborations to sale or IPO—Merken brings a diverse breadth of legal knowledge to clients. He has advised and represented countless life sciences/healthcare, technology and business service companies, as well as venture investors and investment banks. Merken is on the board of advisors of the Alliance of Merger & Acquisition Advisors, New England Chapter, and on the board of advisors of the Derby Entrepreneurship Center at Tufts University.

David Richter ENG’87, W’87, L’92 was named Chief Operating Officer of Infrastructure Project Management at the New York City office of Paris-based Bureau Veritas Group, a world leader in laboratory testing, inspection, certification and other consulting services. Richter was also elected to the Board of Directors of Permix Group, a Chicago-based international construction contractor. In his spare time, he is pursuing his doctorate in civil engineering at Columbia University.

Seth Rubin L’94 joined Sapience Therapeutics Inc., a clinical-stage biotechnology company based in Harrison, New York, as General Counsel. Prior to joining the company, Rubin served as a Partner at Ruskin Moscou Faltischek PC in New York and as Chair of the firm’s Health Care Finance practice group. He was also a member of the corporate and securities, health law transactional, financial services, banking, and bankruptcy departments as well as of the Corporate Governance practice group. During his nearly 24-year tenure at Ruskin Moscou, Rubin worked with private and public companies on a wide range of matters including mergers and acquisitions, strategic joint ventures, corporate finance, public and private financing, licensing, technology, clinical trial agreements, and securities compliance.

Erika Thomas L’94 was elected Partner at BakerHostetler’s Washington, D.C., office. She serves as lead attorney on significant litigation in the firm’s Madoff recovery efforts. As a member of the litigation team representing the Securities Investor Protection Act trustee in the liquidation of Bernard L. Madoff Investment Securities LLC, Thomas brings a distinct perspective and insight to her practice, leveraging more than 25 years of experience as a litigator and strategic advisor, including four years as a federal prosecutor in the Southern District of New York and 12 years as in-house counsel with a Fortune 500 company.

Herb Yeh C’91, L’94 joined Evercore’s Investment Banking business as a Senior Managing Director in its Technology practice. Evercore is a global independent investment banking advisory firm. Yeh is based in Silicon Valley and helps lead and expand Evercore’s technology practice, specifically software. He was previously Global Co-Head of Technology Investment Banking and Vice Chairman of Banking, Capital Markets and Advisory at Citi. In his career, he has advised technology companies at all stages of the business life cycle, including growth to maturity, creating value through strategic M&A and raising capital in the equity and debt markets.

J. Kevin Fee L’95 joined DLA Piper’s Washington, D.C., office as Partner in its Trademark Copyright and Media group. He was previously co-leader of Morgan Lewis & Bockius LLP’s trademark and copyright litigation practice. Fee’s practice focuses on representing clients in high-stakes intellectual property litigation, and he has experience representing financial institutions, pharmaceutical companies, Internet companies, and others. Fee has represented a number of high-profile copyright clients, including working as the lead attorney representing the American Society for Testing Materials in 2017 in a dispute over private standard setting groups’ ability to own copyrights on industry rules they create, even after they are made federal law. In addition to his representation of consumer product manufacturers
David Nasatir L’95 was named Chairman of Obermayer Rebmann Maxwell & Hippel LLP. Nasatir began his legal career at the firm, first as a summer associate while earning his law degree, then as an associate in 1997. He moved to Thorp Reed & Armstrong LLP in May 2011, then returned to Obermayer Rebmann in March 2013. Nasatir continues to manage his own business and finance practice as the firm’s chairman. He advises clients, including small businesses and large financial institutions, on matters such as public finance, general corporate guidance, and zoning and real estate issues.

Rachel Solomon C’92, L’95, Partner and Chief Creative Officer of Honor Code Creative, has moved the firm’s main office to Miami. The company will continue to operate in the Boston area during the summer months while it serves Boston clients all year long. Honor Code Creative provides branding, marketing, and advertising services to the retail, mission-focused and professional services realms.

Suzanne Morris L’96 joined Look Listen Studios as President. Look Listen Studios is a full-service visual content execution and corporate communications firm launched in 2020 to extend new capabilities to the agency’s clients. Most recently, Morris served as the Chief Operating Officer at educational media and technology company, CWK Network, Inc., where she was responsible for day-to-day operations. During her media career, Morris served as the Vice President of Operations at Home Box Office (HBO) and Deluxe Entertainment, where she managed West Coast Studio Operations, helping to spearhead the cable network’s digital transformation and develop new distribution platforms.

Amabassador Andrea Canepari GL’99, an Italian diplomat, author, and global ambassador for Italian life and culture, received the American University of Rome’s 2022 Honorary Degree for his significant contribution to Italian American cooperation and his tireless promotion of Italian life and culture around the world. He was honored by the university at its annual May commencement ceremony at Villa Aurelia in Rome.

Sneha Desai L’99 joined Stryker, one of the world’s leading medical technology companies, as its Chief Legal Counsel, Global Litigation and Employment. She leads Stryker’s global legal teams in the areas of litigation, employment and investigations, and is responsible for developing litigation strategy in collaboration with business and functional leaders globally. She is also a member of the global Legal & Compliance executive leadership team. Prior to joining Stryker, Desai was the Deputy General Counsel, Litigation for BASF Corporation.

in false advertising disputes, Fee also works with publishers, software developers, and other organizations on copyright disputes.

Scott Goldshaw L’95 was named Lawyer of the Year for Philadelphia in the category of Employment Law—Individual by Best Lawyers in America. He is an attorney at Saltzmann Goldshaw, P.C. Goldshaw has concentrated his practice in employment law and litigation since 1996. He represents employers and employees in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and New York. His practice spans the gamut of employment law, including the anti-discrimination, anti-retaliation, and anti-harassment statutes; wage payment and collection statutes; ERISA; and other federal, state, and local employment laws. He litigates employment claims in federal and state courts, handling all aspects of litigation through trial and on appeal. He also negotiates employment and severance contracts of all kinds, provides counseling on various employment-related issues and has served as a private mediator and an arbitrator for employment claims.

J. Anthony Jordan L’95 was named in City & State’s 2022 Law Power 100, which takes an in-depth look at legal professionals who are powerful in New York’s governmental landscape. Jordan, who serves as Washington County District Attorney, became President of the District Attorneys Association of the State of New York in June 2021. The Association advocates on behalf of district attorneys in each of New York’s 62 counties at a time when Albany is laser-focused on criminal justice reform.

Elizabeth Seyle Fenton L’98 joined Ballard Spahr LLP’s Wilmington, Delaware office as a Partner in the firm’s litigation department. She was previously a Partner at Saul Ewing Arnstein & Lehr LLP. Fenton joined Ballard Spahr’s Securities Enforcement and Corporate Governance Litigation and White Collar Defense/Internal Investigations practice groups. She represents clients ranging from emerging companies to Fortune 50 corporations in industries including information technology, financial services, and life sciences. Her work involves business torts, shareholder and post-closing disputes, antitrust issues, instances of piercing the corporate veil, and enforcement of restrictive covenants.

Sneha Desai L’99 joined Stryker, one of the world’s leading medical technology companies, as its Chief Legal Counsel, Global Litigation and Employment. She leads Stryker’s global legal teams in the areas of litigation, employment and investigations, and is responsible for developing litigation strategy in collaboration with business and functional leaders globally. She is also a member of the global Legal & Compliance executive leadership team. Prior to joining Stryker, Desai was the Deputy General Counsel, Litigation for BASF Corporation.
Leading Philadelphia’s Pandemic-Weary Old City Back to Life

Two years ago, Philadelphia’s historic — and generally bustling — Old City neighborhood more closely resembled a ghost town.

But these days, Job Itzkowitz L’04, the Executive Director of Old City District, is delighted that signs of life are returning to Independence Hall and the Liberty Bell.

As Executive Director, a role he’s held since 2014, Itzkowitz manages the day-to-day operations of Old City District, which is one of Philadelphia’s 15 Business Improvement Districts (BID). Old City District operates as a municipal authority, supplementing municipal services, and its budget is paid by commercial property owners in the district. For example, Old City District funds daily street sweeping, private security teams, police details, text alert systems to connect businesses, streetscape improvements and economic development work. It hosts both the annual Old City Fest and the summertime Old City Eats Happy Hour.

COVID-19, however, changed everything. “Like anywhere in the world, it was a big challenge, and Old City was no exception,” he said.

When everything shut down in March 2020, Old City had to get creative to survive.

Old City District began sending daily business emails to keep stakeholders abreast of constantly changing rules and resources. “It was like drinking from a firehose,” he said.

Business owners had to quickly cultivate an online presence and navigate outdoor seating licenses. Old City District worked with the Philadelphia BID Alliance and the Pennsylvania Restaurant & Lodging Association to develop policies for the city to adopt regarding in-person eating options. Such policies included allowing “streeteries,” where tables and chairs could be set up in parking spaces in front of restaurants; sidewalk seating extensions whereby neighboring businesses could agree to offer their sidewalk space for outdoor dining; and dining on closed streets.

