

The Magazine of Santa Clara  
University School of Law

Fall 2025

# DISCERN

## Creating A Path For All

10

Anna Han Tribute

Anna Han: An Innovative Trailblazer

# DISCERN

FALL 2025

## CHERYL CALIGARIS

Editor

## JUSTIN MISKOWSKI

Art Director

## JESS SPATARO

Designer

## CONTRIBUTORS

Lisa Kloppenberg  
Ed Lee  
Daniel Zertuche  
Nic Coury  
Sandee Magliozzi  
Michael Kaufman  
Caitlin Jachimowicz  
Isaiah Schutz-Ramon  
Deborah Snyder  
Laura Norris  
Ellen Kreitzberg  
Jennifer Wooliscroft

Santa Clara University School of Law, is dedicated to educating lawyers who lead with a commitment to excellence, ethics, and social justice. Santa Clara Law offers students an academically rigorous program that includes certificates in High Tech Law, International Law, Public Interest and Social Justice Law, Privacy Law, and Sports Law, as well as numerous graduate and joint degree options. Located in the heart of Silicon Valley, Santa Clara Law is nationally distinguished for its faculty engagement, preparation for practice, and top-ranked programs in intellectual property. For more information, visit [www.law.scu.edu](http://www.law.scu.edu).

If you have any questions or comments, please contact the Law Advancement & Alumni Relations Office by phone at 408-551-1748; email [lawmedia@scu.edu](mailto:lawmedia@scu.edu) or visit [law.scu.edu/alumni](http://law.scu.edu/alumni). Or write to Law Advancement & Alumni Relations, Santa Clara University, 500 El Camino Real, Santa Clara, CA 95053.

The diverse opinions expressed in DISCERN magazine do not necessarily represent the views of the editor or the official policy of Santa Clara University. Copyright 2025 by Santa Clara University. Reproduction in whole or in part without permission is prohibited.

Cover Photo Credit: Paul Tumason  
of Paul Tumason Portraits

## Welcome to our latest issue of DISCERN!

It is such a joy to share stories about our incredible students, the heroic leadership of our former deans, the transformative research and teaching of our renowned faculty, the dedication of our incredible staff-educators, the generous contributions of our donors, and the accomplishments of our preeminent and loyal alumni.

Even in the midst of serious challenges to legal education, we have so much to celebrate and be grateful for! By continuing to build on our distinctive strengths – including our vital Jesuit, Catholic mission – we are overcoming those challenges and rising together! In this issue, we highlight the inspiring and powerful work of Dean Emerita Anna Han, who taught generations of adoring students, produced pathbreaking scholarships regarding international relations, and led our law school through the rough seas of Covid with remarkable wisdom and grace.

You will also read about the latest achievements by our Clinics, including additional exonerations and game-changing research by our Northern California Innocence Project and the exciting work in conflict resolution being done in our newest alternative dispute resolution clinic. Thanks to the extraordinary vision and generosity of our alum, John Bates, we have established a Mediation Clinic which will educate students and professionals on the knowledge, skills, and values needed to succeed in this incredibly important and growing area of legal expertise.

In our news section, we congratulate our latest Santa Clara Law graduating class of 2025, who were treated to an inspiring commencement address by Howard Charney, urging them all to aim high! As you will learn, our applications were way up this year, and we are thrilled to have welcomed one of our strongest incoming classes in many years. We also share the fantastic results of our 2025 Day of Giving, which raised more than \$552,000, thanks to the generosity of our alumni and friends. And we are proud to honor alumni like Dave Wanek, who shares with us his own



path to success, and faculty colleagues such as newly-tenured Sue Guan, who has become a beloved teacher and one of the world's leading scholars in the field of financial regulation.

Finally, Dorian Daley, our Chair of the Law Advisory Board and a dedicated alum of the law school, expresses what we all feel in our hearts! We are more than a law school. We are a transformative learning community built on an ethic of loving kindness. We believe deeply in the power of our legal education to transform students, clients, and communities. We are called to accompany each other in the creation of a hope filled future and we would be so grateful to you if you joined us in that calling!

With warm regards and tremendous gratitude.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL J. KAUFMAN  
Dean & Professor of Law



# Contents

- 14 Santa Clara Law's Northern California Innocence Project Successfully Helps Free Wrongfully Convicted Man  
*By Daniel Zertuche*
- 20 Alumni Highlight  
David Wanek | His Path to Success  
*Interview by Nic Coury*  
*By Daniel Zertuche*
- 28 A Quiet Revolution in Legal Education:  
Santa Clara Law's Bates Mediation Clinic  
*By Jennifer Wooliscroft*

## Departments

- 4 Who We Are
- 22 Faculty Highlights
- 33 Class Action
- 36 In Memoriam

## 10

### Cover Story Anna Han Tribute

Anna Han: An Innovative Trailblazer  
*By Lisa Kloppenberg & Ellen Kreitzberg*



To view and share the digital edition of the magazine, visit <https://law.scu.edu/about/discern-magazine/>

# Who We Are

## Clinics

---

### NCIP

**The Northern California Innocence Project (NCIP)** is dedicated to exonerating the wrongfully convicted, reforming the criminal justice system, and training law students. NCIP has secured the freedom of many innocent individuals through legal advocacy and investigative work. This clinic provides Santa Clara Law students with practical experience in post-conviction litigation, forensic science, and criminal justice reform. Beyond exonerations, NCIP is also involved in legislative efforts to prevent wrongful convictions. Through the dedication of its team and partners, NCIP strives to uphold justice, educate future legal professionals, and transform lives.

### Katharine & George Alexander Community Law Center

**The Katharine & George Alexander Community Law Center (KGACLC)** provides pro bono legal advice and representation in worker' rights, consumer law, immigration law, and homelessness. The KGACLC also serves individuals and communities in need with competence, conscience, and compassion through pro bono legal representation and education.

### International Human Rights Clinic

**The International Human Rights Clinic (IHRC)** offers law students a unique chance to get first-hand experience in international human rights litigation, advocacy, and policy projects. It blends classroom learning with supervised case and project management, giving students practical training in essential lawyering skills while serving the community and promoting social justice.

### Entrepreneurs' Law Clinic

**The Entrepreneurs' Law Clinic (ELC)** at Santa Clara University utilizes law students to provide legal services to the local startup community. Students gain experience with critical startup transactions, including business formation, financing, operational contracts, company policy, website terms/privacy, employment contracts, and intellectual property matters. In addition to client work, students attend regular seminars covering subjects relevant to ELC clients.

### Immigration Appellate Practice Clinic

**In the Immigration Appellate Practice Clinic**, law students, supervised by a clinical professor, represent clients in appellate cases. Students handle all aspects of a case, including client consultation, record review, legal research, brief writing, and oral arguments before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. They also explore other potential avenues for relief, and their work makes a real difference in their clients' lives.

### Bates Mediation Clinic

**Santa Clara Law's Bates Mediation Clinic** helps students build practical mediation skills by working on real-world cases at the Santa Clara Superior Court. Students mediate small claims cases under supervision, assisting unrepresented litigants in resolving disputes.

The clinic emphasizes Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) skills, which are valuable across all legal fields, from transactional law to litigation. By mediating actual disputes, students develop empathy, communication, process management, and creative problem-solving skills. This work also allows them to help unrepresented individuals and address the justice gap in the Santa Clara community.



# Centers

---

## Center for Social Justice and Public Service

**The Center for Social Justice and Public Service** at Santa Clara University School of Law is dedicated to public interest and social justice law, an area of excellence for the institution. The Center supports and celebrates the crucial work of students, faculty, and alumni who advocate for marginalized, and underrepresented clients and causes within the legal system.

## Center for Global Law and Policy

**The Center for Global Law and Policy (CGLP)** provides students and faculty at Santa Clara University with opportunities to engage with and contribute to international law scholarship. Its curriculum includes diverse courses, access to one of the nation's longest-running and most extensive summer abroad programs, and a year-round roster of international speakers and scholars.

## High Tech Law Institute

**The High Tech Law Institute** is a nationally recognized leader in educating and training lawyers to develop innovative legal solutions to intellectual property and technology-related issues. HTLI coordinates Santa Clara Law's extensive high tech and intellectual property programs, initiatives, and events to foster strong connections among faculty, students, alumni, and the thriving tech industry. Since 1998, HTLI has been preparing leaders from some of the top Silicon Valley law firms and technology companies to navigate the evolving landscape of technology law.



# Degree Programs

---

## Full-time J.D.

**Our J.D. program** offers a rigorous and comprehensive legal education designed to prepare students for success in a wide range of legal careers. Grounded in foundational coursework and enriched by experiential learning, the program emphasizes critical thinking, legal analysis, and ethical practice. Students benefit from access to renowned faculty, diverse course offerings, and hands-on opportunities that include clinics, externships, moot court, national competitions, and legal writing. Whether aiming to practice law, pursue public service, or explore academia, JD students graduate equipped with the skills and knowledge to lead and innovate in the legal profession.

Beyond the classroom, students engage in a dynamic community through student-led organizations, law journals, pro bono initiatives, and networking events with alumni and legal professionals. Our law school fosters a supportive and inclusive environment where students are encouraged to explore their interests, challenge conventional thinking, and become thoughtful advocates for justice and change.

## J.D./MBA

**The J.D./MBA program** offers an integrated curriculum for students seeking to combine legal expertise with a strong foundation in business management. Designed for highly motivated individuals, the program allows students to plan a specialized course of study in consultation with advisors from both the Santa Clara University School of Law and the Leavey School of Business. By blending legal education with business strategy, the program equips graduates to navigate complex regulatory environments, manage corporate operations, and lead with both legal insight and business expertise.

## LLM

**Santa Clara University School of Law** offers three distinct Master of Laws (LLM) programs: Intellectual Property (for U.S. JD holders), International and Comparative Law, and United States Law (specifically for foreign-trained lawyers, with optional specializations in IP, International and Comparative Law, or Human Rights Law). These programs provide advanced legal education, leveraging Santa Clara Law's strong reputation in IP and global law, and its strategic location in Silicon Valley, offering unique opportunities for specialized study and professional networking.

## J.D./MSIS

**The J.D./MSIS program** is designed for students seeking to bridge the gap between law and information technology, allowing them to earn both a Juris Doctor (J.D.) and a Master of Science in Information Systems (MSIS) in a reduced timeframe.

