



COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES 🍷 MAY 15, 2020  
 CLASS OF TWO THOUSAND TWENTY  
 DEAN MICHAEL J. YELNOSKY — PRESIDING

National Anthem .....	Emily S. Rizzo, Roger Williams University '19
Introduction .....	Michael J. Yelnosky Dean and Professor of Law
Remarks .....	The Honorable Margaret H. Marshall Chief Justice, Supreme Judicial Court of Massachusetts ( <i>Ret.</i> )
Valedictory Address .....	Sarah D. Boucher
President's Remarks & Conferring of Degrees .....	Ioannis N. Miaoulis, Ph.D. President, Roger Williams University and Roger Williams University School of Law
Presentation of the Graduation Class .....	Jared A. Goldstein Associate Dean of Academic Affairs and Professor of Law
Class of 2020 Congratulation Clips .....	School of Law Faculty, Adjunct Faculty, Administration & Staff

*Due to the ongoing public health emergency, Roger Williams University School of Law invites family and friends to enjoy our "Virtual Commencement" on YouTube Premiere, roger-williams.stageclip.com, on May 15, 2020 at 12:30 p.m. An in-person celebration will be held on a future date to be announced.*

#RWULaw2020

SCHOOL OF LAW HONORARY DEGREE RECIPIENT



**THE HONORABLE MARGARET H. MARSHALL**  
*Doctor of Laws, Honoris Causa*

**Chief Justice of the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court (*Ret.*)**  
 B.A. University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg  
 M.A. Harvard University  
 J.D. Yale Law School

Chief Justice Margaret H. Marshall is the 35th Chief Justice of the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court, a position she held from 1999 until her retirement in December 2010. The Court, which dates from 1692, is the oldest in continuous existence in the United States, and Marshall is the only woman ever to have served as its Chief Justice.

Marshall was first appointed to the Court in 1996. Among the many opinions she has written was the 2003 decision in *Goodridge v. Department of Public Health*, holding that Massachusetts could not deny same-sex couples the right to marry. That ruling made Massachusetts the first state in the nation to legalize gay marriage.

Chief Justice Marshall was born and raised in South Africa. As an undergraduate, she was elected President of the National Union of South African Students, at the time a leading anti-apartheid organization. She later emigrated to the United States.

Over the course of her legal career, Marshall has been involved in numerous professional activities. She served as President of the United States Conference of Chief Justices, and as Chair of the Board of the National Center for State Courts. She is a fellow of the American Philosophical Society and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and a former member of the Council and Executive Committee of the American Law Institute. From 2004 to 2010, she served on the Board of Trustees of Yale University. She was reappointed to a second term in 2012, and until 2016 served as Senior Trustee, the first woman to hold that position.

## SCHOOL OF LAW HONORARY DEGREE RECIPIENT

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**DENNIS W. NIXON**

*Doctor of Laws, Honoris Causa*

**Director, Rhode Island Sea Grant;  
Professor of Marine Affairs, University of Rhode Island**

B.A. Xavier University  
M.M.A. University of Rhode Island  
J.D. University of Cincinnati College of Law

Dennis Nixon has served as Director of the Rhode Island Sea Grant Program since 2013, leading a multimillion-dollar research and education program devoted to using scientific knowledge to improve the management of Rhode Island's coastal waters. He is also a member of the advisory board of the Marine Affairs Institute at RWU Law.

A faculty member at the University of Rhode Island for five decades, Nixon teaches in the area of marine and coastal law. He has served as Associate Dean for Research and Administration at the Graduate School of Oceanography and Associate Dean of Academic Affairs at the College of the Environment and Life Sciences.

A marine lawyer by training, Nixon is a member of the Maritime Law Association of the United States and the Rhode Island bar. He is Secretary and General Counsel for the Point Club, a fishing vessel insurance cooperative he helped found over 30 years ago, and co-founder of the International Marina Institute. Under a grant from the National Science Foundation, Nixon acts as legal advisor and risk manager for the University National Oceanographic Laboratory System and has provided advice to the entire U.S. academic research vessel fleet since 1986.

Nixon lectures and publishes widely, and authored the seminal casebook, *Marine and Coastal Law* (1994), now entering its third edition. Nixon holds certificates in International Institutions from the University of Geneva, and Ocean Law from Harvard Law School. He is an avid sailor, and races weekly on Narragansett Bay. He holds a Coast Guard master's license and PADI open-water diver certification.

## SCHOOL OF LAW HONORARY DEGREE RECIPIENT

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**OLIN W. THOMPSON, III**

*Doctor of Laws, Honoris Causa*

**Assistant Federal Public Defender, District of Rhode Island**

B.A. Vassar College  
J.D. Duke University School of Law

Olin Thompson was an Assistant Federal Defender for the District of Rhode Island for 14 years. He took a particular interest in criminal justice reform issues, serving on Governor Raimondo's Working Group on Criminal Justice Reinvestment, helping to institute and later serve on the federal H.O.P.E (Helping Offenders Prepare for re-Entry) Court, and managing numerous federal sentence reduction projects.

Thompson served as a state or federal public defender for the vast majority of his 25-year legal career. He was a longtime member and onetime president of the Rhode Island Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, served on numerous bench-bar committees, enjoyed judging middle- and high-school mock trial competitions, and was chairman of the East Greenwich juvenile hearing board.

Thompson is married with three sons. He was diagnosed with ALS in 2018. During a fundraiser given in his honor last summer, one of Thompson's close friends told the *Providence Journal*, "Even with his diagnosis, he's been squeezing every moment out of life."