“We were the first to close the street for outdoor dining Friday afternoons till Sunday evenings during warm weather until well into the fall in 2020,” Itzkowitz said.

Still, despite best efforts, not all Old City businesses survived the past two years. Pre-pandemic, Itzkowitz said, Old City’s population was 5,000 residents, with 12,000 daily tourists and 18,000 daily office workers.

“That was a big challenge for businesses that rely on those types of people in the neighborhood to buy lunch or souvenirs,” he said. “They closed because tourists weren’t there.”

With about 300 retail storefronts, Old City had an average vacancy rate of 10 percent in 2019, Itzkowitz said. By December 2020, the rate had rocketed to 20 percent vacancy. As of spring 2022, it has dropped to 15 percent.

“Our goal is to get that number back to the pre-pandemic national average,” he said. That goal is within reach: openings and re-openings have steadily increased in Old City, with 30 new businesses opening in 2021 and 12 new businesses opening so far in 2022. “These stores are not chain stores, you can’t go to King of Prussia and see the goods that are for sale in Old City,” he said, adding that the neighborhood is home to the most women-owned businesses in the city, usually independently and locally sourced.

Itzkowitz said the residential population has grown by nearly 30 percent in the past five years, which has buoyed neighborhood business. “The resolve of residents of Old City, their support, was incredible,” he said. “They really sustained a lot of the businesses, as much as they could afford to.”

The reopening — and booking of — area hotels is promising, Itzkowitz said, as well as workers’ returning to offices.

“We’re happy to have people coming back.”
Marlon Paz L’99 joined Latham & Watkins LLP’s Washington and New York City offices as a Partner. He previously led Mayer Brown LLP’s Broker-Dealer Regulation and Compliance practice. In his new role, he works with Latham’s capital markets practice and financial institutions industry team, as well as serving as a corporate department member. Paz advises securities brokers and financial firms on related legislation and Financial Industry Regulatory Authority enforcement, which includes advice on internal investigations and compliance. Additionally, Paz is an adjunct faculty member at Penn Carey Law and Georgetown Law, where he teaches about U.S. regulation of financial institutions and securities markets. He also teaches about securities laws and the Internet and international business litigation. Paz is the American Bar Association Business Law Section’s international business law committee chairman and serves the ABA’s Vice Chair of the federal regulation of securities committee.

Jeremy Rosof C’96, L’99, an attorney in Shaub, Ahmuty, Citrin & Spratt, LLP’s Long Island, New York office, has been promoted to Partner. He was previously a Counsel at the international law firm of Dewey & LeBoeuf LLP.

Thea Kendler L’01 was sworn in as the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Export Administration at the Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS), following unanimous confirmation by the U.S. Senate. In this role, she leads Export Administration’s highly trained technical professionals in controlling the export of dual-use and military items for national security and foreign policy reasons, analyzing the impact of export controls, and supporting the U.S. defense industrial base. Among other responsibilities, Kendler chairs the Advisory Committee on Export Policy, which resolves interagency policy disputes related to export license applications submitted to BIS. To advance U.S. national security and foreign policy interests, she regularly engages with Congress, industry, academia, and other stakeholders on the nature and scope of BIS’s activities and the Export Administration Regulations. Kendler joined BIS as an experienced export controls, sanctions, and national security attorney. Before joining the Biden Administration, she was a prosecutor in the Department of Justice’s National Security Division, handling complex investigations and prosecutions affecting U.S. national security and strategic trade controls.

Austin So L’02 joined ceiling tile manufacturer Armstrong World Industries Inc. as its Vice President, General Counsel, and Secretary. He was previously cemetery operator StoneMor Inc.’s Senior Vice President and Chief Legal Officer. In his new role, So leads the company’s legal organization and oversees its sustainability and compliance programs.

Kirsten Zeberkiewicz L’02 was promoted to Counsel at Morris James’ Corporate and Commercial Litigation group. Zeberkiewicz focuses her practice on litigation involving corporations and alternative entities formed under Delaware law. She handles corporate governance and complex commercial litigation matters involving fiduciary duty claims, contract disputes, M&A challenges, and summary proceedings in the Delaware Court of Chancery and the Delaware Supreme Court. In addition to her practice, Zeberkiewicz is a contributing author to Morris James’s Delaware Business Litigation Report, a blog of all recent and significant Delaware corporate and commercial law decisions.

Marian Waldmann Agarwal L’04 was elected Partner at Morrison & Foerster’s New York office, where she is a member of the litigation department and part of the Privacy + Data Security Group. She counsels clients on privacy and data security matters in the U.S. and across the globe and works with companies on designing and building privacy programs, performing global assessments of privacy compliance programs, and has a special expertise in cross border movement of data.

Jennifer Bullock L’04 rejoined Morgan Lewis & Bockius LLP as a Partner in its Labor Employment group in Miami. She advises clients on labor and employment law compliance and defends employers in disputes involving allegations of discrimination, retaliation, and wage and hour law violations. She also helps employers develop sexual harassment policies and investigates claims of sexual harassment in the workplace. Bullock began her relationship with Morgan Lewis as a summer associate while in law school, and she joined the firm as a full-time associate upon graduation. From there, she moved to the Florida law firm Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadef & Sitterson before rejoining Morgan Lewis, then left once more to find her own practice and serve on the leadership team of the domestic violence center Women in Distress.

Nicole Isaac L’04 was appointed by President Biden as Commissioner, U.S. Commission for the Preservation of
Edward “Jay” Southgate C’00, G’00, L’04 joined Dechert LLP’s Global Finance practice as an asset finance and securitization Partner based in New York. An experienced capital markets lawyer, he represents financial institutions, issuers and underwriters in private placements of residential mortgage and asset-backed securities, with a particular focus on consumer lending and fintech. Additionally, he counsels financial institutions in connection with negotiating flow purchase and servicing arrangements with platform originators, and the warehouse financing of a broad range of products, including credit card and equipment receivables. He was previously Of Counsel at Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP.

Jules Albert L’05 joined Law360’s 2022 Mergers & Acquisitions Editorial Advisory Board. The board provides feedback on Law360’s coverage. Albert is a Partner at the law firm Kessler Topaz Meltzer & Check, where he has spent his entire career protecting the rights of institutional investors and recovered hundreds of millions of dollars for shareholders.

Abigail Hazlett L’05 was selected to serve on Law360’s Pennsylvania Editorial Advisory Board, which provides feedback on Law360’s coverage and expert insight on how to best shape future coverage. Hazlett is a Partner in Troutman Pepper’s White Collar + Government Investigations Practice Group. Her practice focuses on representing companies in federal and state criminal and civil investigations and enforcement actions, including actions alleging violations of the False Claims Act, and other types of criminal and civil fraud. She also regularly conducts internal investigations and advises on compliance matters for her clients, including clients in the pharmaceutical, health care, and financial services industries. Outside the firm, Hazlett is an active member of the Philadelphia community. She is a Committee of Seventy board member and serves on the advisory board of Beasley School of Law’s Center for Compliance and Ethics at Temple University.

Daniel Howley L’05 launched a boutique antitrust law firm, Rule Garza Howley LLP, as a Founding Partner. The Washington, D.C.-based firm focuses on providing sophisticated advice to clients on critical M&A, government investigations, and litigation. Howley was previously at Paul, Weiss, where he advised companies on antitrust matters, including litigation, mergers and acquisitions, and civil and criminal investigations. He has represented clients in many of the leading antitrust matters in recent years. These representations include Farelogix Inc. in connection with the review of its agreement to be acquired by Sabre Corporation and the subsequent litigation and trial verdict in favor of Farelogix and Sabre over the U.S. Department of Justice. He represented Cigna in connection with the antitrust review of its $67 billion acquisition of Express Scripts and its proposed $54 billion merger with Anthem, Nestlé USA in connection with a complex multidistrict antitrust proceeding involving alleged price fixing of chocolate confectionaries, and US Airways in connection with the antitrust review and related government litigation on its $17 billion merger with American Airlines.

Sandra Millor L’05 joined Reed Smith as a Partner in international arbitration at the firm’s Miami office. She was previously a Partner at Akerman LLP, where she had worked for just over a decade, and represented America’s Heritage Abroad. The Commission, established in 1985, ensures that sites important to populations impacted by Nazism, Communism, and the Cold War would be preserved for future generations. The Commission’s mission is to identify, protect, and preserve cemeteries, monuments, and historic buildings in Eastern and Central Europe that are associated with U.S. heritage. Isaac had been leading the International Strategic Response team, which focuses on risk mitigation efforts in At-Risk countries and for all global elections, at Meta. Prior, Isaac was Senior Director of North America Policy at LinkedIn, where she managed a team that engaged with local, state, provincial, and federal policymakers across North America. Isaac previously served in the White House as Special Assistant to the President for Legislative Affairs and as Deputy Director of Legislative Affairs for then-Vice President Biden.

Elizabeth McManus L’04, GRD’14 rejoined Ballard Spahr LLP in January 2022 as Of Counsel in the firm’s Philadelphia and New York offices. She is an experienced labor and employment lawyer who represents businesses and organizations nationwide—including global banks, consulting firms, major league sports teams, and health systems—in complex employment litigation in both federal and state courts as well as before administrative agencies. McManus litigates cases on sensitive topics involving race, gender, and age discrimination, as well as leave and accommodation matters. She has conducted high-profile internal investigations, and counsels private and public employers on a wide range of labor and employment issues, including workplace policies, terminations, and layoffs.

