I Do Solemnly Swear...
WASHBURN LAW ALUMNI
admitted to the bar of the
U.S. SUPREME COURT
Twenty-nine Washburn University School of Law alumni were admitted to the bar of the United States Supreme Court in a swearing-in ceremony this spring.

The alumni and two professors were sworn in as part of Washburn Law’s third biennial United States Supreme Court admissions ceremony, held on April 28, 2008, in Washington, D.C. The alumni represented 11 states, with graduation years from 1956 to 2004. The Washburn professors were Myrl Duncan, professor of law, and Bill Merkel, associate professor of law.

A reception was held the evening before for the participants, their families and friends, and Washington, D.C., area alumni. Senator Robert J. Dole, BA ‘52, and JD ‘52, and the recipient of Honorary Doctor of Law degrees from Washburn in 1969 and 1985, was the special guest. Following the swearing-in ceremony, the group attended a luncheon at the historic Army and Navy Club with guest speaker William K. Suter, clerk of the United States Supreme Court. After the luncheon, participants took a tour of the Pentagon. Hosting the group in Washington, D.C., were Washburn University President Dr. Jerry Farley; Thomas Romig, dean of Washburn University School of Law; Carolyn Barnes, director of alumni services; Joel Lauer, director of advancement; Martin Ahrens, advancement and planned giving officer, Washburn Endowment Association; and Steve Cavanaugh, ’80, president, Washburn University School of Law Alumni Association.

The Washburn Law group was honored to have Supreme Court Justices Ruth Bader Ginsburg and Anthony Kennedy visit with them following the ceremony.

“What made the trip most enjoyable was the fellowship of being back with Kansas/Washburn people. I felt like I was warming my hands against a good fire on a cold January night.”

— Tim Daniel, ’88
Washburn Law alumni and professors admitted to the bar of the United States Supreme Court on April 28, 2008:

Gerald Bender, ’90, Tulsa, Okla.
Bill D. Berkley, ’75, Downs, Kan.
Brandon J. Berkley, ’03, Greenwood Village, Colo.
Mark V. Bodine, ’87, Shawnee, Kan.
A. Michelle Roberts Canter, ’92, Norcross, Ga.
Craig E. Collins, ’87, Topeka, Kan.
Mariana C. Cordier, ’97, Rockville, Md.
Timothy W. Daniel, ’88, Drumright, Okla.
John Michael Duma, ’81, Kansas City, Kan.
Professor Myrl Duncan
Charles T. Engel, ’85, Topeka, Kan.
Carlene J. Griffith, ’93, Riverwoods, Ill.
Nazar Khan, ’04, Brooklyn, N.Y.
Professor William George Merkel
Cynthia O’Conner, ’95, Falls Church, Va.
Tonya O’Hern, ’92, Wheaton, Ill.
Douglas Brian Salsbury, ’79, Chesterfield, Mo.
Susan Carmona Salsbury, ’79, Chesterfield, Mo.
Ronald Scott Seifert, ’92, Addison, Texas
Bruce Wasinger, ’77, Austin, Texas
Calvin K. Williams, ’78, Colby, Kan.

“I was delighted to be a part of the well organized and meaningful event, and was proud to be standing with other Washburn Law graduates.”

— Lynn S. McCreary, ’94

“It was a particular pleasure to meet Dean Romig, and President Farley’s attendance and presence was an added value. It was such a pleasure. So, thank you!”

— A. Michelle Roberts Canter, ’92
“The Washington experience was way beyond my expectation for a first class event. It is one of my life's experiences that I will remember. The experience has reinstilled my pride in my law school! Thank you for that.”

— Judge James G. Beasley, ’66

“Even though our time in D.C. was short, we enjoyed all that there was to do and were grateful for the opportunity to attend. I wanted to extend my gratitude for your efforts as they should be commended and recognized.”

— Mike Leyba, ’93

“Everything was first class. Getting together with former classmates, other alumni, faculty, and staff made it very special. I am extremely glad I participated and will encourage others to do so in the future.”

— Steve Funk, ’77