This joint degree is valuable for those aiming to practice at the intersection of law and technology, including in-house counsel for tech companies, attorneys specializing in software and hardware licensing, information security lawyers, and litigators handling complex e-discovery matters. Students gain a deep understanding of the technological landscape and its legal implications, equipping them to navigate the evolving challenges of the digital age and leverage technology effectively within their legal practice.

## Flex J.D.

**Santa Clara Law's Flex J.D.** is a hybrid, part-time program designed for working professionals, individuals who may not live near campus, and those with family commitments, offering the flexibility to earn a law degree without pausing their career or personal life. The program combines one week of in-person classes at the semester's start with three monthly long weekends on campus, supplemented by asynchronous online classes that fit into their schedule. Designed for completion in four years, the Flex J.D. allows students to learn from renowned faculty and industry experts, fostering connections with instructors and peers, and providing valuable in-person networking opportunities within the Silicon Valley legal community. The Flex J.D. program's flexible structure, requiring only 4 trips to campus per semester, attracts students from across the United States.





# Certificate Programs

---

## Tech Edge J.D.

**The Tech Edge J.D.** is an innovative J.D. certificate program that integrates legal, business, and technology education with practical skills development and personalized mentorship, capitalizing on its Silicon Valley location and renowned tech law curriculum. This program addresses the modern reality that effective lawyers in the 21st century must understand clients' business and technology challenges, providing students with a crucial advantage in the technology industry job market since its first cohort in Fall 2018.

## Public Interest J.D.

**The Public Interest J.D.** is a J.D. certificate program structured similarly to the Tech Edge J.D. but designed for students passionate about careers in public interest and social justice law, including areas like criminal, environmental, human rights, racial justice, immigration, and anti-discrimination law. This program empowers students to become an effective advocate, equipping them to use their law degree to drive legislative and policy reforms and serve marginalized and underrepresented clients and causes.

## Sports Law Certificate

**The Sports Law Certificate at Santa Clara Law**, offered through the High Tech Law Institute, is designed to prepare students for a career in the rapidly growing sports industry. It benefits those interested in various areas of sports law, including business, contract, labor and employment, antitrust, intellectual property law, and athlete representation. With the emergence of new areas like Name/Image/Likeness (NIL) in college athletics, there's increasing demand for legal professionals in roles at teams, leagues, unions, agencies, brands, e-sports organizations, the NCAA, and college athletics departments, encompassing both attorney and J.D. Advantage positions.

## Privacy Law Certificate

**Santa Clara Law's Privacy Law Certificate** addresses the increasing significance of privacy issues across global, national, and California economies, especially within Silicon Valley where privacy is a mission-critical concern. As a major social issue, privacy has led to a surge in new legislation, litigation, and complex compliance challenges for companies. This heightened legal activity drives strong employer demand for law students with demonstrated privacy expertise, making the Privacy Law Certificate an essential resource.

## High Tech Law Certificate

**The High Tech Law Certificate**, offered through the High Tech Law Institute, takes advantage of Santa Clara Law's highly-ranked intellectual property law faculty and curricula, as well as the school's strategic location in Silicon Valley, to provide students with opportunities to specialize in High Tech Law generally, or pursue further specialization in Intellectual Property Law, Corporate High Tech Law, or International High Tech Law. Students pursuing a specialization in high tech law have dozens of courses to choose from, encompassing the latest legal, ethical and policy issues arising from the use of cutting-edge technologies.

## International Law Certificate

**The International Law Certificate**, offered through the Center for Global Law and Policy, provides students with an immersive experience in international legal studies through a dynamic curriculum, global seminars, and hands-on opportunities abroad. Students can specialize in either Public International Law or International Business Law, tailoring their studies to match their professional goals. Study abroad programs in countries such as Japan, Austria, China, Australia, the United Kingdom, and others offer invaluable cultural and legal perspectives. The program also allows students to explore critical global issues, including International Human Rights, Comparative Privacy Law, Climate Change Law, and more, preparing them to navigate and impact the increasingly interconnected world of law.

## Social Justice and Public Interest Law Certificate

**The Social Justice Certificate**, offered through the Center for Social Justice and Public Service, is designed to immerse students in a community-focused curriculum that emphasizes the vital role lawyers play in advocating for marginalized, subordinated, and underrepresented clients and causes. As an institution that has identified Public Interest and Social Justice Law as a key area of excellence and specialization, Santa Clara School of Law takes great pride in the impactful work its students and alumni continue to do in advancing justice and equity within the legal system. Students can earn a general social justice certificate, or may specialize in criminal justice, immigration law, environmental justice, or education law.

# Santa Clara Law Class of 2025 *111th Commencement Ceremony*

---



**Santa Clara University** School of Law held the 111th Commencement Ceremony on Saturday, May 25, 2025. Dean Michael Kaufman, University President Julie Sullivan, Judge Risë Pichon, and keynote speaker Howard Charney marked the occasion with both words and gestures of honor. President Sullivan personally conferred the degree to the graduates while Dean Kaufman and Judge Pichon extended their congratulations through a handshake and warm smile.

In his graduation address, Howard Charney delivered a candid charge to Santa Clara Law graduates, urging ambition and resilience. "Not only is your entire life ahead of you, it's all up from here. Go up the steepest hill you can climb," he said, noting that careers will take unexpected turns. The journey, he reminded them, is long and demanding. "The effort is intense, and along the way there are tears that get shed. But you know what? It's worth it."

Together, the presence and words of Kaufman, Sullivan, Pichon, and Charney offered a fitting send-off for the Class of 2025.





# Class of 2024 Strong Employment Outcomes

Current Employment Information for Santa Clara Law Graduates

---

Top Practice Areas for Santa Clara Law Class of 2024:

**#1**

Litigation

**#2**

Intellectual  
Property

**#3**

Corporate

**#4**

Labor &  
Employment

**#5**

Criminal  
Law

**#6**

Immigration

**#7**

Family  
Law

**#8**

Privacy

**39th**

Ranked 39th of all law schools in percentage of graduates going to AmLaw 100 firms.

**43rd**

Ranked 43rd of all law schools in percentage of graduates going to the nation's 500 largest law firms.

Are you hiring?

To advertise a law student and/or attorney position, please email [law-ocm@scu.edu](mailto:law-ocm@scu.edu)

# Anna Han Tribute

## Anna Han: An Innovative Trailblazer

By Lisa Kloppenberg & Ellen Kreitzberg

---

**Anna Han**, a pivotal member of the Santa Clara faculty, retired this year. Professor Han was a pioneering leader whose 36 years of service left an indelible mark on the school.

Dean Kaufman captured the sentiments of our community when he stated: "Anna is a brilliant scholar, educator, public servant, and leader who has devoted her entire professional career to service to others and advancing the common good. As Interim Dean of the School of Law during an incredibly challenging time, Anna led with tremendous wisdom, grace, steadiness, humility, compassion, and fortitude. A true servant leader, Anna has taught and mentored countless adoring and grateful law students, shaped the bright future of our law school, and helped to build the future of justice itself."

While Anna will be deeply missed, she will always be a part of the Santa Clara Law family.

Professor Han truly embodies the American dream. Her story is one of professional success coupled with community service. Her intellect, determination, and vision forged a path that will leave her imprint on students, friends, colleagues and institutions at home and abroad.

Throughout her success, she was often a pioneer. A first-generation college and law student, Anna put herself through Berkeley and later UCSF law school. She became a partner at McCutchen, Doyle, Brown and Enerson and opened and managed the firm's first foreign office in China. She left a thriving international practice in 1989 to teach at Santa Clara law after discovering she "absolutely loved teaching." She was the first "foreign" attorney to reside in Shanghai, the first pregnant woman to go up for partner in her law firm, the second faculty member at SCU law to take





maternity leave, the second female Dean of SCU law school, and one of only three Asian American female Deans during her tenure of nearly 200 Deans in the US legal community.

## Her Early Years and Education

At 10 years old, Anna emigrated from Taiwan to San Francisco. She had no dreams of being a lawyer or a law professor. She didn't speak any English and was trying to navigate this new world. Two years after her arrival, she accompanied her grandfather to a meeting with an immigration lawyer in Chinatown. The lawyer did not speak any Chinese and yet was trying to provide legal services to her family who spoke little English. At this young age Anna saw how the law could be of service to her community. This experience inspired her interest in becoming a lawyer and using her bilingual abilities.

At age 14 Anna moved with her mother and sister across the country. They settled in New Hampshire where they were the only Asian family in her town. High school presented many challenges as she learned to navigate this new culture and a life far from her grandparents who had raised her. She was the first Asian American to graduate from her high school in 100 years. Anna only applied to the University of California, Berkeley. Once accepted she moved back to California and was reunited with her grandparents.

Upon graduation from Berkeley, Anna attended UCSF Law School. Clerking for the Asian Law Caucus her first summer in law school provided her the opportunity to delve into immigration law and begin her lifetime of community service.

While these years were academically rewarding, they also presented new challenges. Anna put herself through college and law school working at various jobs including in a pizza parlor, a Chinese restaurant, retail shops and banking. At times, she even needed to work in exchange for meals. Anna never forgot these early years and they helped shape the lawyer, professor and Dean she became. She understood the struggles faced by many of our students. Her later policies and decisions reflected this clear and compassionate understanding.

In her third year of legal studies, Anna was hired by a Heller Ehrman lawyer who was exploring the opening of the Chinese market to U.S. business. This was the early 1980s when China was mostly an untapped market with very little US legal presence. This set Professor Han on her professional path of international law and business.

In those busy years, Anna also met and married her husband Daniel Klein, an infectious disease specialist.

## A Global Law Practice

With her academic qualifications, entrepreneurial spirit and language skills, Professor Han had many offers at law school graduation. She initially joined Heller but was soon drawn to McCutchen, Doyle, Brown and Enerson as they explored an expansion of their firm's international practice. She was to be part of that effort. Just a year after joining McCutchen, Professor Han proposed a plan to open an office in Shanghai, China. In 1985, Professor Han opened the first office in China for the firm and she was the first "foreign" attorney in Shanghai. She managed the office for three years, starting as a fourth-year associate!