Abigail Hazlett L’05 joined Reed Smith’s 2022 Mergers & Acquisitions Editorial Advisory Board. The board provides feedback on Law360’s coverage. Albert is a Partner at the law firm Kessler Topaz Meltzer & Check, where he has spent his entire career protecting the rights of institutional investors and recovered hundreds of millions of dollars for shareholders.
numerous Latin American clients. Millor focuses on Latin American litigation matters, serving as counsel in large multimillion-dollar cross border commercial litigation cases and advising class action, real estate and Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act cases.

Danielle Rosenthal L’05 joined Faegre Drinker as Counsel in the Intellectual Property practice group at the firm’s New York office. Her practice focuses on patent litigation matters. She has extensive experience in all aspects of patent litigation, having represented clients on both the plaintiff and defense sides, before various federal district courts, and in appeals to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit and the U.S. Supreme Court. Rosenthal has litigated patents in a variety of technical areas, including mobile phone operating systems and software, natural language processing technology, online content management, battery components, medical devices, and financial services. She was previously an attorney at Robins Kaplan LLP.

Ethan Schultz L’05 joined Latham & Watkins LLP as a Partner working on energy transactions in the firm’s Houston and Washington, D.C., offices. He joined the firm’s Mergers and Acquisitions practice as well as its Energy and Infrastructure group. Schultz counsels investors and project developers on acquisitions and divestitures, joint ventures, and other transactions in the energy and infrastructure space, with a focus on renewable energy. He spent the previous 16 years at Skadden Arps Slate Meagher & Flom LLP. Schultz’s notable past work includes his representation of J.P. Morgan Asset Management on a 2016 deal to purchase a solar power developer and his representation of NorthWestern Corp. on its $900 million purchase of 11 hydroelectric facilities in Montana. Meredith Slawe L’05 joined Skadden Arps Slate Meagher & Flom LLP as Partner in the firm’s Mass Torts, Insurance and Consumer litigation group. She previously co-chaired Cozen O’Connor’s Class Action group and has defended clients against class actions involving privacy, false advertising and Telephone Consumer Protection Act claims. She also helps clients with mass arbitration efforts.

The Honorable Valerie Figueredo L’06 was appointed to serve as the newest federal magistrate judge for the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York. She was previously an appellate specialist in the Manhattan district attorney’s office, where she served since 2017. Judge Figueredo also previously worked as an Assistant Solicitor General for the state attorney general’s office. She has argued a broad array of civil appeals raising contract, labor, employment discrimination and equal protection claims in state and federal court. She has also written amicus briefs on behalf of multi-state coalitions before the U.S. Supreme Court. Magistrate judges, known for their ability to streamline the court’s caseload, are appointed by a majority vote of a court’s active district judges. They serve eight-year terms and are tasked with facilitating the disposition of certain civil and criminal cases, particularly by handling pretrial motions and hearings, and can preside over certain civil trials with the consent of the parties.

Jennifer Guerra L’07 joined Stites & Harbison, PLLC as a Partner in the firm’s Atlanta office. Her practice encompasses commercial and business litigation, and in particular, the counseling and representation of lawyers, accountants, and other professionals. Her practice covers real estate, trusts and estates, corporate governance, tax, audit and data privacy and security. Having been a general liability litigator for almost a decade, Guerra is particularly skilled in representing lawyers as plaintiffs or defendants. She also handles product liability, insurance coverage and other substantial litigation matters in both state and federal court. Guerra was previously a Partner at Copeland, Stair, Kingma & Lovell, LLP.

Clare Putnam Pozos L’07 joined Dechert LLP’s litigation practice as a Partner in the firm’s Philadelphia office. She was previously First Assistant U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania and also served in other leadership capacities, including as Senior Advisor to the U.S. Attorney, Chair of the Office’s Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee, and as a senior member of the Hiring Committee. During her time in leadership, Pozos oversaw the investigation and prosecution of cases involving a wide variety of federal crimes,
Brandon Skosnik L’07 joined Tucker Arensberg as Senior Counsel at the firm’s Pittsburgh headquarters. He focuses his practice on transactional law and privacy and data security. Skosnik is certified as a Certified Information Privacy Professional (CIPP®) by the International Association of Privacy Professionals. In addition to previously serving firms in Silicon Valley, his technical background includes serving as in-house counsel for an engineering consulting firm and most recently acting as in-house legal counsel for North America for a global access control technology company.

Kirsten White L’07, a Partner at Fox Rothschild, has been selected as a Northeast Trailblazer by The American Lawyer. She was recognized for developing legal strategies that position the firm’s private education and legalized cannabis sector clients ahead of growing unionization pressures, allowing them to forge productive labor-management relationships that advance their business goals. Working alongside colleagues in Fox’s Cannabis Law Practice, White provides extensive labor relations counseling for one of the country’s largest retailers of legal cannabis, which operates in six states and employs hundreds of workers represented by different local affiliates of one of the industry’s largest and most influential international unions. White’s work for educational institutions comes as K-12 independent schools increasingly face unionization efforts. White also counsels higher education institutions in matters arising under the National Labor Relations Act — including with respect to employer bargaining obligations related to COVID-19 protocols and other pandemic-related labor-management issues.

Brooke Alexander L’08 was promoted to Partner at Boies Schiller Flexner LLP’s Armonk, New York office. She practices complex commercial litigation, with a focus on class action and First Amendment matters. Alexander manages cases across multiple fronts, including internal investigations, media strategy, regulatory agency involvement, law enforcement investigations, and alternative dispute resolution. She has in-depth experience in the areas of insurance, medical devices, business valuation, false advertising, and defamation. She also works with the firm’s pro bono practice.

Justin Duda L’08 was promoted to Partner at Young Conaway Stargatt & Taylor LLP. His practice area is commercial litigation, and he focuses on mergers and acquisitions, corporate restructurings, and financing matters. Duda acts as outside counsel to regional clients, whom he regularly advised in contractual and corporate governance matters. He also represents institutional trustees, and high net worth individuals looking to take advantage of Delaware’s comprehensive trust laws and highly regarded court system, including transfers of trust situs, decantings, and trust modifications.

Maureen Linch L’08 returned to Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton LLP in its San Francisco office after serving as a Partner for more than a decade at Morrison & Foerster LLP. As a tax Partner at the firm, Linch handles tax aspects of transactional matters and structuring and planning for companies at all stages. Additionally, she has experience with tax law in renewable energy investments and bankruptcies and restructurings.

Daren Shaver L’08 was promoted to Partner at Hanson Bridgett LLP, an AmLaw 200 law firm, for all of California. Shaver joined the firm’s Business Section in 2019. His experience includes matters spanning areas such as fund formation, tax credits, real estate, venture capital, partnerships, and tax-exempt entities, which includes federal and state income tax matters.

Christopher DeNicola L’09 was promoted to Counsel at Dewey Pegno & Kramarsky LLP, where he represents U.S. and international companies in complex litigation, arbitration and dispute resolution proceedings.

Miriam Nemeth L’09 has been promoted to Litigation Director at Advancement Project, a racial justice nonprofit in Washington, D.C. She had been a senior staff attorney, Deputy Director of the justice project, and most recently Acting Director of that project. Previously, Nemeth worked in the Civil Rights and Employment group at Cohen Milstein and at Goodman & Hurwitz, a police brutality boutique law firm in Detroit.
Stan Barrett C’97, L’10 was promoted to Partner at McGuireWoods’s office in Red Bank, New Jersey. He is a member of the firm’s Corporate Transactions & Business Law and Litigation practice groups. Barrett focuses on communications regulatory law; litigation, including extensive experience in complex commercial litigation and contract disputes; white collar defense, having defended clients before FINRA, the SEC, and the DOJ; and corporate compliance.

Nathan Denning L’10 was named a Partner at Wiggin and Dana LLP’s New York office, which he joined in January 2021. His litigation practice involves various individual and corporate legal concerns, ranging from mergers and acquisitions to bankruptcy and antitrust issues. He has also represented commercial and individual clients facing U.S. Department of Justice and U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission investigations. His expertise in these fields led him to co-writing a book chapter on disclosure issues during SEC enforcement proceedings.

Jonathan Ellis L’10 joined McGuireWoods as a Partner in Raleigh, North Carolina, and Washington, D.C., and co-leader of the firm’s appeals and issues team. He was previously Assistant to the Solicitor General, a role in which he argued nine cases before the U.S. Supreme Court and was the primary author of dozens of briefs filed with the high court. He briefed and argued cases involving patent, copyright, ERISA, international arbitration, telecommunications, securities, administrative, and constitutional law. At McGuireWoods, Ellis co-leads an appellate team recognized nationally for achieving critical victories in high-stakes cases, helping clients reverse losses and defend significant wins, and providing critical guidance on clients’ most difficult legal issues wherever they arise. He is also a member of the firm’s Complex Commercial Litigation department.

