

# WASHBURN LAWYER



Washburn University School of Law Alumni Magazine | Spring 2015

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*Feature Story*  
U.S. Supreme Court Swearing-In

**DEAN**

Thomas J. Romig

**EDITORS**

Judyanne Somers,  
Director, Alumni Services

Shelia Summers,  
Director, Marketing Communications

**DESIGNER AND EDITOR**

Pam Besler Kaufman  
Assistant Director,  
Marketing Communications

**PHOTOGRAPHERS**

Bruce Mathews,  
Mathews Communications  
Earl Richardson  
Martin E. Wisneski

**UPDATE YOUR ADDRESS:**

E-mail: [alumni@washburnlaw.edu](mailto:alumni@washburnlaw.edu)  
Telephone: 785.670.1011

**CONTACT US:**

We welcome your comments to this publication. Please write, telephone, e-mail, or visit our website. Letters to the editor and news of jobs, honors, weddings, anniversaries, and births are always welcome. Please include your name, class year, address, and daytime telephone number.

**WRITE TO:**

Editor: Washburn Lawyer  
Washburn University School of Law  
Alumni Services  
1700 SW College Ave.  
Topeka, KS 66621  
Telephone: 785.670.2013  
Fax: 785.670.3249  
E-mail: [alumni@washburnlaw.edu](mailto:alumni@washburnlaw.edu)  
Web: [washburnlaw.edu/alumni](http://washburnlaw.edu/alumni)

**DEAN'S LETTER**

## *Where Has Your Dream Taken You?*

Each semester, a unique group of students from around the world begins their legal education at Washburn Law. While some have political science degrees, most have studied in other areas, including business, English, or psychology.

Many come with a mental picture of what their dream job in law will look like. As our alumni have experienced, countless hours spent in Law School often changes that vision. Through Washburn Law's Clinic, Centers for Excellence activities, guest speakers, externships, and faculty guidance, our students are exposed to a multitude of career opportunities that help define their future career paths.

In this issue of the Washburn Lawyer, three stories tell about Washburn Law alumni who have taken different routes to practice law in rural Kansas, the Midwest, and on an international level.

**Calvin "Cal" Williams, '78**, a native Kansan, chose to practice law in the Topeka area and then found his niche as a rural Kansas lawyer in Colby. **The Honorable Nancy Moritz, '85**, has expanded her work in the public sector beyond Kansas' borders to become the newest judge on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit. **John Kemp, '74**, continues to be an advocate for people with disabilities around the world. Each are excellent examples of how Washburn lawyers can make a significant difference in our profession and shine the light on Washburn Law.

We encourage our alumni and friends to always pursue their careers with integrity and passion, wherever that may be — in your local community or hundreds of miles away from Washburn Law. And please do keep in touch — we would love to hear where your degree takes you.

Sincerely,

**THOMAS J. ROMIG**  
Dean and Professor of Law

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## CONTENTS

### IN EVERY ISSUE

- 2** President's Letter
- 3** Law School News
- 16** Law School Events
- 27** Faculty and Staff News
- 28** In Memoriam
- 29** Class Actions
- 35** Alumni Events
- 38** Upcoming Events

### LEGAL BRIEFS

- 4** Commencement
- 8** Alumni Profile
- 12** Moritz's Investiture
- 15** Alumni Fellow
- 18** Supreme Court  
Swearing-In Ceremony
- 22** Alumni Awards
- 26** Veterans Clinic
- 36** Student Perspectives



**Swearing-In**

Washington, D.C.

Page 18



**Investiture:**

**The Honorable Nancy L. Moritz, '85**

Page 12



**SABRINA STANDIFER, '99**  
PRESIDENT

**Washburn University School of Law  
Alumni Association**

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R. Douglas Sebelius, '76 (Norton, Kan.)  
Kathryn M. Wachsman, '75 (New York)

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

## *Awards Recognize Alumni Contributions*

The Washburn University School of Law Alumni Association hosted a reception at the Bradbury Thompson Alumni Center on March 27, 2015, to honor several individuals. The Association presents three different awards each year: the Lifetime Achievement Award, the Distinguished Service Award, and the Honorary Life Membership.

**Kay Arvin, '51, Winton Hinkle, '68, and The Honorable Alex Hotchkiss, '27**, were the Lifetime Achievement Award recipients. **The Honorable Nancy Moritz, '85**, received the Distinguished Service Award and the Honorary Life Membership was presented to **David J. Rebein**.

The awards presentation has always been one of my favorite alumni events. Family members of the recipients travel from near and far to attend. The acceptance speeches are inspirational, moving, and heartfelt. These awards provide us with an opportunity to thank the recipients for their contributions to our school. It reminds me why I chose to attend Washburn and the connection that I will have to Washburn for the rest of my life.

Who do you know that is deserving of one of these awards? Please take a few minutes to nominate that individual. Nominations can be submitted at any time and can be sent to the alumni director's attention at the Law School. The Awards Committee reviews all nominations and then recommends that year's recipients to the Board of Governors for the Board's approval. If a nomination is received after recipients have already been selected, the information will be retained for consideration the following year.

I also want to thank Washburn University President Jerry Farley for his support of the Law School. He and Susan, his wife, attend multiple Law School events each year, visiting and spending time with current students and alumni. His vision for the future of our Law School and efforts with regard to the proposed new Law School building have been instrumental. If you have ever met President Farley or heard him speak, you know that his energy and enthusiasm are contagious.

**SABRINA STANDIFER, '99**

President, Washburn University School of Law Alumni Association

## Fall 2014 Entering Class



- 90 students from 13 different states, one from China, and an exchange student from the Netherlands
- 42 different undergraduate schools are represented with 31 of those out of state
- Top three feeder schools are KU and Washburn (tied with 12 students) and K-State (10 students)
- The average age is 26; the age range is 21 to 45
- 11% have post-graduate degrees
- 22 students are political science majors; many others have degrees in history, business, psychology, and communications; and a few majored in biology, engineering, philosophy, drama, music, and accounting
- The class includes engineers, law enforcement officers, teachers, musicians, coaches, military, radio personalities, dance instructors, accountants, and political bloggers

## Welcome

### Spring 2015 Entering Class



- 25 students from 10 states, one from China, and an exchange student from the Netherlands
- 35% of the entering class is from Kansas
- 17 different undergraduate schools are represented
- The average age is 28; the age range is 21 to 66
- 17% have post-graduate degrees
- 14 different majors, including four political science majors, two criminal justice majors, two health/kinesiology majors, and two history majors
- The class includes a geologist, bailiff, baker/chef, life support counselor, retired Army Colonel, cultural adviser in Afghanistan, and combat medic

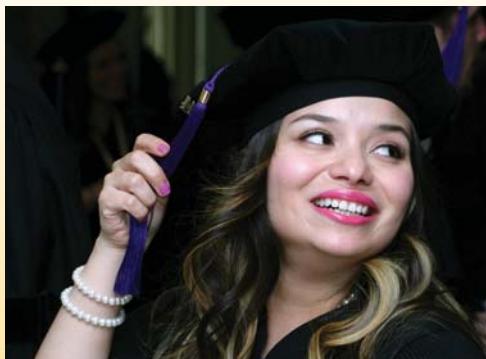


# Graduating Class of 2014

Scott Christoffer Abbott  
Aissac S. Aiono  
Lusine Akobian  
Joshua Simon Albin  
Bryan L. Alkire  
Robert Allen Anderson, Jr.  
Keaton Stewart Ashlock  
Joseph Robert Astrab  
*Business and Transactional  
Law Certificate\**  
Adam Nicholas Baro  
Michael Joe Baxter  
*Natural Resources Law  
Certificate\*, Oil and Gas  
Law Certificate\**  
Hiwot Berihu  
*Business and Transactional  
Law Certificate*  
Maurice Eugene Brewer  
Adam M. Brillhart  
Adam Brinley  
Jessica Anne Brunken  
Julianne Nicole Burton  
*International and Comparative  
Law Certificate*  
Benjamin E. Busboom  
*Business and Transactional Law  
Certificate\*, Natural Resources  
Law Certificate, Oil and Gas  
Law Certificate*

Kallie Anne Campbell  
*International and Comparative  
Law Certificate, Distinguished  
Pro Bono Honors*  
Jaclyn Noell Cannaday  
*Advocacy Certificate\**  
Rancid Booten Carr  
Iasha Chaudhry  
Samuel Duane Clevenger  
*Business and Transactional  
Law Certificate*  
Taylor Brooke Concannon  
Joshua M. Conway  
*Advocacy Certificate,  
International and Comparative  
Law Certificate*  
Travis Lee Cook  
Justin Michael Daake  
Kara Michelle Daniel  
*Family Law Certificate*  
Nicholas Rex Daugherty  
David John Derochick  
Nathan Lee Dickey  
Lindsay Kay Donaldson  
John F. Doyle  
Michael Joseph Duenes  
Sara Louise Ehret  
*Family Law Certificate*  
Jason Martin Eslinger