At the same event, an assistant attorney general was asked to describe Thompson as an opponent. He did it in one word: "Formidable." He added that Thompson always displayed mutual respect for the prosecution and other parties who were "trying to make the right things happen." Another called Thompson "a fiercely loyal friend."

Rhode Island Attorney General Peter Neronha stated, "I count him as a friend," and called Thompson "one of the best adversaries I've ever met and enjoyed the experience."

"Simply put, Olin has contributed more to the cause of justice and fairness than any other member of the bar of the federal court during my 18 years on the bench," said Judge William E. Smith of the United States District Court for the District of Rhode Island. "But he is not only a great advocate; he is a truly wonderful person and colleague — honest, tenacious, kind, generous, funny and always helpful. I am so proud that he is receiving this honor. It is so richly deserved."

SCHOOL OF LAW DEGREE CANDIDATES • JURIS DOCTOR

Doris Adesuyi  
 Bolajide A. Adeyoye  
 Alexandra N. Aksterowicz (LMCJ+) (3P3)  
 Mahsa Alaeian  
 Nicholas Albanese\*\*  
 Dane Evan Ardente  
 Brianna Josephine Arnold  
 Abena Serwaa Asare (LMCS+)  
 Neyjla Ata  
 Tarisha Victoria Augustin  
 Christopher Auriemma  
 Judith Patricia Barcavage  
 Jamie Walter Bataycan  
 Danielle Marie Beauvais  
 Leah Janine Boisclair\*  
 Sarah D. Boucher  
 Angelica L. Bovis (3P3)  
 Erica Lynne Brant  
 Brittany E. Brogno-Perry  
 Locksley H. Bryan Jr.  
 Dylan Sean Burke  
 Karlyn Kathleen Butler  
 Brianna Christine Byam  
 Zachary Dean Carlson  
 Ann Carmody  
 Louis Michael Catarina  
 Carla Josephine Centanni  
 Jared Chance  
 Bianca Nicole Cicilline\*\*  
 Meredith A. Cockman  
 Blake Collins, Esq.\*  
 Alexander Farrington Costa  
 Taylor Lauren Criscuolo  
 Connor Christopher Criswell (MBA+)  
 Miguel Cuevas  
 Flavio Alves DaCosta  
 Aric James D'Alessio  
 Christopher John Baldwin Deisenroth  
 Allison Demello  
 Jessica Marie DeYoung  
 Marissa Elizabeth DiRoma  
 Jessica Oloronke Anike Domingo  
 Kelly A. Dowd  
 Derek S. Ethier  
 Crystal Young Fanter  
 Sarah Ann Farrell  
 Genevieve Ann Fidler  
 Caitlyn Amanda Forrester-Johnson  
 Selena Desire Fortes  
 Shantel Monique Francis  
 Hillary Christian Futch  
 Shane Patrick Gallant  
 Garrett Andrew Dallas Gee  
 Colleen Patricia Giles, Esq.\*  
 Brendan R. Goff  
 Hayden Louis Grahl  
 Amy E. Greer, Esq.  
 Rachel Ann Hamilton  
 S. Ali Hashaum  
 Caitlyn Horbert  
 Andrew G. Howayeck  
 Elizabeth Ann Hyland  
 John Patrick Iannone, Jr.  
 Altai Kalatschinow  
 Eva Karakolidis  
 Emily Marie Karpinski  
 Steven Frederick Keller  
 William Jason Kent, Esq.  
 Xaykham Rexford Khamsyvoravong, Esq.\*  
 Megan Ann Kittler  
 Jake Steven Komar  
 Shana B. Konoval  
 James Michael Kovach  
 Kathryn Ann Kulaga, Ph.D.  
 Cameron Scott Landeen  
 Troy H. Lange  
 Rachel Elizabeth Levithan  
 Henry Joseph Lindner, Jr.  
 Brian Kevin Lindsey  
 Justin James Lisi  
 Manuel E. Lugo  
 Paul Steven Malaspina  
 Alisha M. Marcotte  
 Michael Joseph McEntee, Jr., Esq.\*  
 Mark Edward McDaniel  
 Shannon Virginia McKenna  
 Logan W. Merrill  
 Bre'Anna Jolaine Metts-Nixon  
 Mayra Janet Meza\*\*  
 Anthony N. Minutelli, Jr.  
 Morgan Paige Moniz  
 Davey E. Moore, Jr.  
 Abby J. Muth  
 Bryan J. Nappa  
 Joshua W. Nault  
 Ryan Kevin O'Keefe  
 Kyle Jeffrey Olden  
 Karyn O. Omisanya

Katie Lynn Otrando  
 Samantha Nikole Owens  
 Anthony J. Paolino III, Esq.\*  
 Bodie Kenneth Pate  
 Crystal D. Peralta  
 Jhenyfer Alejandra Perez Sazo\*\*  
 Nikitas Savvas Petrides  
 James J. Philopena, Jr.  
 Alison M. Plunkett  
 Kaitlyn Rose Porter  
 Kyle A. Prigmore (LMCS+)\*\*  
 Brenda Vanessa Reyes  
 Nicholas Lawrence Reynolds  
 Andrey Reznik  
 Brynae Helen Rose Riggins  
 Rebecca Lynn Rochelle  
 Katherine Rodriguez  
 Jake Francis Rogers  
 Christopher Michael Romero  
 Victoria Ann Rosa  
 Zachary Isaac Rosenfeld  
 Jessica Ann Ryan (LMCJ+)  
 Stacey Sanchez  
 Kelvin Jorge Melicio Pires Santos  
 Gwendelyn Estelle Sawyer  
 James Michael Scacco, Jr.  
 Hallie S. Semmel  
 William Lawrence Sheehan, Esq.  
 Rachel Leah Soltysiak  
 Zoë Mariel Sperber  
 Craig A. Stockwell, Jr.  
 Julia Roselynn Surdel  
 James R. Theriault (LMCS+)  
 Olivia Perras Thompson (LMMA+)  
 Emily Tomczyk  
 Gabrielle Angela Trejo  
 Rebecca Michel Turner  
 Luis A. Vargas Rivera  
 Jonathan Vazquez  
 Nathalie M. Vega Crespo  
 Jordan Philip Viana  
 Kelly Wang  
 Kevin M. Wery\*\*  
 Michael John Wilbur  
 Elia A. William  
 Tony Naquan Woolard  
 Hannah R. Zangari