Aileen Fair L’10 joined Law360’s 2022 Health Care Editorial Advisory Board. The board provides feedback on Law360’s coverage and expert insight on how best to shape future coverage. Fair is Senior Corporate Counsel of litigation and government investigations, antitrust, and competition law at Bristol Myers Squibb.

David Schecter L’10 was appointed Partner at Miller Barondess LLP in Los Angeles. He is a trial attorney whose practice focuses on media, technology, entertainment, and environmental litigation. Throughout his career, he has represented numerous prominent businesses and individuals, including celebrities and musical groups. His recent victories include securing an arbitration award that voided restrictive covenants and allowed former employees of a multi-billion-dollar investment company to form a competing business. He also obtained a $3 million settlement on the eve of trial in a police shooting case, among others.

Rochelle Thomas L’10 was promoted to Executive Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary at Spirit Realty Capital, Inc., which is a net lease real estate investment trust that invests in single-tenant, operationally essential real estate. In connection with the promotion, Thomas became a member of Spirit’s Executive Leadership Team and a voting member of Spirit’s Investment Committee. She previously served as the company’s Senior Vice President and Deputy General Counsel with primary responsibility for the legal division, including advising on real estate, corporate and securities, litigation, insurance, human capital management, and ESG issues. She is a founding member of Spirit’s Diversity Council and Women’s Leadership Council and has been a principal driver in Spirit’s ESG efforts.

Linda Ann Bartosch L’11 was promoted to Partner at Dechert, where she focuses her practice on a broad range of real estate finance, structured finance, and investment matters. Her expertise includes the purchase, sale, financing, and servicing of single-family rental portfolios, residential mortgage loans, bridge loans, mortgage servicing rights, and other types of commercial and consumer-facing products related to residential properties, with a particular focus on securitizations. In addition, she advises clients on construction lending and lease financing. Bartosch joined Dechert as an associate in 2011.

M. Shams Billah L’11 was elected Partner at Hughes Hubbard & Reed LLP’s New York office, where he is a member of the firm’s Banking & Financial Services practice group. He maintains a broad corporate finance practice and is one of the few practitioners in the field that equally represents both lenders and borrowers, providing full-service representation on the entire life cycle of a debt transaction, including thorough restructurings and bankruptcies. Billah has particular experience in acquisition finance and private credit transactions and is an award-winning thought leader in the niche practice area of Islamic finance. In the past decade, Billah has advised on over $250 billion of
transactions for lenders and corporate borrowers globally.

Frank Olander C’07, L’11 was promoted to Special Counsel at Schulte Roth & Zabel in New York. He focuses his practice on the representation of private funds and investment advisers in connection with their structuring, formation, and ongoing operational needs and regulatory and compliance matters. Olander practices in the areas of complex commercial, real estate, bankruptcy, and securities litigation in federal and state courts and a variety of alternative dispute resolution venues, including AAA and JAMS arbitrations. He has represented public companies, private companies, individuals, and financial services industry clients, including financial institutions, hedge funds, and private equity funds in a wide range of commercial disputes.

Jason Busch L’11 was promoted to Partner at Paul Hastings LLP’s Houston office. He focuses on commercial lending, leveraged finance, and other financial transactions, primarily in the energy industry.

Adam Cohen L’11 was promoted to Partner at Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson LLP. He is an M&A lawyer in New York who worked with Catalyst Inc. on its $1 billion purchase of Bettera Brands LLC from Highlander Partners LP last year as well as Suntex Marinas Investors LLC on a recapitalization led by Centerbridge Partners LP and Resilience Capital Partners LLC.

Katherine Unger Davis GEd’06, GEd’08, L’11 was promoted to Partner at Dechert. She joined the firm as an associate in 2013, and her practice areas include litigation, complex commercial litigation, appellate, products liability and mass torts, and trials.

Mike Gorenstein L’11, founder of Cronos Group Inc., returned to the global cannabinoid company as Chairman, President, and Chief Executive Officer. He previously served as Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer of Cronos until September 2020, when he transitioned to the Executive Chairman role. His immediate areas of focus include delivering margin accretive growth focusing on adult-use product formats; continuing to drive rare cannabinoid development and commercialization strategy; cutting costs and focusing investments to the highest ROI opportunities; and leading a successful transition from Peace Naturals Campus to a more agile supply chain. In addition, Gorenstein is a co-founder and passive member of Gotham Green Partners.

Stephanie Hoffmann GR’11, L’11 was elevated to Partner at Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP’s Nashville, Tennessee, office. She is a member of the firm’s Healthcare Practice group where she serves clients on an array of regulatory, operational, and transactional matters. She regularly assists hospitals, healthcare systems, and other provider types with mergers and acquisitions, particularly in connection with the complex licensure and regulatory questions that arise during transactions. Hoffmann also advises clients on Medicare and Medicaid certification, compliance, and payment matters, as well as out-of-network balance billing law and other issues affecting provider payment.

Abe Kwon C’08, G’11, L’11 joined Troutman Pepper’s Philadelphia office as a Partner in the corporate practice team. Kwon advises emerging private companies with initial formation, throughout their life cycle and including any exits through acquisition or initial public offerings. He specializes in the health care, life science, and technology industries. He was previously an attorney at Cooley LLC.

Doha Mekki GR’11, L’11 was named the permanent Deputy Assistant Attorney General for the U.S. Department of Justice’s Antitrust Division, after she took on the role on an acting basis in November 2021. Mekki is leading the DOJ’s first-ever criminal prosecution of alleged wage-fixing agreements, which was set for trial in April. In that case, the government has accused executives of a physical therapist staffing company of violating antitrust laws when they allegedly entered into an agreement with a competing staffing company to lower rates paid to physical therapists and physical therapist assistants for in-home care visits in the Dallas-Fort Worth area. Mekki joined the Antitrust Division in 2015 as a trial attorney. From 2018 to 2020, she was detailed to the Assistant Attorney General’s Office, focusing on civil antitrust enforcement and criminal enforcement in labor markets. From 2020 until 2021, she served as an Assistant Chief in the Antitrust Division’s Defense, Industrials and Aerospace Section. Last year, she served concurrently as the division’s Special Counsel for Labor.

Remy Nshimiyimana LPS’08, L’11 was promoted to Partner at Faegre Drinker, where he is a corporate attorney at the firm’s Philadelphia office.

Jacob Sand L’11 was promoted to Partner at Montgomery McCracken Walker & Rhoads LLP’s Philadelphia office. His practice focuses on matters involving restrictive covenants, theft of intellectual property, allegations of institutional negligence, employment disputes, shareholder disputes, false and deceptive advertising claims, hacking and cybersecurity

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incidents, contract disputes, and defective products.

Amy Vegari L’11 was promoted to Partner at Patterson Belknap Webb & Tyler LLP, a New York-based law firm. An attorney in the firm’s litigation department, she focuses on complex commercial litigation and antitrust law. Her practice includes class action defense, white collar defense and investigations, and pharmaceutical litigation. Vegari represents clients through all stages of litigation, including pre-litigation counseling, mediation, trial, and appeal.

Sharon Cohen L’12 was promoted to Partner at Davis+Gilbert LLP.

Wai Choy L’12, a Partner at Proskauer Rose LLP, has been named a Rising Star by Law360. Choy played a lead role in advising on some of the most significant recent transactions at the intersection of media and technology, including the $3.2 billion merger between AT&T’s WarnerMedia and Discovery Inc., earning him a spot among the media and entertainment attorneys under age 40 honored by Law360 as Rising Stars.

Ian Nussbaum L’12 has been named a Rising Star by Law360. Nussbaum is a Partner at Cooley LLP. He helped represent Tableau in its $15.7 billion sale to Salesforce and advised NeoBus Technologies on its $918 million deal with Lumentum, earning him a spot among the mergers and acquisitions lawyers under age 40 honored by Law360.

Pedro Gassant L’12, a Partner at Holland & Knight, was selected to represent the firm as a member of the Leadership Council on Legal Diversity (LCLD) 2022 class of Fellows, participating in a landmark program created to identify, train, and advance the next generation of leaders in the legal profession. LCLD is an organization of more than 400 members who serve as either General Counsel of major corporations or Managing Partners of the nation’s leading law firms, who are committed to creating a more diverse and inclusive legal profession. Gassant is a Miami governmental advocacy and development attorney who focuses his practice on land use, zoning, and procurement matters. Specifically, he handles Comprehensive Development Master Plan amendments, zoning district boundary changes, variance applications, Environmental Quality Control Board applications concerning septic tank and diesel fuel variances and approvals of sewage treatment package plants, and other matters in Miami-Dade County and the 34 municipalities within the county.

Vincent Ling GR’12, L’12 was promoted to Partner at Munger, Tolles & Olson. At the firm’s Los Angeles office, he focuses on intellectual property litigation and counseling, including patent infringement and trade secret matters. He has represented clients across a range of industries, spanning biopharmaceuticals, wireless communications, and computer technology. Ling joined the firm after clerking for the Honorable Sharon Prost of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit.

Marc Rogers L’12 was promoted to Partner at Davis+Gilbert LLP.

