



Class of 2013

108TH COMMENCEMENT

The Kansas Territorial Pipes and Drums led the traditional processional from the law school building to Lee Arena on the Washburn campus for the 108th Washburn University School of Law Commencement the evening of May 11. Professor Myrl L. Duncan, J.S.D., served as grand marshal and Jeffrey D. Jackson, '92, as assistant grand marshal, leading the law students, Jerry B. Farley, Ph.D., president of Washburn University, Dean Thomas J. Romig, guests, and Washburn law professors to the ceremony.



Commencement speakers were: Dean Romig; Associate Dean for Academic Affairs Aïda Alaka; **Jill Gillett, '13**, president of the Washburn Student Bar Association; and **Paul Hoferer, '75**, president of the Washburn University School of Law Alumni Association. Board of Regents member **William "Bill" Sneed, '80**, presented the 2013 Honorary Doctor of Law degree to **Stanley C. Sager, '57**, who also gave the commencement address. Conferring of degrees was led by President Farley. A champagne reception at Memorial Union to congratulate the graduates followed commencement.



Each academic year, the graduating class votes to honor a member of the faculty as the William O. Douglas Outstanding Professor of the Year. Professor Will Foster received this award. **The Honorable C. William "Bill" Ossmann, '77**, was chosen by the graduating class as the Adjunct Professor of the Year.

Max Gaither, '53, Delano Lewis, '63, Jim Wright, '63, Jack Black, '63, and Bob Storey, '63, were Golden Alumni guests of the law school and participated in the commencement ceremonies.

During the May commencement, 151 students graduated, and 76 certificates were awarded in the following areas: advocacy, business and transactional law, estate planning, family law, international and comparative law, law and government, natural resources law, and tax law. Twelve students were recognized for their pro bono work.