David William Exstrum  
*Business and Transactional Law  
Certificate\*, Natural Resources  
Law Certificate, Oil and Gas  
Law Certificate*  
Janette Marie Fellows-Papak  
Michael L. Fessinger  
*International and Comparative  
Law Certificate\**  
Kelsey Renee Fowler  
*Pro Bono Honors*  
Michael Jay Fowler  
Aaron Kyle Friess  
*Natural Resources Law  
Certificate\*, Oil and Gas  
Law Certificate\**  
Hazel Ludinette Gauthier  
*Family Law Certificate\**  
Isabella Gichiri  
*Business and Transactional  
Law Certificate\**  
Zachary Neil Green  
Christopher Lee Gunn  
*Business and Transactional  
Law Certificate*  
Jesse Lee Haller  
*Business and Transactional  
Law Certificate*  
Erich Haught





May 17, 2014, and Dec. 13, 2013  
Petro Allied Health Center's Lee Arena

Ethan Lawrence Hausmann  
BreAnne Christine Hendricks  
*Family Law Certificate*  
Jenni Leigh Howsman  
Nicole Marie Hoyt  
Ashley Rae Iverson  
Steven Douglas Iverson  
Gerald Madison Jackson  
Irving Joshua Jacobs  
*Advocacy Certificate*  
Scott Allen Johnson  
Curt Jones  
Jacqueline Kelly  
Nicholas Brennan Kenney  
Clay Adam Kuhns  
*Advocacy Certificate,  
Family Law Certificate*  
Sylvia Denise LeBaron-Ramos  
Taylor A. Leftwich  
*Business and Transactional  
Law Certificate\*, Natural  
Resources Law Certificate,  
Oil and Gas Law Certificate\**  
Kelsy Erin Long  
Christopher William David Lyon  
Matthew J. McGivern  
Matthew McTernan  
Joseph Hervey Milavec  
*Tax Law Certificate*  
Robert J. Moody, Jr.  
Trevor Charles Mooney  
Jenna Erin Morgan

Mathew William Mullen  
*Business and Transactional  
Law Certificate*  
Nhu T. Nguyen  
Jason Russell Niernberger  
Laura Houser Oblinger  
Eli Matthew O'Brien  
Jennifer Lynn Ouellette  
*Family Law Certificate,  
Pro Bono Honors*  
Bill Pak  
Tyler E. Patterson  
Matthew Jon Peterson  
Travis Michael Pfannenstiel  
*Business and Transactional  
Law Certificate\**  
Michelle Christine Pflumm  
Justin Jay Pierson  
*Family Law Certificate,  
Distinguished Pro Bono Honors*  
Christopher Michael Ray  
Jaime Gleyre Richards  
Christopher A. Rohr  
Benjamin Nephi Romney  
Kerrilyn Sue Russ  
*Business and Transactional  
Law Certificate, Tax Law  
Certificate\*, Pro Bono Honors*  
Steven Patrick Salyer  
*JD/MBA Dual Degree*  
Steven Alexander Scholtz  
Jason Thomas Schulte

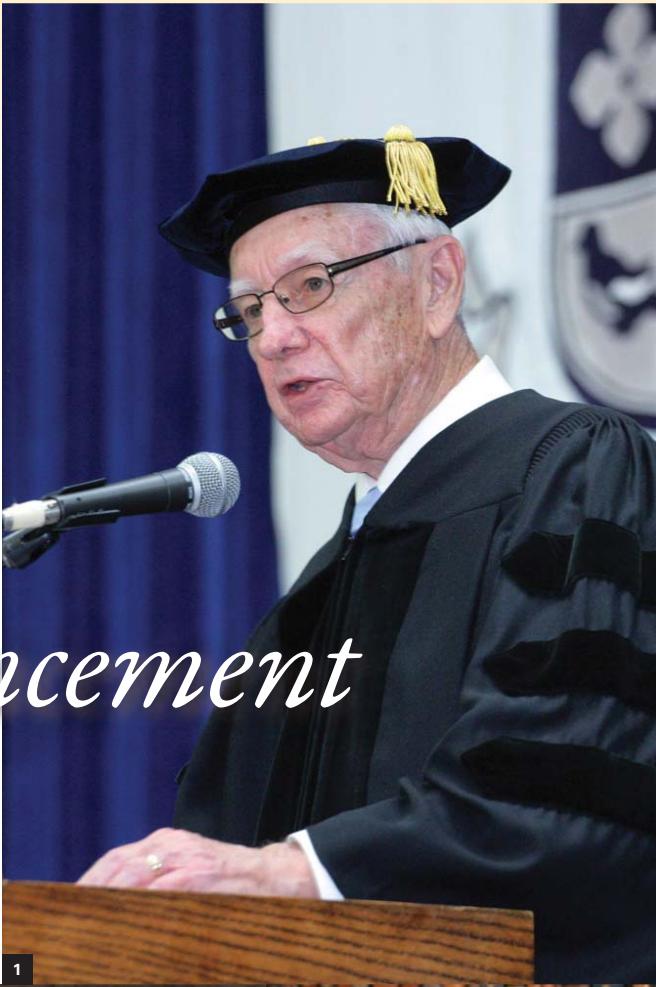
Jenna Rose Seematter  
Jara Jean Settles  
Tracy Leigh Middleton Shaffer  
Maciej Sokolowski  
Calla Marlee Sprague  
Tucker Alan Stewart  
Phillip Charles Strozier  
Matthew Lawrence Sullard  
Evan Eugene Talbott  
Matthew Allan Tate  
*Natural Resources Law Certificate,  
Oil and Gas Law Certificate*  
Terra Tecchio  
James H. Thompson, III  
Linda Diem Tran  
John Bolinger Turney, Jr.  
Marissa Jo Wagenaar  
Kurtis Kenneth Wiard  
Lisa M. Williams  
*Family Law Certificate*  
Megan Teresa Williams  
Jeffrey Alan Wilson  
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Oil and Gas Law Certificate*  
Robert E. Young  
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Law Certificate\**  
Cassy Anna Zeigler  
Michael Alexander Zimmerman



\*Denotes certificate earned with distinction



# Commencement 2014



[1] Commencement speaker and recipient of the Honorary Doctor of Law, The Honorable J. Patrick Brazil, '62 [2] Professor Amy Deen Westbrook, 2013-14 William O. Douglas Outstanding Professor of the Year [3] Amy Hanley, 2013-14 Adjunct Professor of the Year [4] Glen McBeth, '03, 2013-14 Adjunct Professor of the Year [5] Jesse Haller, '14, president, Washburn Student Bar Association

# 90%+

participated in experiential learning (skills-based) opportunities through the Washburn Law Clinic, externships, or internships

# 47%

completed an externship

# 43%

participated in the Washburn Law Clinic

# 700+

hours toward the Pro Bono Honors Program

# 33%

earned a specialized Certificate

# 13

studied abroad in Barbados, the Netherlands, Ireland, France, and the Cayman Islands



# Legacies of 2014

[1] Robert Anderson, Jr., '14 (center) is a legacy to Donald Anderson, II, '10, (left) and Robert Anderson, Sr., '85

[2] Taylor Concannon, '14, is a legacy to Chris Concannon, '79, Donald Concannon, '52, and Debra Traster '91

[3] Michael Fowler, '14, (right) is a legacy to (Lee) William Fowler, '81

[4] Erich Haught, '14, is a legacy to Anne Haught, '90

[5] Taylor Leftwich, '14, is a legacy to Candice Reynolds, '84

[6] Jeffrey Wilson, '14, (left) and James (Trip) Thompson, III, '14, (right) are legacies to James Thompson, '75, (center)

*Not pictured:*

Kelsy Allison, '14, is a legacy to Gary Long, '88

John Doyle, '14 is a legacy to Daniel Doyle, '82

Tyler Patterson, '14, is a legacy to Gary Patterson, '90

# Disabilities and Leadership Unite

Kemp, '74, Honored with Dole Leadership Prize

Two distinguished Washburn Law alumni, both worldwide leaders in the disability movement, were in the spotlight on Dec. 14, 2014, at the Robert J. Dole Institute of Politics.

**John Kemp, '74**, received the 2014 Dole Leadership Prize and was personally selected by former **Senator Robert Dole, '52**. The prize is awarded annually to an individual or group whose public service leadership inspires others. Kemp joins a prestigious list of prize recipients that includes Nelson Mandela, the Wounded Warrior Project, former New York Mayor Rudolph Giuliani, and former Polish president Lech Walesa.

"As a wounded veteran and tireless advocate for disability rights, Senator Dole has taken a personal interest in Mr. Kemp's outstanding service to the disabilities community," said Institute Director Bill Lacy.