Christine Paik Choi L’13 joined The Walt Disney Company as Associate Principal Counsel–Consumer Products, Games, and Publishing, where she combines her IP legal experience with her operational book experience. Prior to joining Disney, she was a tech and IP transactions lawyer at Weil, Gotshal & Manges before changing careers to become a production editor at Farrar, Straus and Giroux.

Armin Ghiam L’13 was promoted to Partner at Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP’s New York office. Ghiam focuses his practice on litigation, counseling, and prosecution in the fields of trademark, patent, and copyright law. With an international background in law, finance, and technology, he helps companies understand the complexities of intellectual property law to make important business decisions and achieve their objectives.

Sydney Scott L’13 joined Gibson Dunn & Crutcher LLP’s Houston office as a Partner in commercial litigation. Her work involves commercial litigation in the energy, chemical, and construction industries, as well as white collar investigations. Scott spent the previous five years as a Partner with Smyser Kaplan & Veselka LLP.

Margot Campbell L’14 joined Rule Garza Howley LLP, a Washington, D.C.-based boutique antitrust law firm, as a Founding Partner. She was previously Senior Counsel for Competition Law at Johnson & Johnson, where she provided cross-sector legal advice supporting the global antitrust review of the company’s mergers and acquisitions, counseled the business with respect to general antitrust matters, and drove training and policy initiatives. Campbell has significant experience advising clients on antitrust compliance, mergers and acquisitions, conducting investigations, and in litigation brought by regulatory agencies, as well as in private antitrust litigation.

Daniel Blumenthal L’14 was promoted to Special Counsel at Schulte Roth & Zabel LLP. He is a fund formation
lawyer at the firm’s Investment Management group and focuses on the representation of private funds and investment advisers in connection with their structuring, formation and ongoing operational needs, and on regulatory and compliance matters.

**Jackie Hamilton L’14** was named a Partner at Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati in the firm’s Mergers and Acquisitions practice. She has extensive transactional experience, having represented clients in both public and private mergers, stock purchases, asset acquisitions, tender and exchange offers, SPAC transactions, and other strategic corporate transactions. In addition, she has counseled privately and publicly held companies on general corporate governance and disclosure matters.

**Daniel Levin C’11, L’14** was promoted to Partner at Cozen O’Connor’s New York office. Levin practices commercial real estate in New York with a particular emphasis on real estate finance and acquisitions, as well as dispositions of properties. He has advised lenders and borrowers on construction loans, balance sheet loans, syndicated loan transactions, leasehold finance, mezzanine loans, and loan modifications in connection with distressed real estate.

**Alex Potter GR’14, L’14** was promoted to Counsel at Roche Freedman LLP’s New York office. Potter is a litigator with broad experience in high-stakes commercial litigation and arbitration at both the trial and appellate levels. He has litigated several cases worth hundreds of millions of dollars from inception through trial before AAA and ICC tribunals and in federal and state courts, often involving complex issues of foreign law. Potter has also assisted in briefing numerous cases before the U.S. Supreme Court, both on behalf of parties and amici curiae.

**Harper Seldin C’11, L’14** was promoted to Partner at Cozen O’Connor’s Philadelphia office. Seldin practices business litigation, commercial disputes, and complex litigation, representing large public and privately held corporations in contract disputes in federal and state court.

**Steve Stoute L’14** was named the 25th President of Canisius College, with his tenure beginning July 1. He was previously Vice President for Strategic Initiatives and Chief of Staff at DePaul University in Chicago. Stoute joined DePaul, the largest Catholic university in the country, in June 2018 to serve as Chief of Staff, and he had served as Vice President for Strategic Initiatives since June 2020. In his role, Stoute served as the university president’s senior adviser. His responsibilities included facilitating the implementation of the university’s strategic plan, leading transformative institutional projects, as well as serving as administrative liaison to the board of trustees on key executive and strategic matters. An attorney, Stoute previously worked as an Associate specializing in corporate and securities matters at Dechert LLP in Philadelphia. His higher education experience includes work at Princeton University, first as an Assistant Director of the Princeton Varsity Club in the Department of Athletics and later as a capital giving officer in the office of development. He was the life skills coordinator in the Department of Athletics and later as a capital giving officer in the office of development. Stoute currently serves as a member of the Penn Carey Law Alumni Society Board of Managers.

**Sean Williamson L’14** was elected Partner at Wyatt, Tarrant & Combs, LLP’s Louisville office. Williamson is a member of the firm’s Litigation & Dispute Resolution Service Team, where he represents a broad range of clients in a variety of complex commercial disputes, including products liability and warranty matters, fiduciary litigation, and class actions. In addition, Williamson works closely with the firm’s Intellectual Property Protection & Litigation Service Team, assisting businesses and innovators with the protection of valuable, competitive information, such as trade secrets and non-competition issues.

**Sheehan Band L’15** was selected to participate in the Minority Corporate Counsel Association (MCCA) Sources of Success professional development program designed to help create a strong pipeline of diverse legal leaders. He is a Financial Markets Litigation and Enforcement Senior Associate at Katten, where he also serves as Co-Chair of the firm’s Committee for Racial and Ethnic Diversity (CRED). The yearlong MCCA program, tailored for mid-level attorneys from corporate legal departments and law firms, focuses on identifying successful career management and effective communication strategies, and developing leadership and management skills. At Katten, Band concentrates his practice on litigation and enforcement matters with a focus on the financial services industry and regulatory and internal investigations. He also advises clients on the developing laws and regulations related to cryptoassets and blockchain technology, and regularly participates on panels and authors articles in that space. As CRED Co-Chair, Band collaborates with firm leadership on firm-wide diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives. He is also recruits and mentors diverse junior and summer
associates, maintains an active pro bono practice, and sits on the board of Asian Americans Advancing Justice | Chicago, Pan-Asian advocacy organization.

**Stephane Essama L’16, WG’16** was promoted to Principal at Flexpoint Ford, where he has been a member of the firm’s financial services private equity team. He joined Flexpoint Ford in 2018 as a Vice President and is currently involved in several Flexpoint portfolio companies, including AFH Financial Group.

**Connor Lynch L’16** joined Greenberg Traurig LLP’s Delaware office as an Associate in the firm’s corporate practice. Lynch focuses his practice on matters involving Delaware limited liability companies, limited partnerships, and general partnerships. He advises on transactional matters, and renders legal opinions in connection with investment funds, structured finance transactions, mergers, and other transactions. Lynch handles matters involving Delaware alternative entities with respect to formation, operation, governance, dissolution, and enforceability matters. He was previously at Richards, Layton & Finger, P.A.

**Ralph Culpepper GED’18, L’18** joined Parker Poe’s Atlanta office as an Associate. He primarily focuses his practice on education law and employment litigation. He litigates at all levels, from state and federal trial courts to the appellate courts.

**César Gálvez LLM’18** was appointed Partner at Chilean law firm Guerrero Olivos. He is a member of the firm’s Corporate, Mergers and Acquisitions, and Capital Markets practice. Gálvez has specialized in local and international corporate transactions, debt issuances, restructurings, and international financing.

**Leah Novak L’18** married **Alex Walsh L’18** on July 5, 2021. During their time at the Law School, Novak served as Editor-in-Chief of the *University of Pennsylvania Law Review* and Walsh was the Managing Editor. Novak is currently in a clerking position and Walsh recently joined Gunderson Dettmer in New York.

**Alexander Dickinson L’20** was admitted to the Delaware Bar. He practices in Delaware at Morris, Nichols, Arstiz & Tunnell LLP’s Corporate & Commercial Litigation group.

**Patricia Mundy ML’20** was named a Member of the Sentrx Ophthalmology Scientific and Medical Advisory Board. Sentrx Animal Care, Inc., is an animal health company transforming complex biotechnologies into user-friendly care solutions supporting the long-term well-being of animals.

**Matthew Copeland L’21** joined Bradley’s Nashville office as an Associate in the law firm’s Healthcare practice group.

**Eli Levy L’21** joined Faegre Drinker’s Philadelphia office as an Associate. He practices insurance law.

**Larissa Morgan GR’21, L’21** joined Faegre Drinker’s Philadelphia office as an Associate. She practices healthcare law.

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**BOOK SHELF**

**Lawyers earn a living listening, speaking, and writing. So it’s no surprise that Penn Carey Law alumni write books. And write books. And write books.**

In just the last couple years, our prolific graduates have penned and published numerous books on eclectic subjects from education policy to diplomacy to copyright rules in the digital age. They’ve authored novels and memoirs, nonfiction, and self-help books.

With that in mind, we link classmates to this great outpouring of creativity in what will be an online rolling compendium of new titles with, as they say in publishing, a healthy backlist. Please go to [www.law.upenn.edu/alumni/digital-bookshelf/](http://www.law.upenn.edu/alumni/digital-bookshelf/) for articles and summaries of the books and to submit information on upcoming books.
IN MEMORIAM

M ichael L. Wachter, William B. Mary and Mary Barb Johnson Professor of Law and Economics, Emeritus, passed away on September 3.