HONORS DISTINCTION

SUMMA CUM LAUDE

Sarah D. Boucher  
 Amy E. Greer, Esq.  
 Caitlyn Horbert  
 Troy H. Lange  
 John M. Marion, Jr.  
 Morgan Paige Moniz  
 Crystal D. Peralta  
 Luis A. Vargas Rivera  
 Nathalie M. Vega Crespo

MAGNA CUM LAUDE

Brianna Josephine Arnold  
 Danielle Marie Beauvais  
 Carla Josephine Centanni  
 Derek S. Ethier  
 Selena Desire Fortes  
 Shane Patrick Gallant  
 Colleen Patricia Giles, Esq.  
 Rachel Ann Hamilton  
 Steven Frederick Keller  
 Xaykham Rexford Khamsyvoravong, Esq.  
 Megan Ann Kittler

James Michael Kovach  
 Justin James Lisi  
 Alisha M. Marcotte  
 Kathleen E. Mulvaney  
 Rebecca Lynn Rochelle  
 Victoria Ann Rosa  
 Hallie S. Semmel  
 Zoë Mariel Sperber  
 Craig A. Stockwell, Jr.  
 Rebecca Michel Turner

CUM LAUDE

Leah Janine Boisclair  
 Angelica L. Bovis  
 Zachary Dean Carlson  
 Jared Chance  
 Connor Christopher Criswell  
 Christopher John Baldwin Deisenroth  
 Allison Demello  
 Jessica Marie DeYoung  
 Marissa Elizabeth DiRoma  
 Kelly A. Dowd  
 Genevieve Ann Fidler  
 Garrett Andrew Dallas Gee  
 Andrew G. Howayeck

Eva Karakolidis  
 Kathryn Ann Kulaga, Ph.D.  
 Rachel Elizabeth Levithan  
 Joshua W. Nault  
 Kyle Jeffrey Olden  
 Anthony J. Paolino III, Esq.\*  
 Brynae Helen Rose Riggins  
 Jake Francis Rogers  
 Kelvin Jorge Melicio Pires Santos  
 Olivia Perras Thompson  
 Jordan Philip Viana  
 Michael John Wilbur

SCHOOL OF LAW DEGREE CANDIDATES • MASTER OF STUDIES IN LAW

John M. Marion, Jr.

Kathleen E. Mulvaney\*

\*graduation date, December 2019; \*\*graduation date, December 2020

(LMMA+) Currently enrolled in Master of Marine Affairs at University of Rhode Island

(LMCJ+) Currently enrolled in Master of Science in Criminal Justice with Roger Williams University

(LMCS+) Currently enrolled in Master of Science in Cyber Security with Roger Williams University

(MBA+) Currently enrolled in Master of Business Administration with Roger Williams University

(3P3) Three plus Three Program

## IN MEMORIAM: PROFESSOR ANTHONY J. SANTORO

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Roger Williams University School of Law honors Professor Anthony J. Santoro, the founding dean of RWU Law (1992-1993) and President Emeritus of Roger Williams University (1993-2000), who died on September 9, 2019, following a short illness. He was 77.

As the law school's first dean, Santoro focused single-mindedly on establishing an institution that "would enhance the legal culture of Rhode Island." Santoro had already been instrumental in establishing two other schools: the University of Bridgeport School of Law (now Quinnipiac), and Western New England College School of Law. A native of Melrose, Mass., former resident of Fall River, and spouse of a native Rhode Islander, Santoro knew the local lay of the land, and brought his expertise to bear on launching the state's only law school.

In 2000, after a successful term as University president, Santoro returned to RWU Law to take his place as a beloved faculty member, teaching here until his retirement in 2018. In 2012, a group of his former students endowed the Anthony J. Santoro Business Law Lecture in his honor. In 2017, the law school dedicated a favorite classroom in his name.

"Put simply, nobody has done more for RWU Law than Tony Santoro. Nobody," Dean Michael J. Yelnosky recalled. "Tony created this remarkable community. He had a vision, he had the talent, and he had the energy to make this happen."

Santoro earned his bachelor's degree from Boston College and a J.D. and LL.M. in Taxation from Georgetown University School of Law.

## TRIBUTE: DEAN MICHAEL J. YELNOSKY

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Dean Michael J. Yelnosky will step down on June 30, 2020, concluding an extraordinary six-year deanship at RWU Law.

A visionary leader and champion of social justice in legal education, Yelnosky has dedicated 27 years to the law school, both as a founding faculty member and as dean. His tenure marked an important period of growth for the school. At a time when many law schools were retrenching in the wake of recession, Dean Yelnosky focused on positioning RWU Law to remain "aggressively relevant."

Under his leadership, the School of Law developed new, innovative academic programming and opened an experiential learning center in Providence, while also reducing tuition and taking significant steps toward making the school more diverse and inclusive. In the process, it became the most affordable private ABA-accredited law school in the Northeast.