At that time, only a few other female lawyers at the firm had children, but Professor Han became a partner while pregnant with her first daughter. A first for the firm. Professor Han continued to build the firm's international presence in China building powerful lifelong connections along the way. To balance motherhood and law

practice, Anna's daughter Dana Han-Klein travelled with her to China on business trips even before the age of 1. Professor Han is proud that after her success, more women in her firm -- including partners -- had children.

## Connecting to Santa Clara Law

By the late 1980s, Anna was finding it harder to balance family and work in a satisfactory way, particularly given the extensive travel required by her thriving international practice. Her husband Dan's work as a specialist in infectious diseases was growing quickly. At this moment, Anna was presented with an opportunity that would shift the trajectory of her life.

Professor Dorothy Glancy ran Santa Clara's Hong Kong summer program. Professor Glancy invited Anna, who was living in China, to teach in the summer program. Her summer teaching was so successful that Professor Glancy suggested, "Why don't you come and teach at SCU for a year?"

When Professor Han arrived at Santa Clara, Professor Howard Anawalt wanted to start a High Tech Law Institute, and to build it into one of the top intellectual property and technology programs in the country. Professor Han's experience was a perfect addition to the Institute. She taught Tech Licensing and Chinese Law, subjects she knew well from her law practice. Her year at Santa Clara was a success. Professor Han discovered that she "*absolutely loved*



teaching!” And the High Tech Institute was launched.

Professor Han accepted a tenure-track position at Santa Clara Law despite repeated offers to join prominent international firms. Few lawyers had Professor Han’s expertise, connections, and language for practice in China. These qualities were now turned to support Santa Clara students and law school programs abroad. As one of SCU’s first Asian professors and a female with significant law and business experience, Professor Han’s service as an inspiration, role model and mentor for students began.

Over the next 35 years, Professor Han taught a wide variety of courses, although her primary courses were Business Organizations, Legal Issues of Start Up Businesses, Chinese Trade & Investment Law and Tech Licensing. She published on related topics and eventually wrote a casebook on “Doing Business in China.”

Professor Han was known for the rapport she developed with her students. This included hands-on coaching, phone calls to contacts for jobs, mock interviews and resume reviews. Her experience as a partner at a large law firm and her business acumen allowed Professor Han to offer students unique insight into the legal and business world.

Professor Han was one of a cohort of female faculty members hired by Dean Uelmen. These women had a collective and long-lasting impact on Santa Clara Law as they supported each other in their quest for tenure while balancing families at home. Many were starting families and their children connected with each other. Professor Han gave birth to her second daughter, Devon Han-Klein (SCU ’15), a few years after starting and was only the second professor at SCU law to take maternity leave. Happily, this is a practice that is now a well-established tradition.

## Stepping Up for Her Students, School and University

Over the decades, Professor Han gained significant administrative experience. Every Dean knew that he or she could call on her to serve the school. Professor

Han jokes that she never knew you could say “no” to a request from a Dean! She led both the High Tech Institute as well as the Center for Global Law & Policy for several years. She organized summer international experiences with both course work and prestigious placements in law firms and foreign courts. She supported the Center for Social Justice and Public service connecting international business and community service. Professor Han served on nearly every committee at Santa Clara Law including the work-intensive Appointments Committee. She also served the University on committees and helped to search for a new Dean at the Business School.

In 2019, Dean Lisa Kloppenberg was appointed Interim Provost of the University and the law school needed an Interim Dean. Professor Han was the clear choice. As Professor Ellen Kreitzberg observed, “everyone had *confidence* in Anna; she defied any narrow classification, she was a bridge across diverse communities, a unifier among the faculty and staff, and was held with great respect by all.”

Professor Han was formally asked to step in. It was to be a one-year commitment while they searched for a long-term Dean. Professor Han agreed. Then Covid happened – and one year suddenly became two.

In March 2020, Covid-19 altered SCU’s operations dramatically: how students learned, how faculty taught, how services were delivered and how the community functioned. Dean Han stepped right into one of the greatest challenges in Santa Clara Law’s history with no playbook and no example to follow. Dean Han led the Santa Clara community with stability, calmness, and grace.

Dean Han brought her personality and organizational skills to this unique and difficult time: a strong yet caring approach to dealing with faculty and staff members, students, and outside partners. Since childhood, she has overcome obstacles. Her entrepreneurial spirit and her leadership style kept the community working together through an exceedingly difficult time.

Dean Han drew on her core values to guide her decisions during this time and is “proud

that we got through it intact.” Giving credit to her team, she expressed relief that Santa Clara Law got through Covid “without laying off a single staff member or reducing their time, with students graduating on time, receiving their scholarships and without much additional disruption to their legal careers.” When feasible, the School held in-person graduation ceremonies for the impacted students, appreciating their importance to students and their families.

Dean Han drew upon her early struggles recalling her personal experience even as a young adult with food insecurity. Her compassion for Santa Clara students led to policies to support students who were struggling financially. She and her team spent countless hours planning scenarios to comply with the constantly changing governmental regulations and university policies. They strove to get students back to in-person classes and back in control of their lives.

Professor Phil Jimenez aptly observed, “Anna was the epitome of ‘grace under fire’; her calm, firm leadership brought us back from the abyss, allowing us to emerge stronger than ever.”

Dean Han humbly saw her role as a continuation of her service to the community. Smiling, she noted, “No one was happier when Dean Michael Kaufman was hired.”

## In Gratitude

Anna, Professor and Dean, the Santa Clara community thanks you for 36 years of incredible contributions to our students and our community. We have all benefited from your commitment to the highest standards of practice and your dedication to the rule of law. We know you’re excited to find exciting new challenges and adventures around the world. God bless you and your family.





Anna is a brilliant scholar, educator, public servant, and leader who has devoted her entire professional career to service to others and advancing the common good. As Interim Dean of the School of Law during an incredibly challenging time, Anna led with tremendous wisdom, grace, steadiness, humility, compassion, and fortitude. A true servant leader, Anna has taught and mentored countless adoring and grateful law students, shaped the bright future of our law school, and helped to build the future of justice itself.

DEAN MICHAEL KAUFMAN

# Santa Clara Law's Northern California Innocence Project Successfully Helps Free Wrongfully Convicted Man

By Daniel Zertuche

Photo Credit: Carla Spain

**A Santa Clara University** School of Law clinical program, the Northern California Innocence Project (NCIP), successfully helped to free a man who was wrongfully convicted and served 11 years in prison. Reginald "Regi" Tanubagijo, a 68-year-old Solano County man, was released from San Quentin Rehabilitation Center on May 16 after his two convictions were reversed and vacated on May 7, 2025. Tanubagijo was wrongfully convicted in 2010 of second-degree murder and assault on a child, after his infant foster son tragically died from a head injury.

The infant's injuries were caused by an accident where the child's bouncer chair slipped off a kitchen table. However, at the time of the trial, three expert witnesses testified that the child's injuries could not have been caused by a short fall, insisting they were the result of "shaken baby syndrome" or "abusive head trauma." Tanubagijo maintained that the death was an accident, and lay witnesses testified that he was a loving, gentle, and adoring foster parent who would never harm a child. Tanubagijo and his wife had significant experience as foster parents, having cared for seven children, one of whom they adopted. They had also received multiple awards from Solano County and the California State Assembly for their dedication to providing a nurturing environment for infants.

Over the years, scientific and medical understanding has evolved. Medical literature now shows that short accidental falls can cause the same injuries once attributed almost exclusively to shaken baby syndrome or abusive head trauma. At the request of NCIP, the acting chief forensic pathologist for the Alameda County Sheriff-Coroner reviewed the case in 2021. The pathologist declared that since 2014, expert testimony on short falls has been undermined, and the medical community has broadened its view on what could cause such injuries. NCIP Clinical

Supervising Attorney **Lauryn Barbosa Findley J.D. '20** stated that the "state of medical knowledge finally supports what Mr. Tanubagijo has long insisted: that his foster son's tragic death was the result of a devastating accident."

The legal battle for Tanubagijo's exoneration lasted more than three years. During that time, NCIP co-sponsored and helped pass California Senate Bill 467, which allows people to challenge wrongful convictions based on expert opinions that have been undermined by





new scientific knowledge or research. The bill also applies to cases where a significant scientific dispute has emerged regarding the reliability or validity of the original evidence. Using this new law, NCIP filed a writ of habeas corpus, and the case was sent back to the Superior Court, which ordered an evidentiary hearing.

On May 7, 2025, Judge William J. Pendergast III reversed and vacated both convictions, ruling that new evidence would likely have changed the outcome of the case. He also found that the original expert medical testimony had been rendered false because it was undermined by the state of scientific knowledge and that a significant dispute had emerged in Tanubagijo's favor regarding that testimony.

Tanubagijo's case is part of a broader initiative by NCIP, which began six years ago, to identify and litigate wrongful shaken baby syndrome or abusive head trauma convictions in California. NCIP Executive Director **Todd Fries J.D. '09** noted that this is the second consecutive case where NCIP proactively identified and freed a wrongfully convicted person. A few months prior, NCIP helped reverse the conviction of Jose Olivares, who served 13 years for a shaken baby syndrome misdiagnosis. Fries hopes these cases will prompt a paradigm shift in how shaken baby syndrome cases are evaluated by the legal system.



## NCIP Exonerations

Name	Years Incarcerated
Obie Anthony III	17
Karla Baday	17
Juan Bautista	12
Mashelle Bullington	04
Domingo Anaya Bustos	21
Maurice Caldwell	21
Francisco Carrillo, Jr.	20
Joaquin Ciria	32
Darwin Crabtree	10
Ricky Davis	12
Jimmie Dick	30
Bismarck Dinius	03
Ed Easley	05
Bob Fenenbock	28
Kenneth Foley	12
Kevin Harper	13
Arturo Jimenez	26
Albert Johnson	10
Zavion Johnson	17
Clifton Jones	15
Martin Laiwa	15
Armando Ortiz	04
Jose Olivares	13
Glenn Payne	15
Larry Pohlschneider	15
Jeremy Puckett	18
Ronald Reno	05
Jeffrey Rodriguez	05
Peter Rose	10
Ronald Rose	07
Lionel Rubalcava	17
Jack Sagin	34
Miguel Solorio	25
George Souliotes	16
John Stoll	20
Reginald Tanubagijo	11
Johnny Williams	14
Edelyn Yhip	05



# Advancement: Why I Give

By Dorian E. Daley J.D. '86

**Dorian E. Daley J.D. '86**, for over three decades, was a guiding force at Oracle Corporation, retiring in 2022 as Executive Vice President and General Counsel. In addition, her contributions to the legal profession have been widely recognized as she was named one of America's 50 Outstanding General Counsel by the National Law Journal and was featured as a "Legend of the Law" by the Burton Awards in 2019. She further has also been active in promoting women in technology, law, and policy, notably joining the board of Chiefs for Intellectual Property (ChIPs) in 2017 as its first non-founding member and later being elected its board chair. Her remarkable career, riddled with groundbreaking achievements and immense impact on the technology and legal landscape, is a testament to the power of a Santa Clara University School of Law education. Beyond her impressive professional accolades, it is Dorian's unwavering dedication to our community, and her belief in the potential of future legal minds, that truly resonates and calls us to action.