Wachter was a prodigious, award-winning scholar, an influential teacher who nurtured numerous high-profile careers, and a visionary builder of the University of Pennsylvania’s Carey Law School’s renowned Institute for Law & Economics (ILE). He was emblematic of the movement to infuse a cross-disciplinary approach into legal education and other fields of study.

During his remarkable 50-year career at Penn, Wachter taught at the Law School, the School of Arts and Sciences (Professor of Economics), and the Wharton School (Professor of Management) and served as the University’s Deputy Provost.

“Michael Wachter’s contributions to Penn and to the Law School cannot be overstated,” said Ted Ruger, Dean of the Law School and Bernard G. Segal Professor of Law. “He reshaped how we think about issues surrounding corporate law with his singular vision and inspired and launched generations of students into fulfilling careers through his dedicated teaching and mentorship. We mourn his loss but celebrate a consequential life.”

Ed Rock L’83 served alongside Wachter as Co-Director of the ILE.

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Before his retirement in 2020, Wachter established himself as one of the premier scholars in the field of Labor Law and Economics and then later in Corporate Law and Corporate Finance.

Along the way, he became a trusted advisor to deans and University presidents, as well as a sought-after economic consultant for the National Science Foundation, the Council of Economic Advisors, the Congressional Budget Office, and the Federal Reserve System, as well as a Commissioner on the Minimum Wage Study Commission established by Congress. Invariably, he brought to bear his intellectual curiosity.

“As much as he launched the ILE into prominence,” said Fitts, “Michael also consistently gave me very thoughtful advice as a young academic, and later as Dean. He was my institutional mentor—and friend.”

A productive scholar, Wachter edited a number of books and authored and co-authored well over 100 papers, earning multiple citations on best-of-the-year lists.

Wachter taught Corporate Law and Corporate Finance at the Law School.

In honor of Wachter’s surpassing achievements, the Law School established the Michael L. Wachter Distinguished Fellowship in Law and Policy in July 2020, naming The Honorable Leo E. Strine, Jr. L’88 to the position.

Strine, former Delaware Supreme Court Chief Justice and Chancellor on the Delaware Court of Chancery, taught an advanced seminar on Corporate Law with Wachter for a generation and has been an active participant in the ILE as a member of the board of advisors.

“The Penn community lost a quiet giant,” said Strine, a longtime Adjunct Professor at the Law School and now also Of Counsel at Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen, and Katz. “From his foundational role shaping the nationally influential Institute for Law & Economics, to his incredible management advice to Penn presidents and deans, to his innovative and thought-provoking scholarship, Michael was a role model for us all. But, most of all, it was his constant focus on doing what was best for the students and being there for them — that is the example we all should emulate.”

Wachter is remembered as the beloved husband of Susan Wachter, devoted father of Jessica Wachter and Jonathan Wachter, and cherished grandfather of eight. Susan and Jessica are tenured members of the Wharton School faculty.

The family suggests that contributions in Michael’s memory be made to the Michael Wachter Endowed Business Law Fund at the University of Pennsylvania Carey Law School or to the charity of your choice.
The Honorable Randy J. Holland L’72, Delaware’s longest serving and youngest appointed Justice in state history, died March 15 at the age of 75.

During his 30-year tenure on the bench, Justice Holland, who was reappointed by three different governors, wrote more than 700 opinions and thousands of case dispositive orders. A renowned state constitutional law expert, Justice Holland wrote landmark corporate law decisions and advocated on behalf of families.

“He took a very particular and passionate interest in the family court domain,” said the Honorable Leo Strine, Jr. L’88, Michael L. Wachter Distinguished Fellow in Law and Policy at the University of Pennsylvania Carey Law School and Delaware Supreme Court.
Chief Justice from 2014 to 2019. Justice Strine had known Justice Holland since joining the Delaware Bar in 1988. “This was an area where Randy put his sweat and time behind his words, not just for one year, but virtually his entire judicial service.”

In 2018, the Combined Campaign for Justice created the Randy J. Holland Family Law Endowment, which funds a full-time fellowship for serving low-income clients in family law matters.

Justice Holland grew up in Milford, Delaware and graduated from Swarthmore College before attending the Law School, where he received the Loughlin Award for legal ethics. He also earned a Master of Laws in Judicial Process from the University of Virginia Law School. Justice Holland began his career as a partner at Morris, Nichols, Arsht & Tunnell.

As a Delaware Supreme Court Justice, he was instrumental in several corporate decisions in a state known as the corporate capital of the world. Notable decisions included a 1995 ruling in Unitrin Inc. v. American General Corp. related to defensive measures by boards in hostile takeovers, fiduciary duty clarifications in Stone v. Ritter in 2006, and a 2014 confirmation of a business judgment rule in regard to mergers in Kahn v. M&F Worldwide Corp.

He was quite active in judicial pro bono work as well, Justice Strine said, and he genuinely cared about justice in the lives of everyday Delawareans.

He recalled when Justice Holland sought to eliminate an unelected aldermen’s court, a sentiment that received much pushback from local law enforcement. “It was not consistent with the justice system, and that’s what he took an interest in — it wasn’t necessarily sexy, but it was important to people’s lives and keeping the trust that people had that the law was being applied in an evenhanded and fair way.”

Justice Holland was also a key influence in the creation of the Delaware Bar’s robust Inns of Court, which he saw as a way to foster community within the Bar. “It’s a place to help acculturate younger lawyers, and he helped grow that movement,” Justice Strine said. “He understood that getting to know each other on a human basis really has value in making the system work.”

Justice Holland authored or co-authored 10 books, including two on the Delaware Constitution, two histories of the Delaware Supreme Court, and one on 20th century history of the Delaware Bar. It has become tradition for newly minted Delaware lawyers to receive one of his books. From 1991 through 2016, he taught courses on state constitutional and appellate law at the Widener University Delaware Law School.

Upon retiring from the bench in 2017, Justice Holland joined Wilson Sonsini Goodrich and Rosati’s Wilmington office as Senior Counsel. He was also often called upon to share his expertise on state constitutional law.

In 2019, he helped Governor John Carney with an appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court regarding a constitutional provision about political balance among state court judges. Late last year, state lawmakers sought his counsel in understanding a constitutional provision about petitioning to remove an elected official from office. Just this spring, Justice Holland helped Justice Strine with an amicus project by signing on and also securing other signatures.

“He gave an awful lot to his community and colleagues,” Justice Strine said. “He was a good man.”

Justice Holland is survived by his wife of more than 50 years, Ilona, son Ethan, and two granddaughters.
Marina. They bought a wooden-boat building company, Peterson-Viking, that had been in financial distress. They changed the name to Viking Yachts and moved the business next to their marina. Mr. Healey served as the company’s lawyer, bookkeeper and chief executive, while his brother oversaw shipbuilding.

Mr. Healey led the fight against a federal luxury tax on yachts in the 1990s. The 10 percent luxury tax was passed in 1991 but caused Viking’s business to suffer immensely and cost 3,200 people in the boat-building industry their jobs. Mr. Healey led both a grassroots and national campaign against the tax, and to garner national attention, set a boat in Narragansett Bay in Rhode Island on fire. The tax was repealed in 1993.

Mr. Healey had many philanthropic interests, which included building schools in impoverished areas of Mexico, and providing housing, medical assistance, education, food and clean water to the people of war-torn Sierra Leone.

Robert Healey, Sr. L’54

He had many philanthropic interests, which included building schools in impoverished areas of Mexico, and providing housing, medical assistance, education, food and clean water to the people of war-torn Sierra Leone through the Healey International Relief Foundation.

A devout Catholic and product of Catholic school education, he brought his business skills to the challenges facing Catholic schools in the U.S. and formed the Healey Education Foundation and the Catholic Partnership Schools in Camden.

Additionally, with his wife Ellen, Mr. Healey founded the Gleneayre Equestrian Program for at-risk youth. The program uses the powerful connection between horses and people to support learning, growth, and healing.

Mr. Healey was preceded in death by his first wife, Louise; and brothers Patrick and Edward. He is survived by his wife, Ellen; children Lizanne, Christine, Caroline, Toland, Robert, Alexis and Leigh; sixteen grandchildren; and his brother, Bill.

Dominic Toscani L’56, a lawyer and entrepreneur who cared about serving others, died Dec. 6. He was 93.

Mr. Toscani, a Philadelphia native, attended Girard College in his youth.
and received a scholarship to Bowdoin College, where he played quarterback for the school’s football team. He served two years in the Army during the Korean War and then attended the Law School at the University of Pennsylvania. He practiced law for 12 years before pursuing a career as an entrepreneur.

In 1964, Mr. Toscani became the CEO of Paris Business Forms, a company that prints business forms and still operates today.

Villanova football was a big part of Mr. Toscani’s life, and he became friends with the team coach in 1975. When the football program was dropped in 1980, Mr. Toscani was instrumental in working with former players, coaches, and staff to bring the program back.

A devout Catholic, he also established the Caritas Foundation as a private family nonprofit institution. Donations went to small Catholic colleges and to countries such as Nigeria and Peru to bring water to remote villages and to Nicaragua for housing construction.

Mr. Toscani was remembered by his family for his contagious laugh, immense energy, spirit of gratitude, and the many life lessons he imparted, particularly on the importance of love and family.