"With his deep commitment to public interest law and social justice issues, Michael Yelnosky has provided transformational leadership in guiding RWU Law," said Chief U.S. District Court Judge William E. Smith, chair of the law school's Board of Directors. "He is a respected scholar, beloved teacher, and skilled ambassador to the Rhode Island bar and judiciary, who has strengthened the law school's reputation and relationships throughout the legal field. He has set us on the course we will follow for decades to come."

A widely recognized expert on employment and labor law, as well as dispute resolution and judicial selection, Yelnosky plans to stay on as a full-time professor at RWU Law after he steps down as dean. Yelnosky earned his B.S. degree from the University of Vermont and his J.D. from the University of Pennsylvania.

ROGER WILLIAMS UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW  
MEMBERS OF THE CLASS OF 2020 HONORS PROGRAM

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*The following students have completed the requirements of the Honors Program:*

Brianna Josephine Arnold  
Danielle Marie Beauvais  
Sarah D. Boucher  
Zachary Dean Carlson  
Carla Josephine Centanni  
Connor Christopher Criswell  
Allison Demello  
Derek S. Ethier  
Selena Desire Fortes  
Shane Patrick Gallant  
Colleen Patricia Giles, Esq.  
Amy E. Greer, Esq.  
Caitlyn Horbert  
Steven Frederick Keller  
Xaykham Rexford Khamsyvoravong, Esq.  
James Michael Kovach  
Troy H. Lange  
Alisha M. Marcotte  
Morgan Paige Moniz  
Anthony J. Paolino III, Esq.  
Crystal D. Peralta  
Rebecca Lynn Rochelle  
Kelvin Jorge Melicio Pires Santos  
Hallie S. Semmel  
Zoë Mariel Sperber  
Craig A. Stockwell, Jr.  
Rebecca Michel Turner  
Luis A. Vargas Rivera  
Nathalie M. Vega Crespo

STUDENT BAR ASSOCIATION 2019 – 2020 BOARD OF GOVERNORS

---

Kelvin Jorge Melicio Pires Santos  
*President*

Jessica Olaronke Anike Domingo  
*Executive Vice President*

Shantel Monique Francis  
*Administrative Vice President*

Ethan Armitano '21  
*Treasurer*

Connor Christopher Criswell  
*Corresponding Secretary*

Julainey Almansa '21  
*Recording Secretary*

Locksley H. Bryan, Jr.  
*ABA Representative*

Amanda Nagim-Williams '21  
*Parliamentarian*

Mark Edward McDaniel  
*Third Year Representative*

Ryan Kevin O'Keefe  
*Third Year Representative*

Matthew Chatelain '21  
*Second Year Representative*

Benayih Ndikum '21  
*Second Year Representative*

Matthew Colabella '22  
*First Year Representative*

Giuliana David '22  
*First Year Representative*

Diana Perez '22  
*First Year Representative*



The following students constitute the 2019-2020 Editorial Board and Senior Editorial Staff of the *Roger Williams University Law Review* and are responsible for publication of Volume 25 of the Law Review.

EDITORIAL BOARD

Caitlyn Horbert  
*Editor-in-Chief*

Sarah D. Boucher  
*Managing Editor*

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*Executive Articles Editor*

Brianna Josephine Arnold  
*Articles Editor*

Carla Josephine Centanni  
*Articles Editor*

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*Articles Editor*

Luis A. Vargas Rivera  
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Nathalie M. Vega Crespo  
*Executive Notes & Comments Editor*

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*Notes & Comments Editor*

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*Notes & Comments Editor*

James Michael Kovach  
*Notes & Comments Editor*

Zoë Mariel Sperber  
*Research & Development Editor*

SENIOR EDITORIAL STAFF

Connor Christopher Criswell

Colleen Patricia Giles, Esq. '19

Amy E. Greer, Esq.

Andrew G. Howayeck

Xaykham Rexford Khamsyvoravong, Esq. '19

Crystal D. Peralta

Mary B. Poirier, Esq. '19

Rebecca Lynn Rochelle

FACULTY ADVISORS

Professor Jenna Wims Hashway '11

Professor Irina Gott

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Shirley Staskiewicz

The Moot Court Board promotes the development of the art of appellate advocacy and brief writing. Those selected as the best appellate advocates in the intrascholastic competition are awarded the Clark Prize for Excellence in Advocacy. The Board also sponsors interscholastic teams that compete against representatives from law schools across the nation.

Moot Court Board 2019-2020

Crystal D. Peralta  
*President*

John Patrick Iannone, Jr.  
*Vice President*

James Michael Scacco, Jr.  
*Chair of Communications & Records*

Caitlyn Amanda Forrester-Johnson  
*Chair of External Competition*

Meredith A. Cockman  
*Chair of Finance & Development*

Megan Ann Kittler  
*Chair of Esther Clark Moot Court Competition*

*General Members:*

Leah Janine Boisclair

Angelica L. Bovis

Zachary Dean Carlson

Jared Chance

Flavio Alves DaCosta

Garrett Andrew Dallas Gee

Brendan R. Goff

Caitlyn Horbert

Andrew G. Howayeck

Rachel Elizabeth Levithan

Emily Tomczyk

Luis A. Vargas Rivera

*Faculty Advisor:*

Professor Elizabeth Colt

**University at Buffalo Law's 21st Annual  
Herbert Wechsler National Criminal Law  
Moot Court Competition**

Caitlyn Amanda Forrester-Johnson  
Jared Chance

*Coach:*

Brett V. Beaubien '16

**UCLA's 8th Annual Cyber Crimes  
Moot Court Competition**

Garrett Andrew Dallas Gee  
Caitlyn Horbert

*Coaches:*

Nicholas L. Nybo '13

**70th Annual New York City Bar  
National Moot Court Competition**

Crystal D. Peralta  
Luis A. Vargas Rivera

*Coach:*

John David Meara '11

**24th Annual Thurgood Marshall Memorial  
Moot Court Competition**

Angelica L. Bovis  
Megan Ann Kittler

*Coach:*

Tolulope Kevin Olasanoye '12

**10th Annual Elon Law Billings, Exum & Frye  
National Moot Court Competition**

Meredith A. Cockman  
John Patrick Iannone, Jr.