Kemp was born with a congenital defect that left him without arms or legs. He now has four prostheses and uses a motorized chair. His passion for inspiring others with disabilities has earned him respect in the corporate, non-profit, and political arenas. His keen perspective, personal

experience, and legal expertise have combined to make him a highly recognizable and distinguished voice for people with disabilities.

## *Impacting the Nation*

Throughout his professional life, Kemp has worked with Dole on projects of mutual interest. Since the 1970s, Dole and Kemp have partnered to lobby on behalf of people with disabilities. Their combined efforts have, in part, resulted in the enactment of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) that was passed by Congress in 1990. Additionally, they worked with the late Paul Hearne, a good friend and past executive director of the Dole Foundation on Employment of People with Disabilities, to lobby staunch opponents of expanding the rights of people with disabilities. One of their efforts included meeting with the National Federation of Independent Business Owners to ease their concerns about small businesses' fear of going out of business because of having to meet ADA guidelines.

Kemp has learned many valuable lessons observing

and working with Sen. Dole over the years. He has learned that you can be a statesman; you can respect other people's opinions; and sometimes you have to yield, blend, and cooperate. Kemp recalled Dole saying, as they were negotiating the ADA in 1990, "You can't have everything you want, and still, you're going to have to give up something to get the cooperation. And you just have to think about what it is that you really, really want." Kemp said, "He's always been a guy that can see both sides of the issue. He can bring people together and find common ground. And if anything, he taught me that you can get a lot more done by being willing to compromise and put yourself in the other person's place."

## *Changing the World*

Today, Dole and Kemp's efforts are focused on getting U.S. ratification of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. According to the United Nation's website, this international treaty states that all persons with disabilities have the right to be free from discrimination in the enjoyment of their rights. This includes the right to be free from discrimination on the



John Kemp, front and center, is pictured with students and staff from the Henry Viscardi School.

basis of disability, but also on any other basis such as race, color, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth, or other status. The treaty also identifies the obligations on States' parties to the Convention to promote, protect, and ensure those rights. States that ratify the Convention are legally bound to respect the standards in the Convention. This is the first human rights convention of the 21st century and the first legally binding instrument with comprehensive protection of the rights of persons with disabilities.

During a recent phone conversation, Kemp and Dole both resolved that in 2015 they would get the resolution ratified and they talked strategy for how to accomplish this endeavor. As of April 16, 2015, the U.S. has signed, but not yet ratified the convention, and there have been 153 ratifications/accessions by States in the world according to the United Nation's website ([un.org/disabilities](http://un.org/disabilities)).

### ***Empowering Children***

Kemp has selected The Viscardi Center to receive the \$25,000 Dole Leadership Prize to help further the Center's educational technology

capabilities. Located in Albertson, N.Y., The Viscardi Center provides a lifespan of programs and services that educate, employ, and empower children and adults with disabilities. Kemp has passionately served as the Center's president and CEO since 2011 and inspires others to achieve the impossible through knowledge, experience, vision, personality, and persistence.

"It's an unbelievable place here," said Kemp about The Viscardi Center, which is comprised of three main components—Henry Viscardi School; Abilities, Inc.; and

(cont. on page 10)

## Kemp (*cont. from page 9*)

the National Business and Disability Council.

At the Henry Viscardi School, students who are medically fragile and have significant physical disabilities are given the chance to function freely in a great environment, not be chastised or humiliated because of their disability, and learn and grow on their own. "There is a big rationale for this kind of school to exist," Kemp said.

The school's student profile is pre-K through age 21, non-ambulatory, wheel-chair using, technologically dependent, and/or non-verbal. Students are so ill that school districts cannot accommodate their needs. These fragile children are transported daily in climate-controlled buses from their homes that are located up to an hour away from the center. They come from the five boroughs of New York City, Westchester County, and the counties of Long Island. "It's the parents of these children that I probably admire the most," said Kemp, referring to their untiring efforts to care for a disabled child in addition to their other family members and daily obligations. The center is heavily staffed in the medical support area, including a doctor working



John Kemp, '74, and Chris, a student from the Henry Viscardi School.

one day a week, four full-time nurses, and about 30 therapists, all who work closely with the 170 students.

"Technology is such an equalizer for people with disabilities that we want to make sure that not only students have all of the technologies that they need to learn, grow, and develop," said Kemp. "But also, that the staff has the technologies that they need to instruct and lead the children."

Microsoft and IBM are among the organizations that have supported The Viscardi Center. In the future, the center is looking

at developing an "Accessible ICT" forum of companies from the information and communication technology area to discuss how people with disabilities work and learn, and what kind of technologies are and should be available. The Viscardi Center plans to be an aggregator for those companies and a test place for both the students at the school and the adults with disabilities who receive services. "We're an incubator of good ideas," Kemp said.

When students leave the Henry Viscardi School, they feel good about who they are as people with disabilities entering the world. "That

they have the confidence and the belief in themselves, and they righteously belong to society — to me, that's the empowerment part of what we do here," emphasized Kemp. "And they need to feel that they're not hat-in-hand begging and pleading for an opportunity, but that they have basic civil and human rights as citizens of this great country. So they come out of here not over-reaching and over-asking but knowing that they have an equal opportunity to participate in society."

Abilities, Inc., at The Viscardi Center helps prepare individuals with disabilities for entry or re-entry into the workplace. Specific examples of the services include training for retail sales, job coaching, office technology courses, and career exploration. Approximately 2,000 adolescents and adults are supported each year with some type of service offered at Abilities, Inc.

The third component of The Viscardi Center is the National Business & Disability Council, which serves the employer community, and works with most of the Fortune 100 companies on their hiring, customer service, and supply chain issues involving businesses owned by individuals with disabilities.

As a child, Kemp was blessed to have a Viscardi-type of influence in his life through his father, John B. Kemp. After Kemp lost his mother to cancer, Kemp's father single-handedly raised him and his two siblings from a young age. Kemp's father expected him to be in an inclusive school environment, accept challenges, and become self-sufficient. John B. Kemp retired after 62 years spent working in federal, state, county, and city government. He later developed Parkinson's disease, and died in 2008. "He was the ultimate public servant. He's with me every day...a really remarkable guy," said Kemp of his father.

One of Kemp's favorite memories is when he gave Washburn Law's commencement address in May 2003, which coincided with receiving an Honorary Doctorate of Law degree. Kemp was able to introduce

his father, whose Parkinson's disease was in its latter stages. "When I introduced him, he got up very slowly, turned around, and waved at everyone. And I still think, 'whoa, that's one of my great memories.'"

When Kemp's dad developed Parkinson's, he recalls encouraging him to use the handicapped parking pass only to get the response, "No, no. They're for people like you. I shouldn't take those parking spaces." He didn't perceive himself as handicapped in that sense, which Kemp sees as a frequent response of people as they age — they resist the identity of being disabled. "Part of our movement is to give dignity to the identity of disability. For too long, people just felt sorry for us and there weren't a lot of options for us. Now with civil rights and getting jobs, we are really changing how people with disabilities are perceived," said Kemp.

*For more information visit:*

The Viscardi Center - [viscardicenter.org](http://viscardicenter.org)  
United Nations - [un.org/disabilities](http://un.org/disabilities)

# Judge Moritz, '85, Sworn In to Tenth Circuit Court

The first thing that comes to mind when you think of **Judge Nancy L. Moritz, '85**, is success. A close second is people, and her superb memory of all of those who impacted her life, from her childhood in Tipton, Kan., to Washburn Law, to her office in Lawrence with the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit.

In fourth grade, Nancy didn't know any judges or lawyers in Tipton, Kan., where she and her cousin decided to have a little bakery. But then she decided that it would be a lot of hard work to be a baker and she would have to get up early in the morning. The hilarity of Nancy not wanting to work hard isn't lost on anyone who knows her.

When her dad's symptoms of Huntington's Disease necessitated a move nearer to Topeka for medical care, the family relocated to Salina, Kan. Most of the 80 students in her new class at Sacred Heart school already had tight friendships, so to make friends, Nancy decided to join the debate team. She calls it the best thing she ever did.

It was through debate that Nancy discovered her love of the analytical process: putting

together evidence in a form that makes sense, creating a plan, becoming an adversary, honing oral speaking skills, and cross examining. "Everything about it — I just thought this is what I want to do," said Nancy. "The only thing I could think was I probably ought to be a lawyer."

Nancy chose Washburn University because she knew Washburn Law would prepare her to be a good lawyer. She began taking communications and English classes because they came easy to her. But she was also taking accounting classes and doing well in those. When a friend noted that a communications degree wouldn't allow her to have a real job, something she chuckles at now, Nancy decided to major in accounting despite the repeated advice of her professor, Dr. Meredith Moore. When she reflects on business courses, Dr. Richard Moellenberndt and Dr. Walt James come to mind as tough professors who challenged her.