He was preceded in death by a daughter, Lisa. Mr. Toscani is survived by his wife of 65 years, Nancy; children Dom, Patrice, Gerry, Nancy, Sandi, Mark, Regina, MaryBeth, and Matthew; 17 grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

In 1960s

Edmund Hauff L’60, a native Allentown, Pennsylvania lawyer who cared about his community, died Dec. 14. He was 85.

Mr. Hauff graduated from Allentown High School in 1953 and from Dickinson College in 1957. Following his graduation from the Law School at the University of Pennsylvania in 1960, he was admitted to the Lehigh County Bar, the Superior Court of

Mr. Hauff had practiced private law in the City of Allentown since 1961. From 1961 to 1966, he served as Second Lieutenant in the Pennsylvania Army National Guard. He was also the former Solicitor to the Allentown-Lehigh County Board of Realtors; the former Instructor in Real Estate Law at Penn State University Continuing Education, Allentown Campus; the former Director and President of the Lehigh County Humane Society; Director and Trustee for the Blind Association (now Center for Vision Loss); former head of the professional division of the United Way; the former Director of the Allentown Sertoma Club; and a former Director of Lehigh County Bar Association.

Mr. Hauff was preceded in death by a brother, Thomas. He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Harriett “Bonnie” Hauff; daughters Anne, Lisa, and Sara; and six grandchildren.

Johanne Zerbey Martz L’61, one of the first female lawyers to practice in Schuylkill County and a former justice on the Pennsylvania Supreme Court, died Feb. 1. She was 89.

Ms. Martz was born in Pottsville, Pennsylvania and attended boarding school in New England and high school in Arizona. She fell in love with the western lifestyle and worked several summers at a pack station in the Sierra Mountains.

After graduating from Stanford University, Ms. Martz taught school in Hollister, Calif., where she lived until until enrolling at the Law School at the University of Pennsylvania. After receiving her law degree in 1961, she returned to her native Pottsville, where she was one of the first women to practice law in Schuylkill County. She also served as Assistant Attorney General in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania and following that role, served as counsel and officer at J.H. Zerbey Newspapers Inc.

Some of her many accomplishments and positions include crossing the Arctic Circle in 1959; serving on the boards of United Cerebral Palsy and the Union Bank; serving on the Pennsylvania Supreme Court and the Orphan’s Court; and running a popular bed and breakfast at her Patchwork Farm in Orwigsburg, Pennsylvania. She is listed in Who's Who of American Women and was a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Ms. Martz loved animals, particularly horses. She owned and bred horses throughout her life, and she showed Appaloosa and Saddlebred horses. She also welcomed strays of all kinds, including cats, dogs, goats, horses, chickens, and a pig.

Ms. Martz was remembered by family as an innovative thinker, and a mentor and benefactor to all of the neighborhood children, along with anyone else she knew who needed a friend.

She was preceded in death by her siblings Uzal and Elisabeth; and stepson Billy. Ms. Martz is survived by her sister-in-law, Jun; nephews Cameron and Eric; stepson Geoffrey; many extended relatives, and her beloved pets.

Francis Deegan L’64, a Long Island, New York lawyer who loved adventure, died April 18. He was 83.

Mr. Deegan met and fell in love with Nancy, his “best friend and true love,” at the University of Pennsylvania. The two raised four children together and reveled in their many travel adventures. They were avid sailors on Chado, their Whitby 42 sailboat, and sailed as far as Nova Scotia and the Florida Keys. By land cruiser, they explored Newfoundland, Labrador, and Alaska, and they also traveled cross-country several times in their RV, DreamCatcher.

Mr. Deegan was the former Mayor and Trustee of Sea Cliff, New York; past Exalted Ruler of the Glen Cove, New York BPOE; past president of the Glen Cove Lions Club; and a successful...
Upon graduation from the Law School, Martin Luther King, Jr., aspired to be a lawyer in Glen Cove as a founding partner of Crowe & Deegan.

He was remembered as a well-respected mentor who was honest and faithful. Mr. Deegan loved a good joke, music, and his family and friends. He was a fine-food connoisseur, a talented cook and an avid reader. His family recalled that he teared up at parades and was always ready for a party.

Mr. Deegan is survived by Nancy; children Dan, Kathleen, Mary, and Molly; and 10 grandchildren.

Neil Evans L’64, a highly respected lawyer in Cleveland and lover of art, music and Civil War history, died on December 26, 2021. He was 85. Upon graduation from the Law School, Mr. Evans practiced law in the Litigation department at Hahn, Loeser and Parks LLP for his entire career. He was a Senior Partner when he retired. Prior to law school, Evans served as a naval officer and remained in the U.S. Navy Reserves until 1968, attaining the rank of First Lieutenant. He was on the boards of The Ohio Chamber Orchestra and The Ohio Historical Society and was an active member in the Civil War Round Table and The Rowfant Club. After his retirement, Evans spent many years as President of the Cuyahoga County Soldiers and Sailors Monument Association, for which he contributed hours of service to the refurbishment and renovation of the beloved monument in Cleveland’s public square. He is survived by children Elizabeth, Henry, and Margaret and grandchildren Jeffrey, Suzie, David, Katie, Troy, Audrey Anna, Maria Irene, and Luke. He inspired two of his children, Elizabeth and Henry, to become attorneys as well.

Michael Sand C’63, L’66, PAR’94, PAR’97, who, in the words of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., aspired to be “a Drum Major for Justice” by devoting more than 55 years to justice-focused work, died May 15. He was 79.

Mr. Sand attended Upper Darby High School, received both his undergraduate and law degrees from Penn, and earned an M.P.A. degree from Penn State University. He dedicated his professional life to applying the values of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., pioneering the consumer rights, anti-poverty and community action movements that arose from the Civil Rights Movement of the 1960s. In 1966, he became a program planner for the Philadelphia Anti-Poverty Action Commission. He then served as Assistant Director of the Montgomery County Community Action Agency and Deputy Director of the Pennsylvania Department of Justice, Bureau of Consumer Protection.

He was the first Administrator of the Law Bureau of the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission and the first Executive Director of the Community Action Association of Pennsylvania. In 1982, Mr. Sand founded Sand Associates, a nationwide management consulting firm that provided training and consulting to nonprofit agencies. He led more than 1,000 workshops for nonprofits on topics including grant writing, fundraising, strategic planning, board development, effective supervision, personnel management, and establishing a volunteer program. Mr. Sand also wrote three books on managing and fundraising for nonprofits.

Upon retiring, Mr. Sand committed himself passionately to campaigns for economic and social justice. With great optimism and humor, he assumed the role of logistical coordinator by planning and facilitating effective meetings and promoting efficient and effective communication.

His community roles included President of Beth El Temple, President of the Board of the Pennsylvania Jewish Coalition and the American Society for Public Administration-Central PA Chapter, and Chair of the Governor’s Civic Commemoration of the Holocaust.

In recent years, Mr. Sand was a member of the Community Responders Network, the Central Pennsylvania Diversity Forum, the InterReligious Forum, the Progressive Jewish Voice, and the Minority Bar Committee and the Charitable Organizations Committee of the Pennsylvania Bar Association. He was also a board member of the Martin Luther King Leadership Development Institute and the National Catholic Center for Holocaust Education.

Mr. Sand was also a man who cherished time with his family and never missed special family events, with a particular fondness for Thanksgiving and Jewish holidays. He was a friend to many and maintained childhood friendships.

Mr. Sand is survived by his wife of 54 years, Diane; sons Jay and Marc; and four grandchildren.

The Honorable James Kindler L’69, a longtime member of the Manhattan District Attorney’s Office and a judge on the Criminal Division of the Supreme Court in the Bronx, died Dec. 16. He was 77.

Judge Kindler was born in Webster, Massachusetts, and graduated from Harvard College. Following graduation from the Law School at the University of Pennsylvania in 1969, he worked for the Manhattan District Attorney’s Office for 37 years. He was serving as Chief Assistant to District Attorney Robert Morgenthau when Governor David Paterson appointed him to the New York State Court of Claims. He later served as a judge in the Criminal Division of the Supreme Court in the Bronx.

His family remembered him for his humility, decency, and wit, along with his love and loyalty to family and friends.

Judge Kindler is survived by his wife of 55 years, Rosemary; daughters Ingrid and Sara; five grandchildren; and sister Diane.
John Freeman LLM'76, an influential legal voice in South Carolina who taught at the University of South Carolina’s law school for more than three decades, died Oct. 21, 2021. He was 76.

Mr. Freeman, an Illinois native, earned his bachelor’s and JD from the University of Notre Dame and a master’s in law from the Law School at the University of Pennsylvania. After graduation, he practiced law in Cleveland, Ohio.

Mr. Freeman joined the University of South Carolina School of Law in 1973, teaching legal ethics, corporate law, and securities law until 2008. During his tenure, law students voted him the Outstanding Faculty Member on four different occasions.

In the 1990s, he took on the tobacco industry to lower investing fees, a move that saved retirees and investors billions. A tall man with a booming voice, Mr. Freeman was known for “brutal candor,” but always with an eye for speaking up for what was right. He was remembered for always helping other lawyers and academics with questions on ethics and the law, and he was a known advisor to many in the legal and business community.