*Coach:*

Kelsey Dayo Peck '19

## MOOT COURT

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### University of Texas Law's 28th Annual Judge John R. Brown Admiralty Moot Competition

#### Third-Year Team

Genevieve Ann Fidler  
Elizabeth Ann Hyland  
Victoria Ann Rosa

#### Second-Year Team

Alyssa Lemire '21  
Daniela O'Regan '21  
Blaine Payer '21

#### *Faculty Advisor:*

Professor Jonathan M. Gutoff

#### *Coach:*

Adjunct Professor Robert Falvey '98

### Manfred Lachs 2020 Space Law Moot Court Competition

Caitlyn Amanda Forrester-Johnson  
Nora Wells '21

#### *Coach:*

Nicholas L. Nybo '13

## TRIAL TEAM

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The following students were selected to participate  
in interscholastic trial team competitions:

### 2019 Texas Young Lawyers Association National Trial Competition

#### Team 1

Leah Janine Boisclair  
Bre'Anna Jolaine Metts-Nixon

#### Team 2

Craig A. Stockwell, Jr.  
Andrew G. Howayeck

#### *Coach:*

Professor David Coombs

### 2020 Texas Young Lawyers Association National Trial Competition

#### Team 1

Daphne Robson '21  
Megan Hanson '21  
Marlena Ellis '21  
Julian Manzo '21

#### Team 2

Aliya Steele '21  
Erin Ferry '21  
Bre'Anna Jolaine Metts-Nixon  
Andrew G. Howayeck

#### *Coach:*

Professor David Coombs

### 2019 American Association for Justice Trial Advocacy Competition

Braxton Howard Medlin '19  
Craig A. Stockwell, Jr.  
Leah Janine Boisclair  
Bre'Anna Jolaine Metts-Nixon

#### *Coach:*

Professor David Coombs



**THE CLARK PRIZE FOR EXCELLENCE IN APPELLATE ADVOCACY**

Those students who capture first place in the written and oral intrascholastic moot court competition share an award donated by former Distinguished Visiting Professor Esther F. Clark. Members of the graduating class who received this award during the course of their studies are:

Crystal D. Peralta  
*Winner of the Clark Competition*

Luis A. Vargas Rivera  
*Finalist & Best Brief*

Caitlyn Amanda Forrester-Johnson  
*Best Overall Oral Advocate*

**PROFESSOR CLARK ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP**

Distinguished Visiting Professor Esther F. Clark and her husband John Clark established this scholarship to recognize outstanding academic performance by a rising second year student.

Marissa Elizabeth DiRoma

**GARY L. BAHR MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

This award is in memory of Professor Gary L. Bahr, the first associate dean and member of the founding faculty of the School of Law. The award is made annually to the first year student with the highest combined average in Contracts and Torts.

Caitlyn Horbert  
Troy H. Lange

**KATHLEEN M. BIRT MEMORIAL DISPUTE RESOLUTION PRIZE**

This prize is awarded to graduating students who have demonstrated the most distinguished performance in dispute resolution courses.

Abena Serwaa Asare

**CLINICAL LEGAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION  
OUTSTANDING STUDENT AWARD**

This national award recognizes a student who has excelled in a clinical course in law school.

Justin James Lisi

**DEAN'S ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**

This award is presented by the Dean to a graduating student who improved his or her grades the most from the first year.

Aric James D'Alessio

**THE LEGAL METHODS FACULTY AWARD FOR BEST BRIEF**

This award is made possible by The Lillian and Irving Topf Memorial Fund.

Sarah D. Boucher

**ROGER WILLIAMS UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW  
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIP**

Shane Patrick Gallant  
Crystal D. Peralta

**MICHAEL P. MCNULTY SCHOLARSHIP**

Elizabeth Ann Hyland

SELECTED HONORS EARNED BY MEMBERS OF THE CLASS OF 2020

Each semester the student receiving the highest grade in each course is selected to receive a Center for Computer Assisted Legal Instruction (CALI) award certificate. Members of the graduating class who received this award for classes during the course of their studies are:

<b>Alexandra N. Aksterowicz</b>		<b>Allison Demello</b>	
Advanced Advocacy: Criminal Law	Spring 2019	Legal Practice I	Fall 2017
Trial Advocacy	Spring 2019	Honors: Environmental Justice	Fall 2018
		Domestic Violence	Fall 2018
<b>Brianna Josephine Arnold</b>		Legal Practice II	Spring 2018
Legal Practice I	Fall 2017	Immigration Clinic	Fall 2019
Legal Practice II	Spring 2018		
Legal Practice III	Spring 2019	<b>Jessica Marie DeYoung</b>	
		Legal Practice III	Fall 2018
<b>Abena Serwaa Asare</b>		<b>Derek S. Ethier</b>	
Current Issues Copyright	Fall 2019	Honors: Social Justice	Fall 2019
<b>Danielle Marie Beauvais</b>		<b>Genevieve Ann Fidler</b>	
Legal Practice I	Fall 2017	Civil Procedure I	Fall 2017
Family Law	Fall 2018		
Legal Practice II	Spring 2018	<b>Shane Patrick Gallant</b>	
		Civil Procedure I	Fall 2017
<b>Sarah D. Boucher</b>		Honors: Clerking & Appellate Practice	Spring 2019
Legal Practice I	Fall 2017	Transactional Lawyering & Contract Drafting	Spring 2019
Legal Practice II	Spring 2018	Sales	Summer 2019
		Administrative Law	Fall 2019
<b>Angelica L. Bovis</b>		Trial Advocacy	Fall 2019
Trial Advocacy	Spring 2019	<b>Colleen Patricia Giles, Esq.</b>	
<b>Erica Lynne Brant</b>		Torts I	Fall 2016
Public Interest Law & Ethics	Fall 2019	Immigration Law	Fall 2017
<b>Carla Josephine Centanni</b>		Law Office Management	Fall 2017
Legal Practice I	Fall 2017	Reproductive Rights	Summer 2019
Legal Practice III	Spring 2019		
Securities Regulation	Fall 2019	<b>Amy E. Greer, Esq.</b>	
		Civil Procedure I	Fall 2017
<b>Bianca Nicole Cicilline</b>		Legal Practice I	Fall 2017
Family & Divorce Mediation	Summer 2018	Civil Procedure II	Spring 2018
<b>Blake Collins, Esq.</b>		Constitutional Law	Fall 2018
Regulatory Compliance	Spring 2019	Evidence	Fall 2018
		Honors: Environmental Justice	Fall 2018
<b>Connor Christopher Criswell</b>		National Security	Fall 2018
Legal Practice III	Fall 2018	Constitutional Law II	Spring 2019
		Privacy Law	Spring 2019

SELECTED HONORS EARNED BY MEMBERS OF THE CLASS OF 2020

<b>Caitlyn Horbert</b>		<b>Rachel Elizabeth Levithan</b>	
Intellectual Property	Fall 2018	Trial Advocacy	Fall 2019
Conflicts of Law	Fall 2018		
Legal Practice II	Spring 2018	<b>Justin James Lisi</b>	
Torts II	Spring 2018	Legal Practice I	Fall 2017
Trial Advocacy	Spring 2019	Business Organizations	Spring 2019
Employment Discrimination	Fall 2019	Public Interest Law & Ethics	Summer 2019
		Criminal Defense Clinic	Fall 2019
<b>John Patrick Iannone, Jr.</b>		<b>Bre'Anna Jolaine Metts-Nixon</b>	
Transactional Lawyering & Contract Drafting	Spring 2019	Law Office Management	Fall 2019
<b>Emily Marie Karpinski</b>		<b>Morgan Paige Moniz</b>	
Health Law and Policy	Fall 2019	Legal Practice I	Fall 2017
<b>Megan Ann Kittler</b>		Legal Practice II	Spring 2018
Criminal Procedure: Investigation	Spring 2019	Legal Practice III	Fall 2018
		Honors: Statistics for Lawyers	Fall 2018
<b>Xaykham Rexford Khamsyvovavong, Esq.</b>		<b>Bryan J. Nappa</b>	
Legal Practice II	Spring 2017	Mediation	Spring 2019
Legislative Drafting & Advocacy	Spring 2019	<b>Crystal D. Peralta</b>	
Residential Real Estate	Spring 2019	Contracts II	Spring 2018
Securities Regulation	Fall 2019	Legal Practice II	Spring 2018
		Honors: Immigration Law In The Age of Trump	Fall 2019
<b>James Michael Kovach</b>		<b>Nikitas Savvas Petrides</b>	
Legal Practice II	Spring 2018	Negotiation	Fall 2019
Honors: Election Law & Campaign Finance Law	Fall 2018	<b>Andrey Reznik</b>	
Legal Practice III	Spring 2019	Legal Practice III	Spring 2019
Veterans Disability		<b>Bryn�e Helen Rose Riggins</b>	
Appeals Field Clinic	Spring 2019	Legislative Drafting & Advocacy	Fall 2019
<b>Kathryn Ann Kulaga, Ph.D.</b>		<b>Rebecca Lynn Rochelle</b>	
Legal Practice I	Fall 2017	Contracts I	Fall 2017
Ocean and Coastal Law	Fall 2018	Torts I	Fall 2017
Animal Law	Fall 2019	Criminal Procedure: Investigation	Spring 2019
Legal Practice III	Fall 2019	Federal Income Tax	Fall 2019
<b>Troy H. Lange</b>		<b>Christopher Michael Romero</b>	
Contracts I	Fall 2017	Remedies	Fall 2018
Contracts II	Spring 2018	<b>Kelvin Jorge Melicio Pires Santos</b>	
Property	Spring 2018	International Law	Spring 2019
Constitutional Law	Fall 2018		
Environmental Law	Fall 2018		
Evidence	Fall 2018		
Honors: U.S. Supreme Court Cases	Spring 2019		
Conflicts of Law	Fall 2019		

SELECTED HONORS EARNED BY MEMBERS OF THE CLASS OF 2020

**Gwendelyn Estelle Sawyer**

Mediation Fall 2019  
Transactional Lawyering  
& Contract Drafting Fall 2019  
Corporate Counsel Fall 2019

**Hallie S. Semmel**

Criminal Law Fall 2017

**Zoë Mariel Sperber**

Torts I Fall 2017  
Immigration Law Fall 2018  
Wills & Trusts Fall 2018

**Craig A. Stockwell, Jr.**

Professional Responsibility Spring 2019

**Olivia Perras Thompson**

Admiralty Law Fall 2019  
Negotiating Environmental  
Settlements Fall 2019

**Rebecca Michel Turner**

Constitutional Law II Spring 2019  
Products Liability Spring 2019  
Business Organizations Fall 2019  
Complex Litigation:  
Station Nightclub Fire Fall 2019