Graduates - 2013



Will Foster,
William O.
Douglas
Outstanding
Professor of the Year



The Honorable C.
William "Bill"
Ossmann, '77,
Adjunct Professor
of the Year



Nicholas Ryan Adams

Natural Resources Law

Scott Lawrence Anderson

Artur Bagyants

Pro Bono Honors

Erik J. Bailey

Elizabeth A. Baker

Business & Transactional Law

Brandon Bieker

Business & Transactional Law

Jordan Ashleigh Bickford Blair

Business & Transactional Law

Tax Law

Pro Bono Honors

Leah Doyle Bockover

Benjamin Robert Bowman

Law & Government

Natural Resources Law

Distinguished Pro Bono Honors

Steven LaVon Braegger

Jennifer Lauren Brewer

Arthur Randolph Bridgens

Natural Resources Law

Cory R. Buck

Scott R. Burrus

Natural Resources Law

Kate Duncan Butler

Family Law

Lyndzie Marie Carter

Xiaolu Fan Choi

Advocacy

Jennifer Marie Cocking

Heather Michelle Colacicco

Law & Government

Jacob A. Conard

Julie M. Covell

Bryan W. Cox

Daniel W. Cramer

Daniel Spencer Creitz

Pro Bono Honors

Christopher Jared Davies

Advocacy

Law & Government

Theodore Craig Davis

Ann Kelsey DeLong

Summer Ott Dierks

Preston Harry Dishon

Natural Resources Law

Noah R. Dumpert

Travis Herbert Dunsmoor

Ashlee Michele Erickson

Natasha Leaire Esau

Holly Jean Fenton

Natural Resources Law

Daniel Paul Finder

Heather Renee Fletcher

James Antwone Floyd

Advocacy

Law & Government

William Blake Follis

Annalee J. Foster

Marissa Marcene Frederick

Pro Bono Honors

Crystal Ilene French

Joseph William Frick

Advocacy

Natural Resources Law

Eloy Gallegos

Joseph James Garcia

Joshua Garrett

Heather Lynn Gelsinger

Business & Transactional Law

Estate Planning

Tax Law

Jill Ranee Gillett

Matthew Liam Gleason

Steven L. Goaslind

Estate Planning

Tax Law

Ellen Justine Grennier

Family Law

Kali Martine Hague

Dayton L. Hall

Christina Joy Hansen

Kendra Dawn Hanson

John David "JD" Hatcher

International & Comparative Law

Ben Hinkle

Colin Wade Holthaus

Ashley Marie Jackson

Benjamin C. Jackson

Benjamin A. Janssen

Advocacy

Brent Adam Jepson

Advocacy

Brian Kirby Johnson

Jerald Von Johnson

Pro Bono Honors

Nicole Michelle Johnson

Vijoy Joseph

Anna Michele Jumpponen

India Elizabeth Keefover

Advocacy

Leslie A. Klaassen

Brian Koch

Allison Leigh Koehn

Catelyn Helene Kostbar

Sun Jae Kwon

William Robert Lawrence IV

Advocacy

Law & Government

Won Jun Lee

Taryn Alexandra Locke

Pro Bono Honors

Jared Robert Love

Brendan Pierce Lykins

Daniel Owen Lynch

Eileen De-lee Ma

Business & Transactional Law

Law & Government

Tax Law

Brian Lee Main

Zachary Keith Mark

Kaitlin Marie Marsh-Blake

International & Comparative Law

Law & Government

Jessica L. Kelly Martens

Jeffrey Walter Mattern

Chandler Leigh Maxon

Matthew Carlton McGregor

Business & Transactional Law

Carly Eileen McPeak

Family Law

Pro Bono Honors

Philip Ray Michael

Andrew Clark Millett

Joshua Tyler Mortensen

Business & Transactional Law

Andrew Michael Moskow

Jonathan R. Myers

Advocacy

Law & Government

Natural Resources Law

Distinguished Pro Bono Honors

James William Newbery

Estate Planning

Tax Law

James Wesley Norman

Cliff Andrew Nye

Law & Government

Matthew William Parker

William Eric Paulson

Clayton James Perkins

Lynne Marie Philips

Adam Bernard James Poole

Law & Government

Laura Elise Poschen

Anna Marie Quinn

Colin Matthew Quinn

Business & Transactional Law

Natural Resources Law

Stephanie Ann Randall

Family Law

Distinguished Pro Bono Honors

Brandon Tod Ritcha

Angel Romero Jr.

Law & Government

Brett T. Runyon

Christopher Mark Rush

Shannon Dawn Rush

Jorden John Ryan

Kathryn Diane Salsbury-Kiwan

Zachary Daniel Schultz

Lauren Marie Schulz

Business & Transactional Law

International & Comparative Law

Jordan P. Seckman

Kesar Sharma-Crawford

John Clark Shultz

Jennifer Ashley Simpson

Tax Law

Timothy Ray Sipe

Advocacy

Ethan James Smith

Ryan M. Smith

Business & Transactional Law

Natural Resources Law

Kyle Sollars

Christi Marie Somers

Marsha J. Sonner

Advocacy

Matthew Aaron Spahn

Sarah Kathleen Stark

Ryan Castañeda Starkey

Elizabeth Stuewe

Law & Government

Distinguished Pro Bono Honors

Elizabeth Pearson Swanson

Estate Planning

Tax Law

Jessica Louise Switzer

Law & Government

Laura Nicole Taylor

Nickolas Cruz Templin

Jacob Alan Thomas

Business & Transactional Law

Estate Planning

Tax Law

Ian David Tomasic

Patrick Davis Toomey

Melissa Ann Tucker Pope

Advocacy

Alisha Udhwani

Distinguished Pro Bono Honors

Christopher Michael Valentino

Business & Transactional Law

Estate Planning

Tax Law

Amanda Rachelle Walker

Business & Transactional Law

Estate Planning

Tax Law

Mitchell L. Walter

Law & Government

Spencer J. Ward

Caitlin Riley Waskom

Elizabeth Marie Weingart

Jonathan David Weishaar

Aarika Adelle Wellnitz

Ginger Elizabeth Wells

Aaron Paul Westbrook

Matthew Ryan Roy Williams

Jonathon M. Wood

Ashlyn Lanora Yarnell

Family Law

C. Zachary Young

Peter M. Zettersten

Law & Government

December 2012 Graduates



Twenty-nine students graduated in December 2012, with seven students receiving certificates.

First row from left:

Jennifer Marie Cocking, Anna Michele Jumpponen, Melissa Ann Tucker Pope,
Caitlin Riley Waskom, Crystal Ilene French, and Lyndzie Marie Carter.

Second row from left:

Christopher Mark Rush, Marsha J. Sonner, Heather Renee Fletcher, Steven LaVon Braegger,
Jill Rane Gillett, Summer Ott Dierks, Aarika Adelle Wellnitz, Timothy Ray Sipe, and
Matthew Liam Gleason.

Third row from left:

Christopher Jared Davies, C. Zachary Young, Jordan John Ryan, Brandon Tod Ritcha,
Patrick Davis Toomey, Zachary Daniel Schultz, and Peter M. Zettersten.