He was also frequently quoted in publications reporting on public corruption. A few weeks before his death, Mr. Freeman was quoted in The New York Times about the scope of the fraud and embezzlement cases surrounding suspended South Carolina lawyer Alex Murdaugh.

Mr. Freeman was also a noted family man, moving to Seattle after retiring so he could be closer to family. His two daughters also followed in his footsteps and became lawyers. Mr. Freeman is survived by his wife of 54 years, Nancy; daughters Gretchen and Nora; and four grandchildren.

Gregory Berry L’80

He was the Faculty Advisor to an award-winning National Moot Court Team, was voted “Law Professor of the Year” in 2003, and several times received the Warren S. Romarin Award for Excellence in Teaching and Service.

Gregory Berry L’80, a longtime academic and legislative counsel in the U.S. House of Representatives, died March 15. He was 66.

A native of Cleveland, Ohio, Mr. Berry’s family moved out west when he was young. He was known for his debating skills and ability to recite famous political speeches on demand. He earned his undergraduate degree from the University of Washington before attending the Law School at the University of Pennsylvania.

Mr. Berry began his career as a Senior Attorney-Advisor in the U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Hearing Appeals, where he received the DOE Special Achievement Award for superior performance and sustained excellence and originality in legal analysis, research, and writing. Four years later, he became a Senior Trial Attorney in the Office of General Counsel at the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, where he received several Special Achievement and High Quality Awards as well as Certificates of Appreciation for Outstanding Performance.

In 1991, he graduated from the University of Michigan with an MA in American Politics and Government and earned his PhD there two years later. He took a position as Visiting Lecturer of Political Science at the University of Christchurch, New Zealand. He later returned to the University of Michigan, where he taught introductory and advanced courses on American politics, government, political theory, race and politics, and political communication. He then taught similar courses at James Madison University before accepting a position as Legal Writing Professor at Howard University School of Law,
where he taught litigation-related courses, Legal Reasoning, Research and Writing, Appellate Advocacy, and Legal Methods. He was the Faculty Advisor to an award-winning National Moot Court Team, was voted “Law Professor of the Year” in 2003, and several times received the Warren S. Romarinn Award for Excellence in Teaching and Service.

In 2006, Mr. Berry became the Legislative Director/Senior Policy Adviser to U.S. Representative Sheila Jackson Lee (D-TX). He also served as Legislative Counsel to U.S. Representative Barbara Lee (D-CA) and as Senior Policy Advisor to Representative Laura Richardson (D-CA).

At the time of his passing, Mr. Berry had worked for nine years as the Chief Counsel/Legislative Director to Congresswomen Sheila Jackson Lee. On behalf of the Congresswomen with whom he worked, he enjoyed developing, drafting, and managing legislation for the Appropriations, Judiciary, Foreign Affairs, Transportation & Infrastructure, Homeland Security, Science, and Rules Committees. He negotiated with senior staff officials in the House leadership and standing committees, frequently represented his member in meetings with executive department officials at the federal and state level, and often met with lobbyists and policy entrepreneurs to garner support for important legislative initiatives. He especially enjoyed writing statements and speeches for committee hearings and markups; before the Rules Committee and on the House floor; in the congressional district, across the nation, and abroad; and for print, electronic, and online media. In his capacity as Legislative Director, Mr. Berry thrived on supervising, mentoring, and training the junior staff of legislative assistants, correspondents, and interns.

Outside of work, Mr. Berry enjoyed traveling, reading, sports, and computers. He especially loved his sons and family, who remembered him as dependable, smart, and the “rock” of the family.

Mr. Berry is survived by his mother, Bonnie; sons Michael and Connor, and their mother, Elva; siblings Jeffrey, Michael, and Bonnie; and several relatives.

Steven Korostoff L’80, who spent much of his legal career in finance, died March 8. He was 66.

Mr. Korostoff was born in Brooklyn, New York, and graduated from Sheepshead Bay High School in 1973. He attended the State University of New York at Stony Brook for his undergraduate degree and met his wife Stephanie while he was a student there. He graduated from the Law School at the University of Pennsylvania in 1980.

Mr. Korostoff began his legal career at the Department of Energy in Washington, D.C. He went on to the Securities and Exchange Commission before transferring to the New York Stock Exchange/FINRA, where he remained until retiring in 2015.

Mr. Korostoff was preceded in death by a sister, Susan. He is survived by his wife Stephanie; children Melissa, Matthew, Jenny, and Sarah; and three grandchildren.

Sanford Pfeffer C’75, L’87, who served Philadelphia’s elderly citizens for three decades, has died. He was 68.

Mr. Pfeffer was a native of Englewood, New Jersey who eventually became a proud and active resident of Rittenhouse Square in Philadelphia. He was also proud of his Penn education, earning dual degrees at the University.

Mr. Pfeffer passionately served as an attorney, and eventually, General Counsel, for the Philadelphia Corporation for Aging for more than 30 years. The private nonprofit employs about 780 people who perform vital work for the city’s elderly residents.

He made many lifelong friends at the Lombard Swim Club, where in addition to swimming he organized “Coffee and Conversation” and served as a board member for 15 years, including time as President. He also had many respected teammates and competitors in the 8- and 9-ball APA Pool League, and he captained the Local Heroes at Ten Stone, a Philadelphia neighborhood bar. He loved sailing the Chesapeake; taking scenic walks; dogs; architecture; and his “beloved dear,” Debra Lawrence.

His family remembered him for his intellect, curiosity, authenticity, knack for storytelling, and lion-hearted spirit.

Mr. Pfeffer is survived by his daughter, Elizabeth; and brother, Gerald.

Evan Chyun L’08 passed away on May 29, four days short of his 40th birthday, after a tragic automobile accident in Anchorage, Alaska. Mr. Chyun, who served on the University of Pennsylvania Law Review, was an avid student and alumni volunteer. He worked as a public defender at the Defender Association of Pennsylvania and later at the Office of Public Advocacy in Anchorage. He went on to work at the Alaska Attorney General’s Office. He was brilliant, funny, and witty; a fabulous cook; and an accomplished musician. Mr. Chyun loved the outdoors and was happiest there. He cared deeply about social justice.
Principled and righteous, he was passionate about racial and gender equity and spent his career supporting people ignored and mistreated by our system. Mr. Chyun strove to make the world a better place. He will be deeply missed by his loving family, parents Deborah and Yong Sung Chyun; sister Elle; brother-in-law Michael Gillman; two nieces; his feline companion OJ; aunts, uncles and cousins; and many devoted friends.

Alyssa Eve Anzalone-Newman L’16

She was a dedicated Program Leader for Natural Ties, which provides socialization opportunities for disabled adults in St. Louis. And she volunteered as a Legal Services Intern for the Rachel Coalition, which assists domestic violence victims in Essex County, New Jersey.


After graduating from Washington University in St. Louis with College Honors, she moved to Manhattan to work for Sanctuary for Families, assisting domestic violence victims.

To further her passion for advocating for others, she attended the Law School at the University of Pennsylvania, where she graduated as a Dean’s Scholar and earned a Certificate in Management from The Wharton School. At the Law School, she was selected as an Equal Justice Foundation Summer Fellow.

She loved the energy and pace of city life and returned to Manhattan to launch her legal career as an Associate with Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP. At Orrick, she received the NYS Bar Association’s Empire State Counsel’s recognition of 50+ hours of pro bono legal services provide to low-income individuals in 2017 and the Legal Aid Society’s 2018 Pro Bono Publico Award for her outstanding volunteer service.

Ms. Anzalone-Newman then became a Litigation Fellow and Assistant Attorney General in the Office of the NYS Attorney General. And, in 2019, she joined Columbia University as a Title IX Investigator, coming full circle to her previous work helping victims at Sanctuary for Families.

Ms. Anzalone-Newman always went the ‘extra mile’ to help others. In high school, she volunteered for four years at St. Barnabas Medical Center and founded and headed an American Cancer Society Relay for Life fundraising initiative, which recruited 150+ volunteers. In college, she continued her passion for fighting cancer and served on the leadership team for a 2,000-volunteer Relay for Life. She was a dedicated Program Leader for Natural Ties, which provides socialization opportunities for disabled adults in St. Louis. And she volunteered as a Legal Services Intern for the Rachel Coalition, which assists domestic violence victims in Essex County, New Jersey.

She had a passion for life, exploring New York and trying new restaurants with friends and family. She loved to read, watch reality TV, cook, and bicycle in Hudson River Park. In addition, she loved to relax at the Jersey shore, ski, and travel — exploring much of the United States and remarkably touring nearly 20 countries on five continents, including some recent trips with dear friends.

After her diagnosis, Ms. Anzalone-Newman traveled with her sister Erica to Illinois to get her puppy Ruby, who instantly became the center of her life. She cherished her work relationships and loved her family and friends.


She will be deeply missed and leaves behind her sister Erica, brother-in-law Rob, niece Ada, parents Carole and Douglas, a grandmother, aunts and uncles, cousins, and Ruby.