**Luis A. Vargas Rivera**

Contracts I Fall 2017  
Honors: Simple Justice:  
Brown v. Board of Ed. Fall 2019

**Jonathan Vazquez**

Judicial Process & Ethics Fall 2019

**Nathalie M. Vega Crespo**

Legal Practice I Fall 2017  
Contracts II Spring 2018  
Legal Practice II Spring 2018  
Wills & Trusts Fall 2019

**Michael John Wilbur**

Property Spring 2018  
Legal Drafting: Contracts Summer 2019  
Genocide and Atrocity  
Crimes Fall 2019

FEINSTEIN CENTER FOR PRO BONO & EXPERIENTIAL EDUCATION  
PUBLIC INTEREST AND PRO BONO LEGAL SERVICE AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

**2020 PUBLIC INTEREST AWARD**

The Public Interest Award is given to graduating students who have been exemplary in serving the community and promoting justice for the underrepresented.

Amy E. Greer, Esq.  
Zoë Mariel Sperber

**2020 PRO BONO COLLABORATIVE AWARD**

The Pro Bono Collaborative Award is given to a graduating student for professionalism, collaborative spirit, and exemplary commitment to serving the community and promoting justice for the underrepresented through PBC projects.

Joshua W. Nault

**RECOGNITION FOR PRO BONO LEADERSHIP**

The following graduating students are recognized for their leadership in RWU Law's pro bono programming:

Samantha Nikole Owens  
*Adult Correctional Institutions (ACI) Clinic*

Steven Frederick Keller  
Megan Ann Kittler  
*Alternative Spring Break*

Dylan Sean Burke  
Joshua W. Nault  
Bre'Anna Jolaine Metts-Nixon  
*Volunteer Income Tax Assistance*

Amy E. Greer, Esq.  
Caitlyn Horbert  
Shantel Monique Francis  
Allison Demello  
*Street Law*

Kelly A. Dowd  
*Driver's License Restoration Project*

**RECOGNITION FOR PRO BONO SERVICE**

The following graduating students completed one hundred hours or more of pro bono legal service:

Doris Adesuyi  
Alexandra N. Aksterowicz  
Mahsa Alaeian  
Nicholas Albanese  
Brianna Josephine Arnold  
Neyla Ata  
Christopher Auriemma  
Judith Patricia Barcavage  
Danielle Marie Beauvais  
Sarah D. Boucher  
Angelica L. Bovis  
Erica Lynne Brant  
Brittany E. Brogno-Perry  
Dylan Sean Burke  
Karlyn Kathleen Butler  
Brianna Christine Byam  
Zachary Dean Carlson  
Ann Carmody  
Louis Michael Catarina  
Flavio Alves DaCosta  
Christopher John Baldwin Deisenroth  
Allison Demello  
Jessica Marie DeYoung  
Marissa Elizabeth DiRoma  
Sarah Ann Farrell  
Caitlyn Amanda Forrester-Johnson  
Selena Desire Fortes  
Shantel Monique Francis  
Hillary Christian Futch  
Shane Patrick Gallant  
Garrett Andrew Dallas Gee  
Colleen Patricia Giles, Esq.  
Hayden Louis Grahll  
Amy E. Greer, Esq.

Caitlyn Horbert  
John Patrick Iannone, Jr.  
Emily Marie Karpinski  
William Jason Kent, Esq.  
Shana B. Konoval  
James Michael Kovach  
Kathryn Ann Kulaga, Ph.D.  
Troy H. Lange  
Mark Edward McDaniel  
Shannon Virginia McKenna  
Bre'Anna Jolaine Metts-Nixon  
Anthony N. Minutelli, Jr.  
Abby J. Muth  
Joshua W. Nault  
Ryan Kevin O'Keefe  
Karyn O. Omisanya  
Crystal D. Peralta  
Kaitlyn Rose Porter  
Kyle A. Prigmore  
Brenda Vanessa Reyes  
Andrey Reznik  
Rebecca Lynn Rochelle  
Katherine Rodriguez  
Christopher Michael Romero  
Jessica Ann Ryan  
Zoë Mariel Sperber  
Craig A. Stockwell, Jr.  
Emily Tomczyk  
Gabrielle Angela Trejo  
Rebecca Michel Turner  
Luis A. Vargas Rivera  
Jonathan Vazquez  
Nathalie M. Vega Crespo  
Kelly Wang

Roger Williams University School of Law's Marine Affairs Institute, in partnership with Rhode Island Sea Grant and the University of Rhode Island, is a national leader in marine and maritime law and policy dedicated to preparing the next generation of marine law professionals by offering a rigorous curriculum and diverse extracurricular opportunities.

**MARINE AFFAIRS ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**

This award honors a graduating student who has been exemplary in the study and advancement of marine policy and law.

Kathryn Ann Kulaga, Ph.D.

**MARINE AFFAIRS JOINT DEGREE PROGRAM**

Students interested in more extensive study of marine law and policy simultaneously earn a Juris Doctor from RWU and a Master of Marine Affairs degree from the University of Rhode Island (URI). Joint degree students enhance their legal education with additional courses at URI on economic, international and policy considerations, positioning them well to address today's complex maritime, ocean and coastal legal issues.

Olivia Perras Thompson

**WILLIAM J. COFFEY EXCELLENCE IN MARITIME WRITING PRIZE**

This prize is given in memory of William J. Coffey, a nationally renowned maritime law expert and adjunct professor of the School of Law as well as former Interim Director of the Institute and Vice Chair of the Institute's Advisory Board. The prize is awarded annually to recognize exceptional law student writing on a topic in admiralty and maritime law.