Nancy never really doubted that she was going to law school, but she never considered career counseling. "I don't remember ever going to career counseling and saying here's what I want to do; I

want to go to law school. What should I major in? What are my talents? Because I'm sure if I had, I wouldn't have done what I did. Everybody laughs because the idea of me as an accountant is really kind of a scary thing," she said.

Nancy's story from childhood through today contains references to numerous employers, coworkers, and friends. Her first job was working for Moira Brouddus at the Holiday Inn in Salina nearly full-time during the school year and more during the summer, to help pay for tuition. All six Moritz children worked to supplement their mother's income as an editor at School Specialty Supply since their father resigned as the postmaster of Tipton when his health failed.

That same Moira became a catering director at Washburn University and then a house mom for Alpha Delta fraternity. She came to all of Nancy's swearing-in events, helped Nancy out along the way, and perhaps changed her life's course.

Nancy mentioned other people who impacted her career, including Shawnee County District Court Judges Terry Bullock and James Martin



Macnish, Jr.; federal **Judge Patrick F. Kelly**, '53; and partners and associates at Davis, Unrein, Hummer, and McAllister.

Nancy recalls a time when she and Judge Kelly argued about a certain case. "Nancy, when the President calls and makes you God, you can decide," he told her. "I always think about that — when the President calls and makes you God," Nancy said. The President did indeed call, nominating her to the Tenth Circuit bench in August 2013. "Well, guess what, Judge Kelly? Here I am. I'm not God, but you know, if Judge Kelly were still alive, he would be so proud."

Nancy was notes editor for **Judge Eric Melgren**, '85, on the *Washburn Law Journal* their last year of Law School and they became good friends. For years, their careers took similar paths and he ended up being her boss at the U.S. Attorney's Office. Eric came to her swearing-in for both the Court of Appeals and the Kansas Supreme Court, and Nancy chose him to perform her swearing-in. He was very helpful throughout the two-year process of getting her appointment, as he had been through it himself fairly recently. "He was always encouraging," said Nancy. "He said, 'We're going to make it. You're going to make it. It's all

(cont. on page 25)



## Hanging a Shingle in Rural Kansas

Cal Williams, '78, Advocacy Practitioner in Residence

The winding road in **Cal Williams'** career has always intersected with Washburn Law. After graduation in 1978, he did extensive litigation work in Osage and Shawnee counties in Kansas, and finally set up practice in Colby, Kan., in 1993. But over the years, Williams has always made time to give countless hours back to the Law School.

"A highly skilled defense lawyer, Cal has been an Intensive Trial Advocacy Program (ITAP) team leader, instructor, and mentor to many, many students," said Michael Kaye, professor and director of the Center for Excellence in Advocacy. There is an end in sight for his legal career as he winds down his practice with the goal of taking down his shingle in 2016.

Williams often lectures to law students about the nature and value of practicing law in a rural area. In a recent presentation to Washburn Law graduates, Williams said, "There is a job out there for each and every one of you, you just have to have guts enough to go out and start it rather than find it."

Often, students who are looking at careers in Western Kansas will ask him, "So who is going to give me a job?" His response is, "Nobody is going to give you a job. You're going to make your own job. You're going to look at three, four, or five communities in a six-county judicial district. Look at the demographics and figure out where you're going to fit best. See what's going on, see what's needed. Study the area." He emphasizes that there's a different fit for everybody and there are a million ways to find a job and make it work, but there aren't any excuses for not finding a job.

Williams goes on to say, "You don't have to get hired, you can make your job." It can be done, just like he did, "by putting some shiny plastic letters on a piece of wood, putting it on a chain, and hanging it in the window. And there's your shingle — the start of your legal career in rural Kansas."

"If you want to be your own boss, and you want to chart your own course, it takes time," said Williams. "There's a three- to five- to ten-year cycle before you get over a hump and start making the money that you think you oughta be making."

Recent graduate **Chris Rohr, '14**, has been mentored by Williams before and during Law School, and since graduation. Rohr shared that Williams was not only influential in his decision to attend Washburn Law, he was also instrumental when starting his solo practice in September 2014 in Colby.

"Under Cal's guidance, I assisted him in various cases and each time I came away with practical experience that could not be gained elsewhere," said Rohr. "Cal's continued efforts to offer advice and insight in my daily practice are making me a better lawyer every day. I am where I am today because of Cal's generosity and support."

In rural practice, it's easier to be a big fish in a small pond, in Williams' opinion. Yet, it's still essential, no matter where you practice, to get along with the bar and the courts, and uphold professional ethics. But, it's especially essential when you're in a small community, because you still have to live in and be a part of the community. "When that client is gone, you're going to see that judge and that other attorney again, probably this week or next week," said Williams.

*(cont. on page 15)*



## Kuckelman, '90, Named Alumni Fellow

School of Law Honoree

**Michael Kuckelman, BBA '86 and JD '90**, was honored as Washburn University's Alumni Fellow for Washburn Law during the Fellows Luncheon on Nov. 14, 2014, at Bradbury Thompson Alumni Center.

While at Washburn he was a member of Alpha Delta fraternity, Inter-fraternity Council, Student Council, Moot Court Council, and Order of Barristers, and was editor of the *Washburn Law Journal*.

A native of Atchison, Kan., and resident of Olathe, Kan., Kuckelman is a partner at Kuckelman Torline Kirkland and Lewis specializing in commercial and personal injury law. He was previously an attorney at Blackwell Sanders and was a member of the plaintiffs' executive committee appointed by the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York to litigate the 9/11 World Trade Center cases.

Kuckelman is a member of the Kansas, Missouri, New York, U.S. Supreme Court, and Supreme Court of England and Wales bars. His community service includes the Catholic Education Foundation Board, Maur Hill-Mount Academy Board of Directors, and Washburn University Foundation Board of Trustees.

Over the years, he has assisted several families with adoptions and does the work pro bono because he believes in uniting parents with children.

## Williams (*cont. from page 14*)

It's also important to build rapport with other attorneys when practicing in rural areas or as a solo practitioner. Williams believes that you need someone to fall back on, that you call and say, "here's my situation, I'm kind of concerned about this, and have I done something wrong?" and get a second opinion.

For Williams, Joel Meineke was that resource. When Williams was practicing in Linden, Kan., Meineke was a solo practitioner in Topeka and shared with Williams "what you don't seem to realize is you're a member

of the biggest firm in Kansas. All solo practitioners. If we were a firm, we would be the biggest firm in Kansas. We do everything, and there's someone who can answer any question. I don't know a solo out there that wouldn't try to help and be reasonable with you, just like you're expected to do as time goes by."

Almost every summer for the past 10 years, Williams has spent a week at the Law School serving as an ITAP faculty member. ITAP is a total immersion trial skills course in which students spend entire

days learning and practicing trial skills. Williams, along with other faculty, coaches and mentors students in the finer points of trial advocacy. A noteworthy result of the week is that the ITAP students learn the importance of becoming thoughtful, credible, professional, energetic, and compassionate advocates — essential skills that will serve them well in their careers.

"Simply put, he is an outstanding teacher, alum, colleague, and good friend," said Kaye.

# *Brown v. Board* at 60: Looking Back - Looking Forward

Center for Law and Government and *Washburn Law Journal* Symposium

Washburn Law's Center for Law and Government and the *Washburn Law Journal* presented *Brown v. Board* at 60: Looking Back - Looking Forward to explore in a critical manner what the *Brown v. Board of Education* decision has meant and what it will continue to mean looking forward. The event was held on Feb. 27, 2014, at Bradbury Thompson Alumni Center.

Distinguished experts participated in three distinct plenary sessions addressing the topics of "The Life of Brown," "Race and Education Today," and "Contemporary Race Issues: Confronting Inequality in the 21st Century."

The third issue of volume 53 (summer 2014) of the *Washburn Law Journal* was dedicated to the topic of this symposium, and articles written by the participants are featured. Related articles can be found at [washburnlaw.edu/wlj](http://washburnlaw.edu/wlj).



[1] Symposium speakers included (front row) Cheryl Brown Henderson, Shirley A. Hill, Abel A. Bartley, and William Yeomans, and (back row) Juan F. Perea, Ted Shaw, Preston Green III, Cedric Merlin Powell, Chris Hansen, Joseph Zima, '72, and Jack Alexander. [2] Following the symposium, attendees and their guests attended a reception at the Brown v. Board of Education National Historic Site in Topeka.

**The Supreme Court's decision  
in *Brown* marked a milestone  
in the nation's long journey  
toward racial equality,  
a journey that continues today.**

# The Future of Housing

Business and Transactional Law Center and *Washburn Law Journal* Symposium



Washburn Law's Business and Transactional Law Center partnered with the *Washburn Law Journal* to host a symposium entitled The Future of Housing: Equity, Stability, and Sustainability on Feb. 26, 2015.

The symposium hosted 20 experts from across the country who came to Washburn Law to discuss and debate their scholarly works on current legal housing issues. Presentations were grouped into three panels: (1) fair housing problems and equitable solutions, (2) market re-stabilization after the 2008 foreclosure crisis, and (3) real estate development and planning for the future.

