

November 16, 2021

Dear Santa Clara Law Students, Staff, and Faculty,

With the end of the fall semester coming into view, many are already turning their attention to the holidays and year-end travel plans. However, before we grow consumed by finals and festivities, November offers us an opportunity to pause and give thanks. In fact, I learned that it has become an informal tradition within the Law School to devote the entire month to offering collective expressions of gratitude.

Earlier this month, in my Rising Together blog post, I thanked our incredible students, wonderful staff and administrative team, dedicated faculty, and generous alumni, volunteers, and donors. Together, in my



mind,

you comprise the heart and soul of this Law School family. I couldn't be more grateful to have joined such a loving and caring community of educators, scholars, and advocates. I am overwhelmed with joy and gratitude for the privilege of working together as we teach our students life-long habits of mind and heart, that they will use in the service of others.

Over the weekend, the results for the most recent California Bar Exam were made public. We are so happy for, and extend our congratulations to, all who passed! We are looking forward to hosting an in-person swearing-in ceremony at the Mission Church at 5 pm on December 6, 2021. Please reassure those who may be planning to sit for the exam again in February that our Law School community will stand alongside them every step of the way. We will always be here to offer support and encouragement to our Santa Clara Law alumni throughout their careers.

Finally, in this first semester back on campus, it has been our goal to rebuild that sense of community that defines Santa Clara Law. Each of these messages has concluded with formal and informal opportunities for us to come together and forge deep and enduring bonds with each other. To that end, I invite you to join us on Friday, November 19th from 10:30 am - 12:30 pm in the Charney Atrium for hot chocolate and Friendsgiving Friday, and then "Pop by for Pie" and holiday cheer on Wednesday, December 15th (also in the Charney Atrium) to celebrate the conclusion of exams and the fall semester.

With warm regards and immense gratitude,

Michael J. Kaufman (He/Him/His)

Dean and Professor of Law

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