Dorian's story isn't just one of individual success but also an embodiment of what Santa Clara University School of Law strives to cultivate in every student including skills of legal acumen, ethical leadership, and a commitment to making a tangible difference. In an interview, Daley stated, "...a well-rounded legal education is incredibly important and it is something that is a differentiator for law students...those students that come

from a well-rounded legal education have greater confidence, they have greater understanding, they have greater creativity, they're inspired...." She further believes that such an education from Santa Clara University School of Law provides "[a] broader obligation to the community in which they live and they want to serve."

Dorian further credits SCU's generosity to students through the form of financial aid which helped shape her experience at Santa Clara University School of Law. She reflects, "More than half of the students at Santa Clara University School of Law are recipients of grants and that has a huge impact. For me personally, it had an impact because I was a grant recipient and it made it much easier, less stressful...So, those kinds of grants or gifts or generosity whatever you wanna call it really can make certain dreams and aspirations possible for those who otherwise wouldn't be able to take advantage of that possibility..." She further elaborates, "...that kind of generosity from the institution that is impactful not just to the grant recipients but other people that know about it that develops the sense of community, the sense of giving back, the importance to reach out and lift up those who are struggling for whatever particular reason...Essentially to do unto others."

When you give to Santa Clara University School of Law, you're not just funding programs, rather you're investing in an organization built on the belief that true effectiveness stems from community reflection. Santa Clara University School

of Law firmly believes, as articulated in Dorian's powerful quote, that our team "has to be able to reflect the community to be effective within the community." Your generous giving empowers us to build a team that deeply understands and genuinely connects with the diverse needs and aspirations of those we serve, ensuring our efforts truly resonate and create lasting change and further empower students, "to be able to reflect and better serve the community."



The thing that I think is really important whether you are a company or you are a law firm or you're a public interest agency, that the people that work in your organization reflect your community. They have to be able to reflect the community to be effective within the community.

DORIAN E. DALEY J.D. '86

# Advancing the Mission of Santa Clara Law

## The School of Law's Commitment to Competitive Financial Support for Students

The School of Law's proven strategy will not be sustainable without the commitment of **\$2 million each year in financial assistance for incoming students.**

The targeted annual reinvestment of \$2 million for each cohort would have the following cascading, long-term benefits:

- Improve Incoming Student Credentials
- Improve Bar Passage
- Improve Employment Outcomes
- Improve Reputation

Each of these improvements would also dramatically raise the bulk of the newly-reconfigured metrics underlying the law school's US News & World Report ranking!

## The Strategy

**Among competing law schools,** there is a remarkable correlation between the size of scholarships offered to incoming students and the median LSAT of the incoming class.

Recognizing that, we have increased admissions selectivity and enrollment yield rates by increasing the size of the scholarship offered as well as the percentage of students receiving scholarships. In doing this, we have improved bar passage, as median LSAT scores are highly correlated with admission selectivity. This is **boosting** employment outcomes since bar passage is required for a significant percentage of full-time law jobs.

Your philanthropic investment in scholarship assistance at the School of Law has proved our strategy is working! As a result of these improvements, the school is on the trajectory of being a top-tier law school.

## Supporting Evidence

## How we are Elevating Our National Prominence

**We are laser-focused** on improving the outcome-predictive credentials of our incoming classes. Our strategy of investment in the achievement and success of our students has long made a difference, but the law school's strategy over the last several years to provide more competitive financial assistance for law students has already begun to show a strong return on investment. As a result of this success of the strategy, the University has made a substantial financial commitment to the Law School. This competitive financial assistance for our students will further the progress. With the University's commitment, coupled with your support, the law school can pursue its strategy to increase incoming student credentials and attract and retain the best and the brightest (regardless of ability to pay), improve bar passage rates, ensure the success of employment outcomes, and continue to improve the law school's national rankings.

### 2020 vs. 2025 incoming class 75th percentile scores:

LSAT 2020 158*	vs	LSAT 2025 162*
GAP 2020 3.57	vs	GPA 2025 3.73

\*Statistics are based on data as of 8/18/25 and are subject to change prior to the ABA reporting date.





## Financial Aid Areas of Focus

### Amicus Fund

**The Amicus Fund** serves as the dean's strategic initiatives fund, providing the financial resources needed to nourish the law school's most critical programs and to launch initiatives that will better prepare our students for the challenges of tomorrow's legal profession. A few of the key areas supported by the fund include:

- **Student Success** – including scholarships and academic support resources
- **Faculty Enrichment & Scholarship** – attracting and retaining the best minds in the field
- **Alumni Support Services** – career services, CLE, and an active alumni network
- **Experiential Learning** – providing practical legal training to our students and offering valuable services to our wider community
- **Next Practices** – developing a curriculum that keep our students at industry's cutting edge

### Support Scholarships

#### Endowed Scholarships

**\$1,000,000 generates \$45,000** ——— per year in scholarships

**\$250,000 generates \$11,250** ——— per year in scholarships

**\$100,000 generates \$4,500** ——— per year in scholarships

#### Outright Scholarships

**Choosing to make an outright scholarship gift will offset a student's annual tuition.**

**\$16,000 offsets 25%** ————— of annual tuition

**\$32,000 offsets 50%** ————— of annual tuition

## Make a gift!

**Tax ID #: 94-1156617**

**Please send  
correspondence to:**

Santa Clara University School of Law  
Office of Advancement & Alumni Relations  
500 El Camino Real  
Santa Clara, CA 95053-1400

**Questions, please contact:**

Cheryl Caligaris  
Assistant Dean for Advancement  
408-554-5496 | ccaligaris2@scu.edu



# Support the Santa Clara Law PLEDGE Scholarship

Make Legal Education Achievable.  
Make a Pledge That Lasts.

**As a proud graduate or dedicated community partner** of our law school, you know the transformative power of a Santa Clara Law education—not just for individual students, but for the communities they go on to serve. Yet today, far too many promising future lawyers are forced to defer their dreams due to student debt, made far more burdensome by recent limits imposed on federally guaranteed loans.

The challenge to our incoming students has now become urgent.

Recent changes to federally guaranteed loan limits for graduate and professional education mean that students enrolling next fall can no longer rely on federal aid to cover the full cost of their attendance at law schools. This new cap puts legal education out of reach for many outstanding students who would otherwise be able to enroll and take advantage of our Santa Clara Law education.

That's why we're launching the Pledge Scholarship: a bold initiative to close the affordability gap and ensure access to legal education isn't limited by the new caps on federal loans or the ability to access private borrowing.

Each Pledge Scholarship provides \$16,000 per full-time student, per year, reducing total tuition costs below the new federal loan limits—and ensuring that law school will remain financially achievable for every single student who is admitted and enrolls next fall.

This is more than a scholarship. It's a promise to future generations that talent and character rather than financial circumstances will determine who gets to practice law.

## With your support, we can:

- Relieve the financial burden on our students
- Provide security, certainty, and peace of mind for our students
- Reduce our students' need to turn to private, high-interest loans
- Preserve access to legal education for our students of all backgrounds
- Ensure the legal profession reflects the breadth and values of our society

We invite you  
to join us in  
making this  
promise.



## Your Impact: Menu of Giving Options

Whether you wish to make a one-time gift or establish a lasting legacy, your support will directly transform lives.

### Annual Cash Gifts (Immediate Impact)

Gift Amount	Impact
<b>\$16,000</b>	Funds 1 full time student for 1 year
<b>\$48,000</b>	Funds 1 student for all years
<b>\$160,000</b>	Funds 10 scholarships for 1 year
<b>\$480,000</b>	Funds 10 students for all years

All gifts of \$48,000 or more may be named in honor of a person, firm, or graduating class.

### Endowed Scholarships (Perpetual Support)

Creating an endowed scholarship ensures your support lives on, year after year.

#### Endowment Target: \$400,000 per scholarship

With a standard 4% annual payout, a \$400,000 endowment will fund a \$16,000 scholarship every year, forever.

Endowment Gift	Impact
<b>\$400,000</b>	1 annual scholarship in perpetuity
<b>\$1,200,000</b>	3 annual scholarships in perpetuity
<b>\$2,000,000</b>	5 annual scholarships in perpetuity

All endowments can be named and customized to honor a family legacy, mentor, or milestone.

# Alumni Highlight

## David Wanek | His Path to Success

Interview by Nic Coury

By Daniel Zertuche



**David Wanek**, graduated from Santa Clara University School of Law in 2002, and his continuing legacy is the embodiment of startup culture in Silicon Valley. He is currently CEO and investment partner at Western Technology Investment (WTI), and has led the firm's venture-debt and fund management activities since joining the team in 2000. Before WTI, Wanek held roles in marketing, business development and legal at VeriSign, Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati and Los Alamos National Laboratory. He further holds a BS from University of Kansas and an MBA from Anderson School of Management at the University of New Mexico.

Wanek's path to success is by all means not traditional. Raised in a small town and exposed to technology early through his grandfather who worked at Motorola. He recalled, "[My grandfather] bought us our first microwave and VCR, and those little things made a big impression." The spark of curiosity moved from microwaves to Atari 64 games to the Apple Macintosh.

Later in his life, he pursued an MBA at the University of New Mexico and worked with Los Alamos National Laboratory on technology-management projects. The blend of curious, hands-on technology work and business consulting pulled him west. "When I was out here running around, talking to people, I was like, this is where I need to be," he says.