Articles on which many of the presentations were based will be published in a forthcoming volume of the *Washburn Law Journal*, and will appear online at [washburnlaw.edu/wlj](http://washburnlaw.edu/wlj).

Symposium speakers [1] Mark Roark [2] Kali Murray [3] Kathleen Engel and [4] James J. Kelly, Jr.

**Equity,  
Stability, and  
Sustainability**



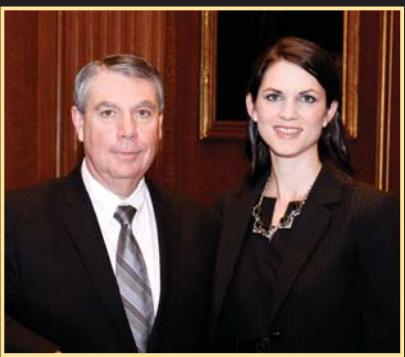
Washburn  
University  
School of Law  
is pleased to  
announce  
its newest  
members of  
the Bar of the  
Supreme Court  
of the  
United States.





# *Supreme Court Swearing-In Ceremony*

MARCH 9, 2015



"Parents and children usually have to watch each other's careers from the sidelines, but it is every parent's dream that they can share their important life events with their children and family. To fulfill this dream by jointly executing the oath of practice before the United States Supreme Court with our spouses present was something we have long anticipated and will always cherish. Thank you to Washburn University School of Law for this unique opportunity to reach this milestone together."

*The Honorable Merlin Wheeler, '77, and daughter Kristen Wheeler, '06*

*Washburn Law alumni admitted to the bar of the United States Supreme Court on March 9, 2015:*

Gloria Angus, '89  
Shelton Benedict, '84  
Terri Bezek, '86  
Randy Brinegar, '86  
Leonard Buddenbohm, '76  
Jeff Cowger, '90  
Mark Dupree, Sr., '07  
Tim Karstetter, '74  
Dustin Kirk, '11  
Kyle Krull, '84  
Professor Joe McKinney, '86  
Michael Sharma-Crawford, '02  
John Solbach, '77  
Bryan Walker, '10  
Kristen Wheeler, '06  
The Hon. Merlin Wheeler, '77

*By written motion:*  
Jed Davis, '67  
Jack Scheske, '81

Dean Thomas Romig moved the admission of 20 law school graduates, 16 from Washburn Law, for admission to the bar of the United States Supreme Court in a Swearing-in ceremony.

The ceremony was held March 9, 2015, in Washington, D.C., Washburn Law alumni hailed from the states of Illinois, Kansas, Louisiana, Missouri, Oklahoma, and Pennsylvania with graduation years from 1974 to 2011.

Hosting the group in Washington, D.C., were Washburn University President Dr. Jerry Farley; Washburn University School of Law Dean Thomas Romig; Patrick Mikesic, executive director of Development and Alumni Relations - Law School; Sean Harlow, development director for Washburn University Foundation; and Judyanne Somers, director of alumni services at Washburn Law. The admittees were honored to have Supreme Court Chief Justice John G. Roberts, Jr., and Associate Justices Ruth Bader Ginsburg and Sonia Sotomayor join the group for photos and a visit following the swearing-in.

After the ceremony, the group attended a luncheon at the historic Army and Navy Club and enjoyed a tour of the Pentagon.

In addition, more than 50 people gathered for a reception that evening for the participants, their families, and Washington, D.C., metro-area alumni at the Hyatt Regency on Capitol Hill. Former 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.



Alumni in attendance: Tim Belsan, '09, Former Senator Robert Dole, '52, and Tim's wife Asha.



1 2 3

[1] Chief Justice John G. Roberts  
[2] Justice Sonia Sotomayor  
[3] Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg



1 2 3 4

[1] Gloria Angus, '89  
[2] Vicky and Shelton Benedict, '84  
[3] Terri, '86, and Sarah Bezdek  
[4] Debbie and Randy Brinegar, '86



1 2 3 4

[1] Leonard Buddenbohm, '76  
[2] Jeff Cowger, '90  
[3] Shanelle and Mark Dupree, Sr., '07  
[4] Marilyn and Tim Karstetter, '74



1 2 3 4

[1] Stuart, Dustin, '11, and  
Vanessa Kirk  
[2] Kyle, '84, and Gretchen Krull  
[3] Sharon and Joe McKinney, '86  
[4] Michael, '02, and Rekha  
Sharma-Crawford



1 2 3 4

[1] John, '77, and Patricia  
Solbach  
[2] Bryan, '10, and Lon Walker  
[3] Kristen Wheeler, '06, and  
Phillip Horvey  
[4] Merlin, '77, and Deborah  
Wheeler



1 2

[1] Pam and Dean Thomas Romig  
[2] Former Congressmen Jim Slattery, '75,  
and Robert Dole, '52

# 2015 Awards Recognition Reception

March 27, 2015 • Bradbury Thompson Alumni Center • Washburn University Campus



[1] Members of Kay Arvin's family [2] Gene Olander, '63, spoke on behalf of Judge Hotchkiss [3] David Rebein and his family members  
[4] Professor Jim Concannon spoke on behalf of Winton Hinkle

## Lifetime Achievement Awards

The Lifetime Achievement Award is bestowed on graduates whose careers have been highly distinguished, and whose achievements and contributions are widely recognized as significant and outstanding in their field of endeavor, whether it be in the practice of law, the judiciary, business, public service, education, or otherwise. While all graduates of the Law School will be eligible for consideration, in general those nominated should be persons whose professional careers have been substantially completed, and who clearly will represent the very best and most accomplished of the Law School's many outstanding graduates.



**Kay Arvin** grew up in the 1920s on a Kansas working farm. At three years old, she followed her sister to a one-room schoolhouse near Cullison, Kan. Thus began a life of engaged learning that never faltered.

Shortly after the war, Kay was blinded by an accident. She inquired if she could accompany her husband, Les, to his classes at Washburn Law. She enrolled and thrived, serving as secretary for the Washburn Bar Association.

Les and Kay became Wichita attorneys and raised their two sons near Rose Hill, Kan. In spite of the challenges of blindness, Kay embraced the dual roles of mother and working professional. Her practice specialized in adoption and divorce,

and later, in mediation. Kay was an in-demand speaker on marriage and Christian faith, and considered her legal career an extension of her commitment to helping others.

She championed the cause of abused women, interviewed several incarcerated for killing abusive husbands, and advocated on their behalf with then-Governor Joan Finney. She was the first woman to try a case in her state's Supreme Court and win.

Kay considered civic and pro bono work an obligation. She was listed in Harvard's *Best Lawyers in America*.

Kay died June 1, 2014, in Nashville six days before her 92nd birthday.

BA, Ottawa University, '43 • JD, Washburn University School of Law, '51



*Winton Hinkle* was born in Hays, Kan., on March 2, 1942, and grew up in Garden City, Kan. He received his BSE, *cum laude*, in English from Emporia State University in 1964. He earned his JD degree, *magna cum laude*, from Washburn Law in 1968.

Winton was a member of Phi Alpha Delta and editor-in-chief of the *Washburn Law Journal*.

In December 2014, Winton retired from Hinkle Law Firm LLC, a company he founded in 1987. He was senior counsel, concentrating his practice in municipal finance and securities law. The Hinkle Law Firm currently has 40 attorneys and more than 70 support staff, including paralegals and accountants, and represents private and publicly held businesses.

BSE, Emporia State University, '64 • JD, Washburn University School of Law, '68

Winton's many contributions to Washburn Law include: Alumni Association Board of Governors member from 2002 to 2013 and president from 2010 to 2013; and member of the Business and Transactional Law Center's Board of Advisors from 2004 to the present.

Winton and his wife, Paulette, established an endowed unrestricted program fund in the Business and Transactional Law Center during the Centennial Celebration. The Hinkle Elkouri Law Firm, L.L.C., established a \$50,000 scholarship at Washburn Law during the Centennial. The firm also makes cash awards to Washburn students in the National Negotiation Competition.

Winton and Paulette have four adult children.



## *The Honorable Alex Hotchkiss*

was born in Burlingame, Kan., on Aug. 12, 1904. He was born to naturalized, immigrant parents from Scotland.

After graduating from Washburn Law in 1927, Judge Hotchkiss moved to Lyndon, Kan., in Osage County to practice law and run for county attorney. He returned to Topeka to accept a legal position with the former Oil Department of Kansas. Judge Hotchkiss moved back to Lyndon to practice general law. He ran for county attorney and in 1943 was elected to the Kansas Senate. In 1960, Hotchkiss became judge of the Fourth Judicial District.