Not pictured:

Artur Bagyants, Won Jun Lee, Andrew Clark Millett, Shannon Dawn Rush,
Jordan P. Seckman, Ethan James Smith, Ryan M. Smith, and Mitchell L. Walter.



(right) Golden Alumni guests: Max Gaither, '53, Charlotte Adair (daughter), Delano Lewis, '63, Jim Wright, '63, and Jack Black, '63. Not pictured: Bob Storey, '63.



Legacies

CARRY ON THE WASHBURN LAW TRADITION



Matthew Spahn and mother Jennifer Spahn, '83, with aunt and uncle Susan and David, '84, Lind



Jill Gillett with husband John Gillett, '79



Zach Mark with father Keith Mark, '86, and brother Jacob Mark, '15



Kesar Sharma-Crawford with father Michael Sharma-Crawford, '02



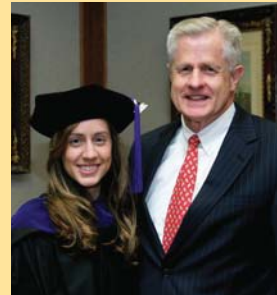
James Norman and father James L. Norman, '75



Ian Tomasic and mother Denise Tomasic, '83



Jessica Switzer and uncle Herman Loepp, '81



Jessica Martens and father Norman Kelly, '80



Elizabeth Pearson and grandfather Jack Flesher, '72 (not pictured: uncles Matthew D. Flesher, '90, and Mitchell R. Flesher, '96)



Adam Poole and uncle George Burket, '72



Daniel Creitz and father Dan Creitz, '85



Elizabeth Weingart and father John Weingart, '77



Brendon Lykins and father Dan Lykins, '72



Brian Johnson with father Fred Johnson, '80, and uncle Phil Johnson, '01



Laura Taylor and father Donald Taylor, '87



Cliff Nye with father Gregory Nye, '78, and plaque of great aunt Jessie Nye Warren, 1912, and portrait of great grandfather J. Sidney Nye, 1915

Correction:

In the Spring/Summer 2012 issue of the *Washburn Lawyer*, in the Legacy photo section, we incorrectly identified Kyle Steadman, '95. He is the uncle of Drew Steadman, '12.

Commencement Speaker

RECIPIENT OF THE HONORARY DOCTOR OF LAW

Stanley C. “Stan” Sager, ’57, was born October 17, 1929, in Concordia, Kan., attended schools in Clyde, Kan., and won a Navy scholarship to the University of Kansas upon graduating from Clyde High School. He received a B.A. degree from K.U. in 1951, was commissioned in the Navy, and served in the Pacific and in Japanese and Korean waters during the Korean war. In 1954 he was placed on the Navy retired list, having contracted a paralyzing case of polio while at sea.

Mr. Sager decided to pursue law school while a patient at the Long Beach, California, VA hospital. His first inquiry into possible acceptance by a Kansas law school was rejected since the school said it had no facilities for wheelchairs. An inquiry to Washburn Law met with “Come on, we already have a student in a wheelchair.”

Sager’s application was accepted, and he enrolled. He overcame architectural barriers at the school with the help of students and faculty, who carried him and his wheelchair up and down stairs. He graduated in 1957 with Dean’s honors.

Mr. Sager is a member of the Kansas Bar, the New Mexico Bar, and the bars of the U.S. Tax Court, the Tenth Circuit, and the U.S. Supreme Court. He co-founded and was managing director and chief trial attorney for the law firm of Sager, Curran, Sturges & Tepper, which grew to 23 lawyers with offices in Albuquerque and Las Cruces, N.M., by the time of his retirement in 1993.



Stanley C. “Stan” Sager, ’57, was joined by his family at the 108th Commencement ceremony.

Mr. Sager was an associate attorney with the tax and probate firm of Schroeder, Heeney and Groff in Topeka for two years after graduating. During that time he served as volunteer treasurer of the Topeka Council of Churches. He and his family moved to Albuquerque in 1959, where he practiced and gained trial experience with McAtee, Toulouse, Marchiondo, Ruud and Gallagher, a general practice firm. He and a partner left that firm to start their own practice in 1961. In Albuquerque, he was treasurer of the Albuquerque Legal Aid Society, board member of the New Mexico Council of Churches, president of the Child Guidance Center, treasurer and long-time board member of the New Mexico Conference Methodist Foundation, treasurer of the Zia Chapter Paralyzed Veterans of