Though he held an MBA from the University of New Mexico he did not think it was enough to succeed in the Bay Area. He wanted a legal credential that connected him locally. Santa Clara Law became the bridge between Wanek's business background and the Bay Area network he needed. "I wanted to go to law school... to get a degree that I can use, that has a local network," he says. At Santa Clara



he found a tight-knit community and a program willing to let students shape their own learning. "When I walked into the office for help, every single person knew who I was," Wanek recalls. "That was emblematic of my experience at Santa Clara...the people cared."



**When I walked into the office for help, every single person knew who I was. That was emblematic of my experience at Santa Clara...the people cared.**

DAVID WANEK

Rather than treating law school as a detour, Wanek used Santa Clara's clinical and tech focused offerings to stay rooted in and further cultivate his business acumen. He co-created an incubator clinic that helped startups with incorporation and stock-option plans, securing free office space, syllabi and supervising attorneys. "Students should be able to do this," he says, explaining why hands-on clinics mattered to him. Further, he also wrote early legal research on open source software at a time when most other programs ignored that topic. Faculty support for that work, and the access to adjunct experts from industry, made Santa Clara a place where tech issues could be studied in real time.

He also credits Santa Clara's scale and culture for practical advantages. At a time when larger schools felt impersonal, Wanek felt seen and supported: staff accommodated urgent client work by rescheduling a final, and faculty were open to student-driven, applied projects. That support helped him launch real initiatives inside the law school and to enter the Bay Area's startup network prepared to add value from day one.

Wanek frames law school as cognitive training more than vocational training. "Law school trains you to read things critically

and think through things critically," he says. For him, the value came in the detail orientation, parsing sentences, spotting risk in contract clauses and building downside protection into financings. Those habits of mind are central to his day-to-day work structuring venture-debt deals and negotiating covenant language. "Those skills translate directly into structuring transactions," he adds.

To keep his business skills sharp while studying law, Wanek moonlighted at VeriSign during the dawn of e-commerce. There he worked on product pricing and digital-certificate business models while reading cases at night. "I was hell-bent on making sure that I kept my business skills up at the same time that I was learning law," he says. That mix of legal training and market experience led to an internship at Western Technology Investment, where he stayed on after graduating and, over roughly 25 years, rose to CEO and president.

Outside finance and law, Wanek sustains a parallel interest in wine. Wanek's love of wine began at work, when one of his colleagues would bring him a bottle to try. Wanek remembers, "I would show up to work and find a bottle on my desk."

A weekend hobbyist became a business. After years visiting the Pacific Northwest from their Bay Area base, Wanek and partners bought land in Walla Walla's Rocks. The soil, he notes, "[is] 300 feet of cobblestones," and that geology gives the vineyards a strong sense of place. He believes that rather than chase quick

returns, the operation is built to world-class farming standards. "We're not going to cut any corners," Wanek says. They sell premium grapes and recruit top winemakers to translate the site's terroir into bottles that reflect where they came from.

Furthermore, his approach is businesslike and people-first. Borrowing a model from progressive growers, Wanek emphasizes partnership over commodity pricing. For example, one property includes worker housing, a deliberate choice to build a stable, skilled crew. He noted, "We wanted to give [workers] housing... where you treat them well and give them part of the profit." In turn, he believes that he will have better product results.

For Wanek, the vineyard project mirrors his day job, pairing talent with opportunity and capital, then stewarding both for the long run. The goal is clear. Make wines that unmistakably express their place and work. Like the best investment ventures, it starts in patience and careful cultivation.



# Faculty Highlights



## Thiadora Pina

**Professor Pina** directs and teaches in the Critical Lawyering Skills seminar, SCU Law's first-year professional identity curriculum where students practice core client-facing skills. She manages the school's Inclusive Excellence initiatives and advises student groups including BLSA and First-Gen. Her teaching includes 1L and Advanced Torts and practical skills courses that bridge doctrine and courtroom practice. Prior to joining the faculty she practiced civil litigation in Boston and has a track record of student mentoring and program development. This past summer professor Pina published her new book, "Critical Lawyering Skills: A Path to Professional Identity."

## Cathy Sandoval

**Professor Sandoval** is a tenured professor who teaches telecommunications, antitrust, energy, and contracts, bringing regulatory and policy expertise to the classroom. She teaches Energy Resources Law, Antitrust, Administrative Law, and 1L Contracts. She served as a California Public Utilities Commissioner and held senior roles at the FCC and in state government, giving students direct exposure to regulatory practice. She graduated magna cum laude from Yale and her public service focused on regulatory design and consumer protection. This past summer Professor Sandoval researched the root cause of the U.S. digital divide and digital discrimination.



## Sue S. Guan

**Professor Guan** researches "finfluencers", market information, securities regulation, and market microstructure. She was a Columbia postdoctoral fellow, worked as an associate at Cleary Gottlieb, and clerked on the Tenth Circuit, experiences that inform both her teaching and scholarship. She also represented pro bono a class of detainees at Rikers Island in a Section 1983 lawsuit. At SCU Law she teaches securities and financial regulation topics and 1L Contracts, tying both subjects to practical examples. This past summer, Professor Guan published an article, *Securities Fraud and the Market for Individual Stocks*, in the COLUMBIA BUSINESS LAW REVIEW, where she argued that demand-driven investing can create a market for individual stocks.

## Sean Bland

**Professor Bland** studies the intersection of law and public health, with research on health law, racial equity, and LGBTQ+ legal issues. He previously served as a senior associate at the O'Neill Institute and practiced litigation at Fried Frank, bringing policy and litigation perspectives into his courses. His scholarship draws on his background in public health research and his policy work focused on building robust and equitable legal and policy responses to the HIV epidemic and the intersecting epidemics of other infectious diseases and substance use disorders. He publishes on how law shapes health equity and marginalised populations' access to care. Professor Bland teaches a Public Health Law and Ethics course as well as 1L Contracts. This past summer, Professor Bland worked on his next law review article and presented it at CrimFest in Philadelphia.





## Nicholas Emanuel

**Professor Emanuel** is an Assistant Clinical Professor who directs the Externship Program and further teaches a variety of other courses. He formerly served as a senior appellate court attorney and worked in civil-rights litigation, experience that he uses to coach students on appellate advocacy and practical legal drafting. He is the author of the casebook *Remedies: Basic Principles, Authorities, and Problems* (Carolina Academic Press, 2022), which is used in doctrinal courses. His approach emphasizes hands-on supervision and connecting clinical work to doctrinal learning. He teaches Remedies, 1L Civil Procedure, and Introduction to U.S. Law.

## Eric Goldman

**Professor Goldman** teaches Internet law, intellectual property, and advertising law and co-directs the High Tech Law Institute and the Privacy Law Certificate. He served as general counsel in Silicon Valley and maintains a long-running legal blog that tracks tech policy and litigation. *Managing IP* magazine has twice named him to a shortlist of North American "IP Thought Leaders," and he has been named an "IP Vanguard" by the California State Bar's IP Section. This past summer, Professor Goldman was invited to speak about IP enforcement that disrupts Chinese sellers on online marketplaces in a five-city, two-week tour of China, with stops in Shanghai, Beijing, Hangzhou, Shenzhen, and Ningbo.



## Laura Norris

**Professor Norris**, who also holds the title of Director of Innovation, applies design thinking to legal education, focusing on career coaching, experiential learning, and diversity in innovation. She co-authored the 2021 Diversity in Innovation Best Practices Guide for in-house attorneys and IP managers, helped found Silicon Valley ChiPs, and served as VP Legal Affairs at Cypress, giving her practical industry insight. She was founding director of the Entrepreneurs' Law Clinic, and teaches 1L Contracts and Business Organizations. She was recognized in 2021 in the Top 100 Women of Influence by the Silicon Valley Business Journal, and was awarded a Top Woman Leader in Tech Law in 2014 and 2017 by the Recorder. This past summer, Professor Norris Co-Presented at the annual Transactional Clinical Conference in Detroit, MI with Prof. Linsey Krolik on designing clinics that can be taught in a hybrid format.

## Kerry McIntosh

**Professor McIntosh's** scholarship covers biotechnology, electronic commerce, commercial law, and contracts, with emphasis on how emerging technologies reshape commercial norms. She is a long-time Santa Clara faculty member who has held visiting posts at other major law schools and brings federal judicial clerkship experience to her teaching. She teaches 1L Contracts, Commercial Transactions, and Assisted Reproduction, Cloning, and Genetic Engineering. Prior to SCU, she clerked for Judge Cecil Poole of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 9th Circuit, and for Justices Brachtenback and Dimmick of the Washington State Supreme Court. This past summer professor Macintosh researched how Mitochondrial replacement techniques may help infertile patients have children.





# Defending Fair Use

By Edward Lee

**Testifying before the Senate Judiciary** Committee was not in my summer plans. In fact, I had blocked out a week in mid-July for a vacation, a much needed one at that. But, when Senator Josh Hawley's staffer reached out to me about testifying at a subcommittee hearing organized by his office, my plans changed. Vacation could wait.

Because Senator Hawley's office called me on short notice, I had little time to prepare. But, luckily, I had already written about fair use and AI training in a law review article forthcoming in the *Houston Law Review*. Writing this law review article forced me to distill my thoughts on a variety of issues that are both novel and complex.

The hearing before the Subcommittee on Crime and Counterterrorism was on the topic, "Too Big to Prosecute?: Examining the AI Industry's Mass Ingestion of Copyrighted Works for AI Training." With such a provocative title, I knew I was entering a lion's den. Senator Hawley is no fan of Big Tech, and he seized on the opportunity to hold Mark Zuckerberg's and Meta's feet to the fire.

Well, it turns out that one of the recent decisions I would be testifying about was *Kadrey v. Meta*, in which Judge Vince Chhabria granted summary judgment in favor of Meta on its fair use defense for using books to train its AI models, including its acquiring copies of pirated books from so-called shadow libraries.