Judge Hotchkiss was a leader in progressive legal reform. As a member of the Kansas Judicial

Council, he made significant contributions to the judicial system in his committee work. He was one of the early moving forces behind the publication of the "Pattern Instructions for Kansas," available to judges and lawyers in both civil and criminal cases, which provides clarity and instructions for jurors in the courtroom.

Judge Hotchkiss served as Washburn Law Alumni Association president from 1954 to 1955. He was awarded the Distinguished Service Award from Washburn Law in 1967. Judge Hotchkiss served as justice of the national fraternity of Phi Alpha Delta (PAD) in 1967, and later was appointed Supreme Justice of Phi Alpha Delta Legal Fraternity, International.

Judge Hotchkiss was recognized as having an outstanding legal mind and was considered one of the best district judges in Kansas.

Washburn University, '24 • JD, Washburn University School of Law, '27

## *Distinguished Service Award*

The Distinguished Service Award is bestowed on graduates of Washburn Law who have particularly distinguished themselves and brought recognition to the school through their service to Washburn University School of Law, the legal profession, their community, or public service.



### *The Honorable Nancy L. Moritz*

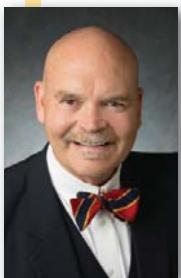
is a former judge of the Kansas Court of Appeals and justice of the Kansas Supreme Court. She was nominated by

the Obama administration for a position on the Tenth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. A feature story about Nancy starts on page 12.

BBA, Washburn University, '82 • JD, Washburn University School of Law, '85

## *Honorary Life Membership*

The Honorary Life Membership is awarded annually to a non-graduate. The recipient of this honor is someone who has provided an exemplary service to their profession, community, and Washburn University School of Law.



### *David J. Rebein*

is founder and partner of Rebein Bangerter Rebein. He received his B.A., *summa cum laude*, in political science from Washburn University in 1977.

While at Washburn, David was inducted into the Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society. David earned his JD from the University of Kansas School of Law in 1980.

David is a member of the American College of Trial Lawyers. He is a past president of the Kansas Bar Association and past president of the Legacy for Justice Foundation. David is current treasurer of the Kansas Association for Justice. He is admitted to the Kansas Bar and Florida Bar.

David received the 2009 Distinguished Service Award from the Kansas Bar Association for continuous longstanding service on behalf of the legal profession. He has been recognized by *Best Lawyers in America* and *Super Lawyers* for his work as a trial lawyer.

With more than 30 years experience, David has tried hundreds of cases and represented Fortune 500 Companies as well as individuals in commercial and personal injury cases. He is at home in both Federal and State Courts.

David sums up his work by saying, "I walk into a tragedy and try to make sense of what happened. I personally investigate the case and if I take it, I give it everything I've got."

BA, Washburn University, '77 • JD, University of Kansas School of Law, '80

## *Awards Committee*

Lucky DeFries, '78, Chairman; Tom Adrian, '69; John Duma, '81; John Hamilton, '65;  
Ed Kainen, '88; Lynn McCreary, '94; Kathryn Wachsman, '75

*Staff Liaison:* Professor Jim Concannon

[washburnlaw.edu/alumni/awards](http://washburnlaw.edu/alumni/awards)

## Moritz (*cont. from page 13*)

going to be worth it.' He's been a good friend."

Nancy remembers that professors James M. Concannon; **Linda H. Elrod**, '72; and Gregory J. Pease were always willing to talk to her about anything when she began at Washburn Law. She notes that they are still with her. "They're supporting us," she said. "And they're advocating for us. My class at Washburn Law has remained very close. There's a group of us that communicate by email and support each other. I remember when I was applying for both the Court of Appeals and the Kansas Supreme Court, they did a letter writing campaign. We are a group that supports each other without having any organized structure. We know each other and we've kept in contact and there are so many of us now that are judges from our class in particular. We all talk about how we think that support has helped us."

When professors Concannon and Elrod wrote letters on her behalf, they could really talk about who she was. "Nobody has that from their Law School," Nancy said. "Since I've now been hiring Washburn Law students...I know there is still that support from the university, from the professors.

"Obviously I have a lot of praise for my professors and the classes that I took, and they gave me a solid background. I never felt like I didn't have what it took to practice law or get started. I think that's the big thing. Everyone, not just the professors, but the deans, assistant deans, and the staff, they're helpful and they'll continue to help people."

Nancy credits a suggestion from Justice Herd as leading to her many lawyer friends across the state. He suggested she get involved, which led to her relationship with the Kansas Bar Association, where **Judge Christel Marquardt**, '74, appointed her to the board of editors for the KBA Journal around 1985. Again, it was one of the best things she ever did.

Nancy chose to have her investiture to the Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals last October at Washburn's White Concert Hall, where her many professors, classmates, colleagues, employees, and mentors could share in her success and visit with the delightfully warm, funny, and successful woman they consider a friend. Getting to know Nancy was one of the best things they ever did.





## *Veterans Clinic Launched*

### Clinic Supports Veterans and Service Members

The Veterans Legal Assistance Clinic (VLAC) was launched in the fall of 2014 to serve veterans and other service members living in Kansas. Four one-day Clinics have been held, during which free wills, living wills, and durable powers of attorney were provided. Despite inclement weather during two of the Clinic events, 57 people fell within financial guidelines and were served.

The Clinic is staffed by Washburn Law students who work pro bono under the close supervision of faculty. After the initial screening, upper-level Law Clinic interns, who have been certified by

the Kansas Supreme Court to be legal interns, meet with the clients and complete the process. "Washburn Law is honored to offer the Veterans Legal Assistance Clinic," said Dean Thomas J. Romig, who retired as a Major General in the Army Judge Advocate General's Corps in 2005 after 34 years of service. "We want to do our part to help address the continuing need in the veteran and military community for wills, living wills, and durable power of attorney."

Future VLACs may provide different services that are needed by the community.

## *Students Recognized for Insight and Preparation*

### Extensive Work Done on Veterans Case

Professor Joe McKinney has been working on a veterans benefit case with a group of Washburn Law students and after numerous hours, their work is getting noticed, as they were commended by the official presiding over a debriefing conference.

The students represent a veteran injured during the Cold War who is appealing the Department of Veterans Affairs' denial of his claim for service-related disability benefits. The circumstances surrounding his injuries, including the lapse of time between the date of injury and diagnosis of his disease, raise particularly difficult and intertwined factual and legal issues.

McKinney said that he and the students were privy to a telephone pre-briefing conference ordered by the U.S. Court of Appeals for

Veterans Claims. "What happens in prebriefing conferences is privileged. I can only say that the presiding official concluded that the arguments we put forth raise serious, interesting, and precedential questions that evidently had not been previously raised by any litigant. The official complimented the students on their preparation and insight and signed off with congratulations to the students of Washburn Law."

The students are Courtney Kelley, Joe Pilgrim, John Nichols, Anastasia Willy, and (as a pro bono volunteer) Suzanne Lueker. Also instrumental were Melissa Leach and Jordan Clothier, students who prepared a memorandum for filing with the Court. Law Clinic Managing Director Debi Schrock provided material assistance.

## FACULTY NEWS

### MAXWELL RETIRES



After 36 years in the halls of Washburn Law, Professor Nancy Maxwell will retire after the spring 2015 semester. She was given Professor Emeritus status by the Washburn Board of Regents on December 4, 2014.

She will be greatly missed!

*Nancy  
Maxwell*

### RUBENSTEIN GRANTED TENURE



Professor David Rubenstein was granted tenure in April 2014. His areas of expertise include constitutional, administrative, and immigration law. He also serves as director of the Center for Law and Government. Prior to teaching, he clerked for The Honorable Sonia Sotomayor when she was a judge on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit.

*David  
Rubenstein*

Learn more about Washburn Law's faculty scholarship and activities at:  
[washburnlaw.edu/facultyscholarship](http://washburnlaw.edu/facultyscholarship)

### FOUNDATION NEWS



*Patrick  
Mikesic*



*Karla  
Whitaker*



*Sean  
Harlow*

### POLLOVGT FILLS NEW POSITION



*Susannah  
Pollovgt*

Susannah Pollovgt, associate professor of law, has filled the new position of director of Academic Skills and Bar Passage. She came to Washburn Law in August of 2014 and specializes in assisting students in developing academic skills and passing the bar exam. She has a particular interest in methods of active learning and self-assessment.

### GRANT IS CO-DIRECTOR OF ILTL



*Emily  
Grant*

Professor Emily Grant is in her second year as co-director of the Institute for Law Teaching and Learning, a national organization that aims to provide a learning environment that helps students achieve the highest academic standards and prepares students to assume their responsibilities as effective, moral attorneys.



# In Memoriam

Washburn Law mourns the passing of the following alumni whose deaths were reported to the school since the date of our last publication through January 20, 2015.