Kathryn Ann Kulaga, Ph.D.

**RHODE ISLAND SEA GRANT LAW FELLOWS**

The Rhode Island Sea Grant Legal Program, housed at the Marine Affairs Institute, is one of only four Sea Grant Legal Programs in the country, and the only one in New England. Through a partnership with Rhode Island Sea Grant, qualified law students serve as Sea Grant Law Fellows and are matched with requests from nonprofit groups, government agencies, and private organizations to conduct applied legal research and analysis on topical marine resource and maritime law issues.

Abena Serwaa Asare

*Developing a Model Law for Marine Spatial Planning in Small Island Developing States  
Rhode Island Shoreline Adaptation for Resilience and Habitat Enhancement*

Kathryn Ann Kulaga, Ph.D.

*Legal Implications of “Organic” Seafood Labeling Based on Foreign Standards*

James J. Philopena, Jr.

*Direct-to-Consumer Sale of Finfish in Rhode Island: A Guide to Permitting  
Climate Change Impacts on Dam Owner Liability*

Brynáe Helen Rose Riggins

*Direct-to-Consumer Sale of Finfish in Rhode Island: A Guide to Permitting*

Victoria Ann Rosa

*Regulation of Lobster Bait Alternatives in New England*

Olivia Perras Thompson

*Municipal Authority for Long-term Funding of Vulnerable Infrastructure Under Changing Conditions*

Jordan Philip Viana

*Legal Influences on Shellfish Aquaculture Nursery Facility Siting in Rhode Island*

Ioannis N. Miaoulis, Ph.D.

*President, Roger Williams University and  
Roger Williams University School of Law*

Michael J. Yelnosky

*Dean and Professor of Law*

Jared A. Goldstein

*Associate Dean of Academic Affairs  
and Professor of Law*

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*Director of the Feinstein Center for  
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*Legal Administrator/Paralegal*

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Volunteer Engagement*

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*Director of Programs & Events*

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& Professor of Writing*

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*Assistant Dean of Business Affairs*

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Associate Professor of Law*

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*Assistant Dean for Career Development*

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*Registrar & Director of Student Finance and Records*

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*Senior Staff Attorney of Marine Affairs Institute  
and Rhode Island Sea Grant Legal Program*

Thomas G. Shaffer '98

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Shirley Staskiewicz

*Faculty Secretary Supervisor*

Ralph Tavares

*Director of Diversity & Outreach*

Ann Marie Thompson\*

*Assistant Director of Student Finance and Records*

Kathryn Thompson

*Director of Academic Success Program*

Eliza Vorenberg

*Director of Pro Bono & Community Partnerships  
Director of the Pro Bono Collaborative*

Julia B. Wyman

*Director of Marine Affairs Institute and  
Rhode Island Sea Grant Legal Program*

\* Voted by the graduating students as

Staff Person of the Year

+Dean's Distinguished Service Award

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*Head of Reference,  
Instruction, & Engagement*

Lucinda Harrison-Cox

*Associate Law Librarian*

Kathleen MacAndrew

*Catalog, Metadata &  
Archives Librarian*



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*Professor of Law*

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*Assistant Dean for Experiential Education  
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Gail I. Winson  
*Professor Emeritus*

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\*\*Voted by the graduating students as Adjunct Professor  
of the Year

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*Negotiation*

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Federal Income Tax*

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*Temple University*

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*& Kilpatrick Ltd.*

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*Law Office of Stephen P. Maguire, Inc.*

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*Managing Partner, Partridge, Snow & Hahn LLP*

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*Roger Williams University School of Law*  
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George L. Santopietro, Esq.  
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*General Counsel, Fenway Sports Group*

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*Continued on next page*

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Roger Williams University School of Law recognizes and salutes those members of its Board of Directors who are stepping down this year. Please join us in expressing our sincere appreciation for their years of dedication and exemplary service.



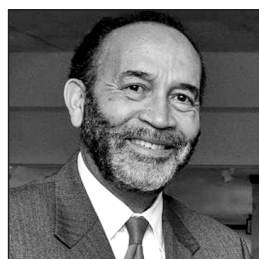
**The Honorable Francis X. Flaherty, *Vice-Chair***  
Associate Justice,  
Rhode Island Supreme Court  
*Served 2011-2020*



**Joseph D. Whelan, Esq., *Treasurer***  
Partner,  
Whelan Corrente & Flanders LLP  
*Served 2008-2020*



**The Honorable Netti C. Vogel, *Secretary***  
Associate Justice,  
Rhode Island Superior Court  
*Served 2011-2020*



**The Honorable Edward C. Clifton (*Ret.*)**  
Associate Justice,  
Rhode Island Superior Court  
*Served 2008-2020*

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Assistant Attorney General, Deputy Chief,  
Rhode Island Office of the Attorney General  
*Served 2008-2020*



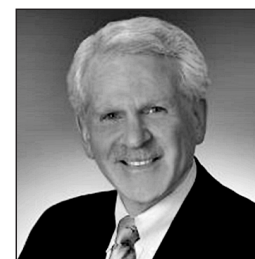
**Linn F. Freedman, Esq.**  
Partner,  
Robinson + Cole LLP  
*Served 2008-2020*



**Valerie Harrison, J.D., Ph.D.**  
Senior Advisor for Equity, Diversity and Inclusion,  
Temple University  
*Served 2015-2020*



**Constance A. Howes, Esq.**  
Former President & CEO,  
Women & Infants Hospital  
*Served 2008-2020*



**Mark S. Mandell, Esq.**  
Senior Partner,  
Mandell, Boisclair & Mandell, Ltd  
*Served 2008-2020 (as chair 2011-2014)*