Senator Hawley would strongly disagree with that decision, I expected. But what I did not expect was how stacked the witness panel was. Maxwell Pritt, one of the lawyers representing the book authors

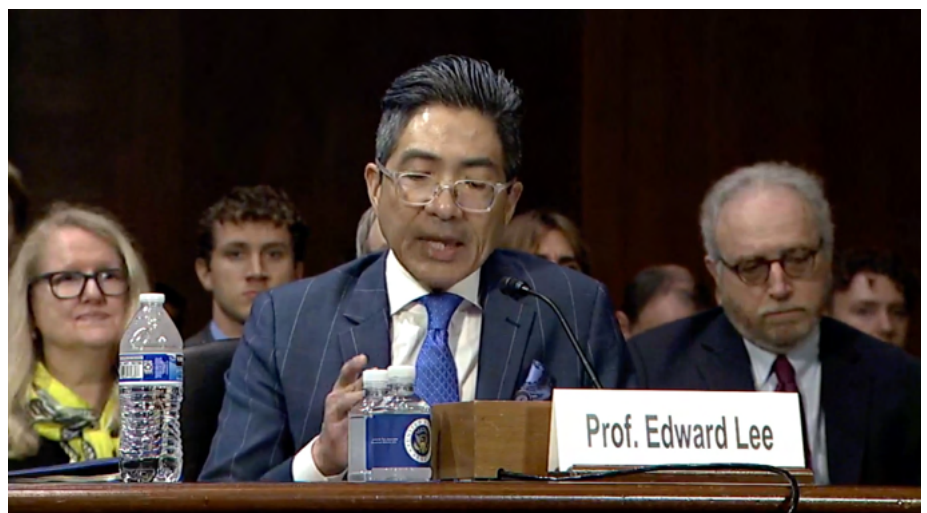
in *Kadrey v. Meta*, testified at the hearing. So did David Baldacci, the prolific author who was a plaintiff in a similar lawsuit filed by the Authors Guild against OpenAI and Microsoft. In fact, the other two professors who testified were also against the AI companies. That left me as the lone voice on the side of fair use.

The hearing room was packed. The CEOs of various copyright stakeholder groups were in attendance. So were a team of lawyers representing book authors in lawsuits against AI companies. There was a bevy of summer interns for members of Congress, likely lured by the provocative title and mention of AI.

After each witness delivered an opening statement, the questioning began. I rewrote and practiced my testimony numerous times to get it under five minutes. Because their views aligned with the views of Senator Hawley on the issue of AI training, the other witnesses received

softball questions. I received, however, a flurry of pointed questions from both Senator Hawley and Ranking Member Dick Durbin. I think I made a strong case for why courts should find that AI training has a legitimate fair use purpose to develop a new technology, as two federal judges have already recognized, while factoring in potential market harm from a defendant's use of shadow libraries. The training of AI models is national priority, I noted, especially given that China has an ambitious national plan of surpassing the United States in AI by 2030.

To my surprise, this last point—the United States' national interest in AI innovation—received the most pushback from Senator Hawley. In my view, this last point should be the least controversial part of my testimony. If the United States loses the AI arms race to China, that will give the edge to China in technological innovation for the 21st century.





The media widely reported the hearing, including on the front page of the *Washington Post*. Most reports mentioned my testimony because it was the only dissenting view on the panel, plus my exchange with Senator Hawley surely made for good theatre.

On the flight home from D.C., I was grateful for the chance to testify. My friends wondered why I would go into such a hostile forum. But, to me, that's precisely the arena in which someone needs to present the side of fair use—and engage the public debate. I didn't expect to win converts at the hearing, but my intended audience was much larger than that.

After the dust settled from the hearing, I finally took a vacation. I saw glaciers and whales in Alaska. There's nothing like the majesty of the largest mammal to make one forget about AI. But, when I got back, sitting in my inbox was more homework from the Senate committee—follow-up questions from Senator Amy Klobuchar. Back to the future of AI.



# *At Santa Clara Law, We Believe....*



We are called to accompany each other  
in the creation of a hope filled future



We are called to collaborate in  
the care of our common home



Kindness is not a weakness

Every person has infinite worth

---

We have the capacity to bend the arc  
of the moral universe toward justice





We have a duty to prioritize the needs of the poor  
and most vulnerable among us

---



We are called to use our talents  
and education in service of others

We learn and find fulfillment through meaningful relationships



We are called to be stewards of all gifts we receive

---

We have a responsibility to contribute to the common good



# A Quiet Revolution in Legal Education: Santa Clara Law's Bates Mediation Clinic

By Jennifer Wooliscroft

## While courtroom drama dominates

pop culture portrayals of our legal system, real transformation is happening in a much quieter corner of justice: Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR). ADR, including mediation and negotiation, is reshaping how conflicts are resolved—offering faster, cheaper, and more collaborative outcomes while lightening the load on overburdened courts.

At the forefront of this shift is Santa Clara University School of Law, where the newly established Bates Mediation Clinic is a powerful testament to student initiative, faculty mentorship, and institutional vision. The Clinic was born from the School of Law's established strengths in this area, as well as the passion and persistence of recent graduate Leor Chechik J.D. '24, who saw a gap in access to practical, hands-on mediation training.

"Being a successful mediator depends so much on practice—on practical experience," she explains. "But a lot of mediators aren't accustomed to taking interns or allowing students to observe them," mainly due to privacy concerns. Yet, Chechik persisted, reaching out to Law Professor, Dean Emerita, and noted conflict resolution expert Lisa Kloppenberg to brainstorm.

Kloppenberg, who fondly refers to ADR as "*Appropriate*" Dispute Resolution, connected Chechik with John Bates J.D. '74, a prominent Bay Area mediator and co-founder of Judicial Arbitration and

Mediation Services, Inc. (JAMS). In addition to being a major benefactor of Santa Clara Law's Conflict Resolution Program, Bates also generously shares his time and considerable expertise as a teacher, speaker, and mentor.

During their meeting, Chechik and Bates had a breakthrough idea: establishing a dedicated, on-site clinic to provide greater numbers of SCU Law students with hands-on mediation training. When Chechik shared the details of the discussion with Kloppenberg, they were soon in talks with Bates and Santa Clara Law Dean Michael Kaufman to make the "Bates Mediation Clinic" at Santa Clara University School of Law a reality.



The live feedback in court was a highlight, especially learning from experienced figures like Judge Kirwan.

ALEXA LE BLANC J.D. '25



*Whether referred to as “Conflict Resolution,” or “Alternative Dispute Resolution,” mediation provides a viable alternative to traditional court cases, including:*

**Confidentiality:**

Mediation offers a private setting for resolving disputes, unlike public court proceedings.

**Cost Savings:**

Mediation is generally less expensive than litigation, saving time and legal fees.

**Faster Resolution:**

Mediation typically leads to quicker settlements compared to lengthy court battles.

**Control Over Outcome:**

Parties in mediation have more say in the resolution compared to a judge's decision.

**Preservation of Relationships:**

Mediation encourages cooperation and can help maintain or repair relationships between disputing parties, which is particularly important in ongoing communities or professional settings like the Santa Clara Law network.

**Mutually Satisfactory Results:**

Agreements reached through mediation are often more satisfactory to both parties as they are self-created rather than imposed.

**Flexibility and Customization:**

Mediation allows for creative and tailored solutions that address the specific needs and interests of those involved, which might not be possible in a courtroom.

**Reduced Stress:**

The collaborative nature of mediation can be less stressful and emotionally draining than adversarial litigation.

**Improved Communication:**

The mediation process facilitates open and direct communication between parties, fostering understanding.

**High Rate of Compliance:**

Parties are more likely to abide by agreements they have helped create themselves.

## The Power of Partnership: Introducing the Bates Mediation Clinic

**A long-time advocate** for access to Alternative Dispute Resolution training, Bates' willingness to establish Santa Clara Law's first-ever mediation clinic enables students to put theory into impactful action. In addition to expanded applied learning opportunities, the Clinic also resonates perfectly with the University's Jesuit identity and values. Mediation provides students with the opportunity to help opposing parties resolve their conflicts fairly while preserving the important social bonds that tie friends, neighbors, and communities together.

The launch of the Bates Mediation Clinic also significantly enhances access to justice for small claims litigants in Santa Clara County Superior Court. Here, under the supervision of experienced mediators and retired judges, students actively mediate small claims matters, providing crucial support to litigants while simultaneously developing “really strong, helpful, and innovative skills,” as Kloppenberg describes it.

During the 2024-2025 academic year, the Bates Mediation Clinic successfully resolved 12 cases and conducted 27 mediations through the dedicated efforts of five students. The Clinic's intentionally small size allows for valuable one-on-one mentoring from Judge Kirwan and other prominent mediation and arbitration experts like Judge Patricia M. Lucas (retired), ensuring students learn from an array of seasoned practitioners.

Mediation helps aspiring lawyers develop important client service abilities, like active listening, issue spotting, and working toward collaborative solutions. Alexa Le Blanc J.D. '25 found the experience so rewarding she returned as a teaching assistant to expand the Clinic and attract greater numbers of her law school peers.

In terms of outreach, in addition to offering law students hands-on experience, Bates sees a number of viable interdisciplinary applications, specifically highlighting how the Clinic can enhance the University's business school curriculum and benefit anyone interested in negotiation. 'It's

inspiring to see Santa Clara Law spearhead this outreach to other programs, leading to their participation and promotion within the wider University community,” he explains, “which aligns well with the school's message of advancing the social good at both the undergraduate and graduate levels.”

For Le Blanc, what makes the Bates Mediation Clinic stand out is the ability to be involved throughout the entire process, from explaining confidentiality to drafting settlement agreements. “The live feedback in court was a highlight, especially learning from experienced figures like Judge Kirwan,” she says. Le Blanc initially noticed Judge Peter Kirwan's name while flipping through Santa Clara Law's course catalog. She knew and admired him from her work as a senior legal assistant at Olsen & Magnan and “immediately decided to take any course he offered.”

For 16 years, Kirwan J.D. '86, a retired Santa Clara County Superior Court judge, has been an adjunct professor at Santa Clara University School of Law, teaching popular courses in mediation and negotiation. In 2024, he expanded his commitment to dispute resolution by joining Signature Resolution as a mediator, where he utilizes his extensive experience to facilitate dialogue and guide parties toward fair and efficient resolutions. Kirwan also received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Santa Clara County Trial Lawyers Association and co-taught the course this spring with retired Presiding Judge Patricia Lucas.