## **The Honorable George S. Reynolds, '42,**

DeBary, Fla., on June 15, 2014, at age 95

## **Alfred O. Holl, '49,**

Oklahoma City, on July 17, 2014, at age 93

## **Kay Arvin, '51,**

Nashville, on June 1, 2014, at age 91

## **Robert M. Gaither, '53,**

Topeka, on Nov. 16, 2013, at age 93

## **Charles J. Rondelli, '53,**

Tucson, Ariz., on July 18, 2013, at age 83

## **Harold K. Wells, '55,**

Elmdale, Kan., on December 14, 2013, at age 86

## **Charles F. Lay, '58,**

Gardner, Kan., on February 11, 2014, at age 81

## **Richmond M. Enochs, '63,**

Olathe, Kan., on Oct. 29, 2013, at age 74

## **Fred W. Phelps, '64,**

Topeka, on March 19, 2014, at age 84

## **Robert J. Brown, '65,**

Raymore, Mo., on June 22, 2013, at age 78

## **Harold D. "Butch" Gerlach, '67,**

Topeka, on Sept. 27, 2013, at age 72

## **Daniel L. Swagerty, '68,**

Chillicothe, Mo., on November 28, 2013, at age 80

## **John C. Gariglietti, '69,**

Pittsburg, Kan., on January 3, 2014, at age 70

## **Marvin W. Maydew, '69,**

Topeka, on July 7, 2014, at age 88

## **Glen P. McCarty, '72,**

Albuquerque, N.M., on May 6, 2014, at age 69

## **Ronald D. Prochazka, '73,**

Topeka, on March 12, 2014, at age 72

## **Harriet E. Caplan, '76,**

Hays, Kan., on August 2, 2013, at age 67

## **The Honorable John R. Eyer, '77,**

Belleville, Kan., on May 7, 2013, at age 60

## **Garry L. Howard, '79,**

Wichita, on June 13, 2013, at age 63

## **Gregory M. Dennis, '82,**

Olathe, Kan., on January 5, 2014, at age 58

## **Lynn D. Lauver, '83,**

Topeka, on Nov. 7, 2013, at age 70

## **John T. Banta, '85,**

Phoenix, Ariz., on July 28, 2013, at age 67

## **Wallace S. Squibb, '92,**

Springfield, Mo., on December 19, 2013, at age 46

## **David Duer, '00,**

Roswell, N.M., on November 28, 2014, at age 43

## **Stephen J. Boyden, '04,**

Topeka, on February 19, 2014, at age 48

## CLASS ACTIONS

Updates submitted as of January 27, 2015

**1952** James W. Sloan, '52, Topeka, was honored with one of the highest Salvation Army awards, the William Booth Award, at The Salvation Army of Topeka's Civic Luncheon.

**1965** Bill Hunsaker, '65, Arvada, Colo., launched his new law practice with Donnie Emmi, serving clients with personal injuries or business disputes, and estate law.

**1968** Winton M. Hinkle, '68, Wichita, retired from the firm he founded, Hinkle Law Firm LLC.

**1969** Thomas A. Adrian, '69, Newton, Kan., received the Outstanding Service Award from the Kansas Bar Association (KBA) and the Robert K. Weary Award from the Kansas Bar Foundation. **Michael H. Haas, '69**, Hoxie, Kan., retired as attorney for Sheridan County after more than 40 years, and was the longest-serving, continuously elected county attorney in state history. He also served in the National Guard during his career and continues to operate his private firm.

**1971** H. Philip Elwood, '71, Topeka, has been appointed to the Tower Mental Health Foundation Board of Directors. Elwood is an attorney with Goodell, Stratton, Edmonds & Palmer L.L.P. Elwood's legal experience includes extensive work in health care law.

**1974** John T. Bird, '74, Hays, Kan., who 40 years ago began a practice with his friend Bob Glassman and is now senior

partner, has announced that well-respected Hays lawyer **Todd D. Powell, '98**, is a partner in the full-service law firm, Glassman, Bird, Brown & Powell, L.L.P., which serves Northwest Kansas.

**John F. Stasiowski, '74**, Scottsdale, Ariz., retired after working for 36 years in the beer industry.

**1976** Gerald L. Green, '76, Hutchinson, Kan., was sworn in as the 129th president of the KBA.

**The Honorable J. Thomas Marten, '76**, Wichita, has been appointed chief judge of the District of Kansas. After serving as law clerk to retired Associate Justice Tom C. Clark of the United States Supreme Court, he spent 19 years practicing law in Kansas, Minnesota, and Nebraska, the last 14 years of which were as a member of Bremyer & Wise, P.A. in McPherson, Kan. Judge Marten is a founding member of the Wesley E. Brown Inn of Court, a frequent speaker at seminars and conferences, and has taught trial advocacy at Harvard Law School for more than 25 years.

**Michael L. Merriam, '76**, Topeka, was honored by the Kansas Sunshine Coalition for his promotion of open government. Merriam has practiced media and First Amendment law for more than 35 years and has represented many communications and news companies.

**1977** Jeffrey C. Joy, '77, Irvine, Calif., was recognized in the 2015 edition of *Best Lawyers in America*.

**Martin R. Ufford, '77**, Wichita, has joined Hinkle Law Firm LLC as a member.

**1978** S. Lucky DeFries, '78, Topeka, has been selected for 2014 induction into the Ottawa High School Wall of Fame and has been named vice chair of the Ottawa University Board of Trustees.

**Edward J. Nazar, '78**, Wichita, has joined Hinkle Law Firm LLC as a member.

**Bradley J. Prochaska, '78**, Wichita, has been elected as chairman of the American Association of Justice's professional negligence section.

**1979** Edward L. Barker, '79, Mission Hills, Kan., has joined Husch Blackwell's Kansas City, Mo., Healthcare, Life Sciences and Pharmaceuticals industry team as senior counsel, and brings extensive experience, having previously served for more than 25 years as senior vice president and chief legal officer of the four-state nonprofit healthcare organization Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth Health System.

**Robert F. Hartsook, '79**, Kansas City, Mo., was inducted into the Emporia High School Hall of Fame. He is the owner of Hartsook Companies Inc., one of the largest fundraising consulting practices in the world.

**Jeffrey W. Schemmel, '79**, Atlanta, is founder and president of College Sports Solutions (CSS), a leading full-service provider of collegiate athletic consulting, strategies, and solutions to universities, intercollegiate conferences, and collegiate organizations.

(cont. on page 30)

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## CLASS ACTIONS

**1980** **Douglas D. Depew, '80**, Neodesha, Kan., was appointed by Governor Sam Brownback to the K-12 Student Performance and Efficiency Commission.

**1981** **Jerome A. Gorman, '81**, Kansas City, Kan., received the lifetime achievement award from the Kansas County and District Attorney's Association.

**1982** **Ronald J. Caron, '82**, Manchester, N.H., has joined the Devine Millimet Law Firm as part of its litigation practice group. He also focuses on real estate and construction litigation, and labor and employment-related matters for individuals and businesses. He is a member of the New Hampshire Bar Association and is admitted to the U. S. District Court for the District of New Hampshire.

**Philip S. Milone, '82**, Garden City, N.Y., was named a "Top Family Law Attorney" in New York, by *New York Magazine*, April 2014. He has been an active matrimonial and family law practitioner in New York City and Long Island for more than 30 years. Milone also is serving his third four-year term as justice of the Village of Stewart Manor, Long Island, N.Y.

**Terri A. Roberts, '82**, Topeka, has been appointed to the Tower Mental Health Foundation Board of Directors. Roberts is executive director of the American Holistic Nurses Association. Previously, she served 23 years as executive director of the Kansas State Nurses Association.

**1983** **Patricia A. Gilman, '83**, Wichita, has joined Hinkle Law Firm LLC as a member.

**1984** **W. Thomas Gilman, '84**, Wichita, has joined Hinkle Law Firm LLC as a member.

**Laura L. Ice, '84**, Wichita, has been awarded the Howard C. Kline award by the Wichita Bar Association. She also received the Professionalism Award from the KBA at its annual meeting.

**Gary A. Norton, '84**, Des Moines, Iowa, was selected by his peers for inclusion in *The Best Lawyers in America* 2015.

**Frank M. Ojile, '84**, Wichita, was named Outstanding Adjunct Professor of the Year at Wichita State University.

**1985** **The Honorable Nancy L. Moritz, '85**, Topeka, has been appointed to the 10th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. The Court, based in Denver, reviews legal cases from Kansas, Colorado, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Utah, and Wyoming. (See page 12.)

**1986** **Gregory G. Meredith, '86**, Hutchinson, Kan., has been named vice president of Compliance and Ethics at Hutchinson Regional Healthcare System.

**Randall W. Schroer, '86**, Kansas City, Mo., previously of counsel with Morrow Willnauer Klosterman Church, LLC, is a member (partner) with the firm.

**The Honorable Rene S. Young, '86**, Salina, Kan., became chief judge of the 28th Judicial District for a two-year period that started January 1, 2015. Young has been a Saline County District Court judge since 2006.