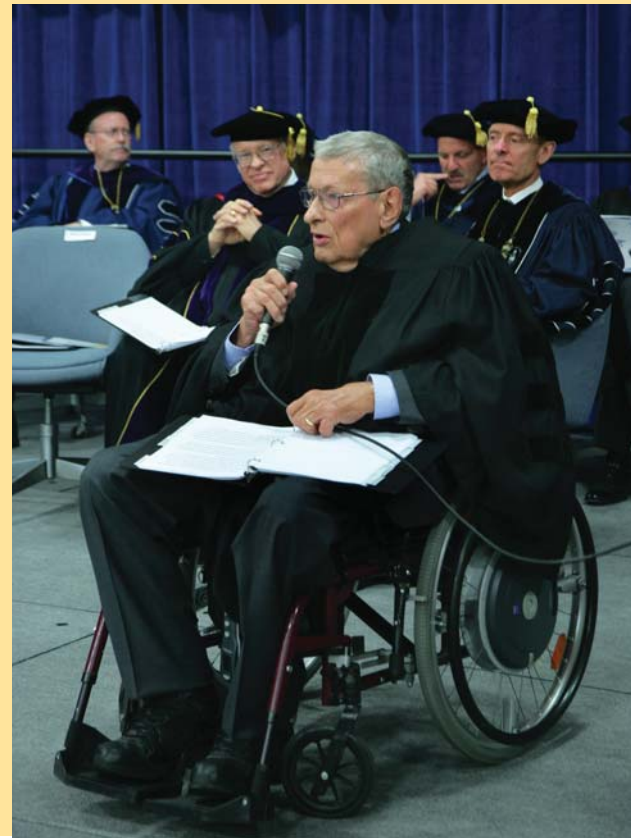
America, building committee chair of The Storehouse, and chaired three building committees for different construction projects for his church. He has been a frequent presenter of construction law seminars for architects and engineers.

He was a New Mexico State Bar Commissioner and chaired the Legal Services for the Elderly Project, a service to rural poor elderly people. He helped take the Project from a local service in Taos to a state-wide program, with over 400 volunteer attorneys. In 2001 the program received state funding, and Governor Gary Johnson appointed Mr. Sager to a commission to administer the fund. For years, Sager also provided free legal advice to three United Methodist bishops and incorporation services to over a dozen churches and other charities.

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Mr. Sager served as an adjunct professor for four years in the 1990s, teaching construction law at the University of New Mexico School of Architecture. He chaired the United Methodist denominational Committee on Audit and Review from 1996-2000, chaired the denomination's legislative Committee on Finance and Administration at its 2000 General Conference, and was given the Judge Woodrow B. Seals award by Perkins School of Theology, SMU, for his work in restructuring denominational finance policies. He has authored two books, *Viva Elfego! The Case for Elfego Baca, Hispanic Hero*, and *Four Corners: Where the Holy Spirit Touches Navajo Hearts*, as well as numerous articles on disability issues, professionalism, and New Mexico history. He is currently working on a memoir, tentatively titled *Don't Kill All the Lawyers*.

He received the 1987 and 1996 Distinguished Bar Service awards, the 1991 Robert H. LaFollette Pro Bono award, and the 1998 Outstanding Service award. In 1997 Mr. Sager was given the Professionalism Award, the highest honor bestowed by the New Mexico Bar Association, for epitomizing the highest standards of the legal profession. He was designated a Living Archive by the New Mexico Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church. He lives in Albuquerque with his wife of 60 years, Shirley. The couple has funded a professorship in international law at Washburn in memory of their late son, **Kurt M. Sager, '76**, a Washburn Law graduate. They have two daughters, Gayle Keenan and Ann Bracken.



Washburn Law Redesigns Website

 washburnlaw.edu

A screenshot of the Washburn Law School website homepage. The header features the Washburn University School of Law logo and navigation links: CONSUMER INFO, DIRECTORY, SITEMAP, APPLY, VISIT, GIVE, HIRE, and a search bar. Below the header is a secondary navigation bar with links: Prospective Students, Current Students, Faculty & Staff, Alumni & Friends, and Employers & Legal Community. A main navigation bar includes: WHY WASHBURN LAW?, ABOUT US, ADMISSIONS, ACADEMICS, MEET FACULTY & STAFF, CAREERS, PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE, and LIBRARY. The main content area features a large image of graduates in caps and gowns with the text "Affordable education with robust scholarship programs →". Below this is a "AFFORDABLE" badge with a small image of students, and a row of three buttons: VISIT/TOUR, REQUEST INFO, and APPLY NOW. At the bottom, there are links for News, Events, and a prominent "JANUARY START" button.