**Le Blanc especially appreciates how the Bates Mediation Clinic serves as a campus clearinghouse for all things ADR, bringing together “diverse perspectives from industry leaders” to enrich students’ understanding of the theory and practice of mediation.**





## Access to Justice: Serving the Community, Empowering the Individual

**Third-year student** Khyber Shepperd J.D. '25 recalls his most recent mediation session handling an occasionally tense but ultimately successful tenant/homeowner association dispute. "You see a range of issues, from consumer complaints to debt collection to landlord-tenant disagreements," he explains, "and some days can feel like an emotional rollercoaster—you have to carefully balance people's feelings and expectations" to reach a balanced and mutually beneficial solution.

Shepperd highlighted the practical insights he gained, like navigating courtroom decorum and speaking with deputies about scheduling, which is often missing from traditional legal education. "People will tell you to check out the courthouse, talk to the judges, and just start to get comfortable," he explains. "It's ideal to do that early on, but given the rigors of law school, it can be hard to find the time." While graduates can always learn on the job post-graduation, Shepperd says he feels more confident knowing it won't be his first time in a courtroom setting.

Such immediate, hands-on interactions allow students like Shepperd to hone their

communication skills and adapt to rapidly changing circumstances—a crucial skill for any attorney, regardless of specialty. Having access to experienced mentors "like Alexa [Le Blanc] and, of course, Professor Kloppenberg," also helped him manage moments of uncertainty. "Having them working with you in Superior Court boosts your confidence because you learn to test your thinking and adjust your approach in real-time," he says.

In addition to the ways the Bates Mediation Clinic benefits students, clients also experience a less adversarial and more collaborative approach to resolving important kitchen table issues. Chechik notes that, especially for non-native English speakers, mediation allows litigants to feel "more relaxed and confident," underscoring how effectively ADR serves marginalized communities, particularly those lacking familiarity with the courtroom setting.

Chechik, who recently became Director of the Conflict Resolution Program, says that for many mediation clients, law students often represent their first encounter with the legal system. By demystifying seemingly arcane court procedures and using plain-spoken language, Santa Clara Law students

ensure that the most vulnerable members of our community receive a fair hearing and constructive outcome. The experience also helps build actionable empathy, allowing students to interact with people whose life experiences can differ vastly from their own.



The ability to keep things civil, to operate in good faith, are things that will serve you well in any profession.

KHYBER SHEPPERD J.D. '25

## Relieving the Courts: ADR as a Systemic Solution

**The systemic benefits of ADR** are equally compelling. “We relied on local lawyers with alternative dispute resolution skills to help us resolve cases,” Kirwan says, explaining how such collaboration keeps the legal pipeline moving. “Without it, courts would be so backed up that even routine matters could face exceptionally long delays.”

Looking ahead, Kirwan feels there’s strong interest from local courts in expanding the Clinic’s reach. Checik also envisions a broader role for SCU Law students, helping courts in areas that currently lack sufficient mediation support. “There are so many places where students can gain amazing experience while also meeting a major community need,” she says. Yet, despite its clear advantages, mediation training often remains peripheral in law school curricula. Checik puts it bluntly: “Only about 3% of civil cases actually go to trial, and 97% are settled. If you want to know what happens behind the scenes, this is the perfect clinic for you.”

The skills gained—empathy, negotiation, communication, and strategic thinking—make graduates not just capable lawyers, but well-rounded professionals. As Shepperd notes, “the ability to keep things civil, to operate in good faith, are things that will serve you well in any profession.” Mediation demands emotional intelligence and tact, especially when navigating contentious interpersonal dynamics. “It’s always hard to balance difficult emotions from the parties,” Shepperd admits, “but that comes with the territory.” The true advantage of the Bates Mediation Clinic lies in the opportunity it provides to build those foundational skills in a supportive and structured environment.

## A Model for the Future: Promoting ADR and Preparing Practice-Ready Lawyers

**The success of the Bates Mediation Clinic** points to a larger imperative: embedding robust mediation and conflict resolution training into the core of legal education. For Bates, the Clinic is “the most meaningful vehicle” for educating students in conflict resolution while advancing the School’s role in public service.

By equipping future lawyers with the tools to resolve disputes collaboratively and compassionately, Santa Clara Law prepares graduates for the realities of modern legal practice. As the value of mediation gains wider recognition across institutions, the Bates Mediation Clinic serves as a compelling model, demonstrating the win-win potential in cultivating conscientious attorneys who serve vulnerable litigants while supporting increased efficiency within our court system.



# Ahead of the Curve: The Santa Clara School of Law Flex J.D.

By Sandee Magliozzi

**In a time when access,** flexibility, and innovation are redefining legal education, Santa Clara University School of Law is leading the way with its Flex J.D. program. As Silicon Valley's only ABA-accredited hybrid part-time law degree, the Flex J.D. was designed for working professionals balancing complex lives. What sets this program apart isn't just the format. It's the vision behind it.

Launched to meet the needs of today's diverse and dynamic students, the Flex J.D. includes one immersive week on campus and three on-campus long weekends that follow later in the semester, supported by asynchronous online learning. This unique structure minimizes weekday disruption while preserving the rigor and community of traditional legal education. Students access the same faculty, courses, and co-curricular opportunities as full-time peers with the added benefit of a format built for real life.

But structure is just the beginning. Located in the heart of Silicon Valley, Santa Clara Law is a national leader in tech and intellectual property law, and the Flex J.D. program is deeply embedded in this ecosystem. Students gain hands-on experience with startups, legal clinics, and companies shaping the future.

The Flex J.D. reflects a bold commitment to creating greater access to legal education. Its rapidly growing student body spans 17 states and 7 countries, with over 60% women, 54.5% students of color, and nearly a third first-generation college graduates. Santa Clara's Flex J.D. isn't simply another part-time program; it's a transformational model for the future of legal education.

## Why It Works

The Flex J.D. succeeds because it addresses the two biggest barriers to law school: time and access. Traditional part-time programs often require multiple weekly commutes, which disrupt work and family life. By

concentrating in-person sessions into short, intensive immersives supported by online learning, the Flex J.D. makes law school sustainable for people with demanding professional and personal commitments. The model is designed around students' lives, not the other way around, and that shift resonates with professionals who have already built successful careers and now see law as the next chapter of impact.

## Why It's Different

Unlike traditional evening or weekend programs, the Flex J.D. allows students to keep their jobs and homes so they can live and work across the country to go to law school and build a strong community in Silicon Valley. The program attracts a diverse cohort, creating a learning environment that is more representative of the clients and communities' lawyers will serve. Add Santa Clara's national strength in technology and intellectual property law, and the result is a part-time program that feels less like compromise and more like innovation.

## Where It's Going

As the program grows, its influence extends beyond Santa Clara. The Flex J.D. is already drawing students from across the country, and its success signals a broader shift in how legal education can be delivered. By leveraging Silicon Valley's ecosystem of startups, tech companies, and legal innovation, the program is poised to expand experiential opportunities, deepen its global reach, and set the standard for how law schools balance rigor, flexibility, and access.

## A Community of Accomplished Professionals

Perhaps most striking is the caliber of students and rich tapestry of lived experiences that deepens learning and

sparks meaningful dialogue. A group of accomplished professionals that include Ph.D.'s, executives, entrepreneurs, engineers, and nonprofit leaders that are choosing Santa Clara because it allows them to pursue a law degree without putting their lives or careers on hold. They aren't just coming for a credential; they are coming for a community of equally driven peers and for the chance to integrate law into the work they're already doing to shape industries and communities.

The Flex J.D. is ahead of the curve because it meets students where they are while maintaining the rigor and connections that define a Santa Clara Law education. It is not just preparing lawyers, it is preparing leaders for a more representative, resilient, and innovative legal profession.

Santa Clara Law's Flex J.D. students are accomplished working professionals balancing career, family, and a rigorous legal education. They bring real-world insight to class and they're eager to learn from alumni like you.

### Ways to Engage:

- Be a Guest Speaker: Share your career path, practice area insights, or lessons learned.
- Offer an Externship: Give students hands-on experience in your firm, company, or agency.
- Serve as a Mentor: Help guide a working student through law school and into the profession.
- Host a Networking Event: Open doors to your professional network.

### Why It Matters:

Your involvement helps Flex students connect classroom theory to real-world practice, builds their confidence, and expands their professional horizons. And you'll benefit from the fresh perspectives and the energy these students bring.

Interested? Email [lawalumni@scu.edu](mailto:lawalumni@scu.edu) to get started.



# Class Action

---



**The Hon. Jonathan Wolff**

Judge in the Alameda  
County Superior Court



**Amy Treadwell**

Vice President Human  
Resources at NeuroPace



**The Hon. Erik Johnson**

Judge in the Santa Clara  
County Superior Court



**The Hon. Sarah Birmingham**

Judge in the Stanislaus  
County Superior Court



**The Hon. Michael Mau**

Judge in the San Mateo  
County Superior Court



**Steven Kahn**

Partner at Strategy Law, LLP



**Heather Vigil**

Office Managing  
Shareholder at Littler



**The Hon. Jon A. Heaberlin**

Judge in the Santa Clara  
County Superior Court



**The Hon. Meghan Piano**

Judge in the Santa Clara  
County Superior Court



**Mary Stanton Stern**

SVP, Human Resources  
at MariaDB



**Rebecca Horton**

Partner, IP Litigation  
at Venable LLP



**Victoria Templeton**

Executive Vice President  
at Investors Title  
Company and Affiliates



**Sam Hong**  
Partner at Dorsey  
& Whitney LLP



**Chris McDonald**  
Head of Legal at  
Freedom Solar



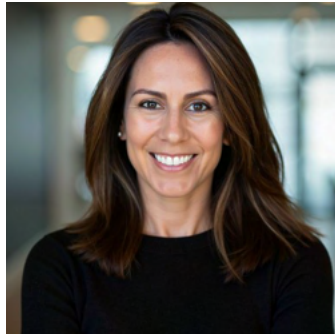
**Adam S. Bloom**  
Partner at Cooley LLP



**Crystal Riggins**  
Chief Operating Officer and  
General Counsel at Sensiba LLP



**Philip Favro**  
Founder & President  
at Favro Law PLLC



**Jennifer Saul-Klein**  
Vice President, Legal  
& Compliance at  
IDEAYA Biosciences



**Michael Moore**  
VP, Head of Legal at Glean



**Elliot Ginsburg**  
SVP Legal & Messaging  
at Postscript



**Virginia MacSuibhne**  
Executive Director, Legal  
Compliance at Alumis



**Fred Aswad**  
Chief Scientific Officer at  
Apeiron Therapeutics



**Purnima Naidu**  
Chief Strategy Officer, Chief Legal  
Officer at Liveops, Inc.



**Jenna Leigh Glass**  
Director at KPMG, London





**Sophia Valentim**

Vice President & General  
Counsel at Yugabyte



**Adam D. Matherly**

Partner at Holland  
& Knight LLP



**Dori Rose Inda**

CEO at Santa Cruz  
County Fair



**Matthew Coleman**

Partner at Orrick, Herrington  
& Sutcliffe LLP



**The Hon. Chamandeep Johal**

Judge in the Merced  
County Superior Court



**Alexandria Kavalaris**

Vice President & General  
Counsel at Intero



**The Hon. Louis Parise**

Judge in the Los Angeles  
County Superior Court



**The Hon. Carol Hubner**

Judge in the Ventura  
County Superior Court



**Sanela Causevic**

Chief Operations Officer  
at Icebox Energy

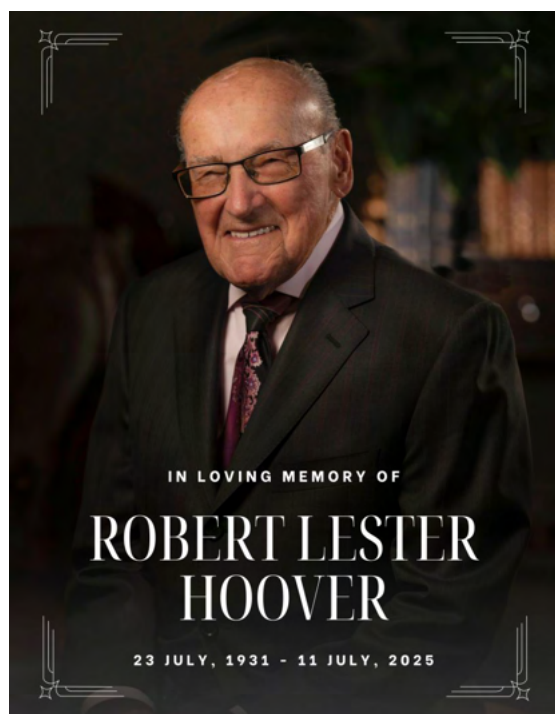
*Santa Clara Law Wants  
to Celebrate Alumni*  
Share Your Updates With Us!

[lawalumni@scu.edu](mailto:lawalumni@scu.edu)



# *In Memoriam*

---



## Robert L. "Bob" Hoover '59

**Hoover Krepelka, LLP's** beloved Robert Lester "Bob" Hoover, devoted husband of over 50 years, proud father of seven children, wise grandfather, gentle father figure to many, loyal friend to countless, pioneer of Santa Clara County family law, and founder of Hoover Krepelka, LLP, passed peacefully on the evening of July 11. Just days shy of his 94th birthday, Bob lived a magnificent life ten times over, leaving behind a legacy that will remain strong for generations.

A native Californian and proud graduate of Santa Clara University School of Law, Bob founded Hoover Krepelka in 1960 and grew it into the largest Northern California practice exclusively dedicated to Family Law. Today, his legacy lives on in a firm with 18 practicing attorneys. His leadership helped elevate Family Law into a respected and vital legal specialty. He was instrumental in developing the Judge Pro-Tem system, now a cornerstone of the Santa Clara County Court, and served as a trusted attorney to hundreds of Silicon Valley's top executives, successfully managing numerous high-profile, hundred-million-dollar cases.

Beyond the courtroom, Bob's life was equally remarkable. He served as an Air Force Instructor, worked as a Deputy Sheriff, and embraced life with an insatiable sense of adventure. He completed 18 marathons, two ultra-marathons, bicycled from Canada to Mexico, kayaked internationally, and climbed some of the world's most challenging peaks. Most recently, he conquered Hawaii's Kalalau Trail, one of the most beautiful and demanding hikes in the world.

Those who knew Bob will remember his optimism, kindness, patience, humor, and unwavering pride in others. He was an avid reader, devoted traveler, and a man who found deep joy in exploring the world with his family, friends, and beloved wife, Gale. While death is inevitable, Bob seemed almost immortal, a constant source of wisdom, laughter, and encouragement. He would want you to know that he loved you, was proud of you. He also never missed a day of work, continuing until the Wednesday before his passing; he would want you to chuckle at that.

On his behalf, we thank you for being part of his life, for supporting him with your presence and love, and for allowing him to be the gift he was to our community.

am

# Commemorating the Lives of Our Esteemed Alumni

## Alexandra "Sasha" Podkolzina Huntington

**We are deeply saddened** to share the passing of Alexandra "Sasha" Podkolzina Huntington, a beloved alumna of Santa Clara University School of Law, Class of 2013. Sasha, who focused on health law, went on to serve in the San Jose office of Congresswoman Zoe Lofgren (JD '75), where she advocated tirelessly on behalf of constituents, securing life-changing outcomes for many. Congresswoman Lofgren remembered Sasha as "a brilliant young lawyer" who worked diligently and compassionately, leaving a lasting impact on those she served. Born in Russia in 1985, Sasha was a gifted tennis player who trained internationally, competed professionally, and attended UC Berkeley. Even after cancer altered her path, she lived with unwavering resilience, warmth, and humor. She loved literature, art, travel, dogs, *The New Yorker*, and her husband, Kyle Huntington. Sasha approached life with grace and laughter, finding joy even in hardship.

Michael C. Kennedy '72  
James V. Gould '74  
Jonathan T. Ng '84  
Michael C. Polentz '96  
Nancy Thompson '74  
Eugene A. Studer '77  
Allen R. Tourangeau '59  
Gordon J. Salisbury '81  
William R. Giffen '60  
Joseph "Joe" Milner '98  
Paul J. Gonella '75  
Sylvan Winocur '73  
Robert Bradley '00  
Karen Forbes '89  
Bruce Bottini '74  
Kenneth C. Bryant '72  
Robert "Bob" Stricker '82  
Edward "Eddy" Benedetti '73  
C. "Forrest" Bannan '70  
David Guinn '75  
Maureen Reardon '88  
Gary McGowan '77  
Curtis Cole '57  
David Hsiao '03  
Albert "Al" Knorp '60

# Law Convocation 2025



**On August 15, 2025**, a quiet sense of gratitude filled SCU's Mayer Theatre as Santa Clara University School of Law welcomed its class of 2028. Convocation is not just a formality; it was the community's call to gather, to stand together, and to usher in the next generation of lawyers. Professors, judges, and alumni came not only to say "welcome," but to bear witness to the moment these students first stood side by side as classmates and future colleagues in the legal profession.

Dean Michael Kaufman opened the path ahead with a charge to cultivate five habits that would shape their lives as lawyers;

being disciplined, discerning, creative, ethical, and respectful. He further promised that along this demanding journey they would not walk alone but would be loved as they learn. Then, in a solemn passage of tradition, Judge Risë Pichon guided the students through the Oath and the Pin of Professionalism.

When distinguished alumnus Landon Edmond '98 stepped to the podium, his words bent toward the future. He urged the class to be fearless in embracing the tools of their time, reminding them that technology and community are instruments to be mastered: "Dive into these tools.

Experiment. Understand them. Learn how to use them before you're expected to..."

The call to courage gave way to a call to celebration. Student Bar Association co-presidents Cari Hall and Anthony Giammona lifted the room with their encouragement, cheering on the class as they set foot on this long journey together. Outside, on the lawn, the gathering turned from the solemnity of vows to the joy of community, the two sides of a single coin, marking both the weight and the warmth of the beginning.



# Washington D.C. Supreme Court Swearing-In Ceremony

## Santa Clara Law Alumni Trip

Join Santa Clara Law Dean Michael Kaufman to be Sworn-In Ceremony in front of the U.S. Supreme Court Justices Thursday, June 11, 2026

**All Santa Clara Law Alumni** must be in good standing and practicing at least three years after admission in a State Bar.

### Details of the trip:

**Wednesday, June 10, 2026**

Check into The George Hotel & Welcome Reception

**Thursday, June 11, 2026**

Supreme Court Swearing-In Ceremony, Continental Breakfast and Photos in the Lawyer's Lounge, and a Luncheon hosted by Dean Kaufman at The Monocle Restaurant

- Alumni are allowed one guest to witness the Swearing-In Ceremony in front of the Justices.

### Santa Clara Fee:

**\$750 for Alumni**

**\$500 for guest of Alumni**

Limited space available

**RSVP Deadline March 31, 2026**

The George Hotel room block for "Santa Clara Law" [www.hotelgeorge.com](http://www.hotelgeorge.com)

\*Flights and hotel stay at The George Hotel is not included.



Sign up

## Alumni Ambassadors Program

**This year**, we will be relaunching our Alumni Ambassadors program. The mission of this program is to strengthen the alumni community by enhancing engagement, promoting school pride, and providing meaningful opportunities that support the mission and goals of our school.

The first meeting will take place virtually on **Jan 8, 2026 at 7pm.**



*Sign-up for the  
Alumni Ambassador  
Program*

The Alumni Ambassadors will have a variety of responsibilities, including but not limited to:

- Planning/Coordinating Events
- Attending Santa Clara Law Events
- Mentoring and Speaking at Student Events
- Attending the monthly Alumni Ambassadors meeting (date/time to be decided at first meeting)
- And More...

**Keep an eye out for  
future communications  
this year!**





**Santa Clara**  
**School of Law**

**Santa Clara University**  
**Santa Clara Law**

500 El Camino Real  
Santa Clara, CA 95053-0435

**The Law School of Silicon Valley**

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Nonprofit  
Organization  
US Postage  
PAID  
Santa Clara, CA  
Permit No.22

## Santa Clara Law Alumni Mixer

### Join Us:

Santa Clara Law  
Alumni Mixer 2026

**Sponsored By Pillsbury**

**Time:** 5:00pm – 7:00pm

**Date:** Tuesday, February 26th, 2026

Four Embarcadero Center  
22nd Floor  
San Francisco, CA 94111-5998 USA



RSVP Here

Thank you to Santa Clara Law Alumni,  
**Pillsbury Managing Partner Colin Kemp**  
**and Partners David Tsai and Justin Hovey**  
for hosting the 2026 Santa Clara Law  
Alumni Mixer!

pillsbury

## Join the Conversation