**1987** **Associate Dean Jalen Lowry, '87**, Topeka, was awarded the "Achieving Excellence Award" from Washburn University's Vice President of Student Life Denise Ottinger. This award recognizes people at Washburn University who demonstrate excellence in working with individual students, student groups, or organizations. **Lt. Col. Bryan T. Wheeler, '87**, Annapolis, Md., was formerly the Department of Defense associate general counsel at TRICARE Management Activity. Wheeler is now deputy general counsel of the Defense Health Agency, a 12,500 plus organization that provides healthcare services for 9.6 million beneficiaries.

**1988** **Thomas R. Merkel, '88**, Rosemount, Minn., retired January 30, 2015, after 14 years with Hennepin County, Minn., serving first as an inspector within the Sheriff's Office and since 2007 as director of community corrections and rehabilitation (DOCCR). With 925 employees and a budget of \$100 million, the DOCCR is responsible for the supervision of 27,000 offenders each day.

**1989** **Natalie Camacho Mendoza, '89**, Boise, Idaho, has been selected to chair the Dean's Advisory Council for Concordia University School of Law in Boise. She has served on the Council since 2009 and chairs the Diversity Task Force. Mendoza was also appointed to serve on the University's Council of Trustees. She was selected by the *Idaho Business Review* for 2014 Leaders

## CLASS ACTIONS

in Law, one of 22 attorneys recognized. This is the second year of the program. Factors considered for the selection included professionalism, leadership, experience, and commitment of substantial time to community and national organizations to benefit others. **Marcos Mendoza, '89**, Austin, Texas, graduated from the University of Connecticut School of Law with an LL.M. in Insurance Law, with honors, and was profiled in the spring edition of *Insurance Litigation Magazine*.

**1991 M. Kristine Savage, '91**, Topeka, is listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* 2015 among the country's most distinguished attorneys. Savage is honored in two areas: Criminal Defense: Non-White-Collar and Criminal Defense: White Collar. She practices family law and is certified by the Kansas Supreme Court to perform mediation in domestic cases. She also has extensive experience in complex federal and state criminal cases, including appeals. Before joining the firm in 1999, she was chief of the Northeast Kansas Conflicts Office, and served as an assistant appellate defender and public defender in Shawnee County. **Curtis S. Sneden, '91**, Topeka, is vice president of government relations for the Greater Topeka Chamber of Commerce. Sneden has served as the Chamber's volunteer vice chairman of government relations since 2012. **The Honorable Douglas P. Witteman, '91**, Burlington, Kan., has been appointed to the Fourth

Judicial District court that serves Anderson, Coffey, Franklin, and Osage counties.

**1992 Brent A. Mitchell, '92**, Wichita, was recognized by *The Wichita Business Journal* and *Best Lawyers* as one of the Wichita-area lawyers of the year at an event on September 29, 2014.

**1993 Samantha M. Musso, '93**, Fairfax, Va., serving as Virginia director of the Military Spouse JD Network, led the effort to adopt a rule for military spouse attorney admission in the Commonwealth. The Supreme Court of Virginia adopted Rule 1A:8 effective July 1, 2014, enabling qualified attorneys relocating to Virginia due to their service-member spouse's military orders to seek admission to the Virginia bar without examination. Virginia became the seventh state to adopt such a licensing rule. Musso, a military spouse of 24 years herself, has experienced nine relocations and is admitted to practice in three jurisdictions. She is an estate planning attorney with M. H. Lawrence, P.C. in Fairfax, Va.

**1994 Steve Gorny, '94**, Kansas City, Mo., established The Gorny Law Firm, LC, on the Country Club Plaza. He represents individuals and businesses harmed by the carelessness of others.

**Luis O. Rodriguez, '94**, Charlottesville, Va., was promoted to the rank of colonel with the U.S. Army Judge Advocate General's Corps, fall 2013. **Douglas T. Shima, '94**,

Topeka, received the Topeka Bar Association's Honorable E. Newton Vickers Professionalism Award.

**The Honorable Teresa L. Watson, '94**, Topeka, has been appointed as the newest judge on the Shawnee County District Court bench.

**1996 Joseph E. Donovan, '96**, Washington, D.C., has joined Stradley Ronon as a partner in its Washington, D.C., office. Donovan has nearly 20 years of experience representing utility companies in complex regulatory advocacy, litigation, and transactional support. Throughout his career, Donovan has repeatedly appeared before energy regulatory agencies on behalf of his clients, including the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC); Department of Justice; Federal Communications Commission; and more than 30 different state public utility commissions. While at Exelon, one of the nation's largest integrated energy companies, he directed FERC and state regulatory advocacy matters in the New England, New York, and southeast regions. Donovan also created and implemented litigation and outreach strategies related to state utility commission and FERC proceedings and Office of Enforcement investigations, and was responsible for overseeing and implementing compliance and risk mitigation strategies.

**1997 Clint J. Westhoff, '97**, Dallas, is a newly appointed partner to the firm of Goranson,

(cont. on page 32)

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## CLASS ACTIONS

Bain, Larsen, Greenwald, Maultsby & Murphy PLLC.

**1998 David A. Bohm, '98**, Cary, N.C., assistant executive director of the North Carolina Bar Association since 2008, was honored at the 2014 annual meeting of the National Association of Bar Executives in Boston as a recipient of the Peer Excellence Award.

**Todd D. Powell, '98**, Hays, Kan., is a partner with Glassman Bird Brown & Powell, LLP. His areas of practice include government law, labor/employment, business/transactional, appellate practice, administrative law, and personal injury.

**1999 Kevin J. Cook, '99**, Topeka, has been elected chairman of the Shawnee County Commission.

**Gregory D. Hill, '99**, Greenwood Village, Colo., was named executive director of the Colorado Dental Association.

**2000 Gregory A. Schwartz, '00**, Hays, Kan., and Carol M. Park have opened a new law firm, Schwartz & Park, L.L.P.

**2001 The Honorable William W. Carter, '01**, Caruthersville, Mo., is an associate judge for the 34th Judicial Circuit Court, Pemiscot County, Division 2.

**2002 The Honorable Adam J. Espinosa, '02**, Denver, has been appointed as a judge to the Denver County Court.

**The Honorable Michael Hoelscher, '02**, Wichita, is the

new State District Court judge in the Eighteenth Judicial District in Kansas.

**Stephen L. Martino, '02**, Baltimore, was named "Regulator of the Year for the Americas." The International Masters of Gaming Law cited the 67 percent increase in the state's lottery and gaming revenues during Martino's four-year tenure as one of the reasons he was awarded the distinction.

**2003 Amanda J. Kiefer, '03**, Topeka, FHL Bank, assistant vice president, assistant general counsel & director of minority and women inclusion, was named as a 2014 "20 Under 40" honoree by The Jayhawk Area Council of Boy Scouts. She also received the Woman of Achievement Award at the Women's Initiative Recognition Reception, organized by Go Topeka's Entrepreneurial and Minority Business Development Council.

**Glen C. McBeth, '03**, Topeka, was named a Washburn University School of Law Adjunct Professor of the Year in 2013-14.

**The Honorable Timothy L. Dupree '03**, Kansas City, Kan., was elected as Wyandotte County district court judge.

**James A. Thompson, '03**, Wichita, is now with Malone, Dwire & Thompson, LLC.

**Andrew D. Wimmer, '03**, Overland Park, Kan., was appointed to the Kansas State Board of Indigents' Defense Services.

**2004 Teri C. Adam, '04**, Phoenix, has been promoted to assistant director of Professional

Development and Pro Bono director at Arizona Summit Law School.

**Laura K. Castillo, '04**, Hobbs, N.M., was appointed by Governor Susana Martinez to a newly created district court judgeship in southeastern New Mexico. Castillo has operated her own law practice in Hobbs since 2010, previously worked in a private law firm in the community, and was an assistant district attorney.

**Clinton M. Goos, '04**, Denver, joined Beatty & Wozniak in Sept. 2014 as an associate practicing in transactional/corporate law.

**2005 Zachary J. Anshutz, '05**, Overbrook, Kan., is director of regulatory affairs and chief compliance officer at Advisors Excel. He was previously assistant commissioner of insurance for the State of Kansas.

**Melissa A. Bleser, '05**, Denver, is partner at Kutak Rock LLP. Bleser focuses on corporate and partnership tax matters and is experienced in working with a wide range of sophisticated corporate and real estate clients. She advises on matters ranging from fundraising, to mergers and acquisitions, to reorganizations. Her work encompasses structuring transactions to minimize federal and state income and sales/use taxes; negotiating deal terms; performing due diligence; and drafting stock and asset purchase agreements, management contracts, buy-sell agreements, shareholder agreements and ancillary documents, including confidentiality and employment agreements.

## CLASS ACTIONS

**Vincent M. Cox, '05**, Topeka, is the 2014-15 KBA YLS Board of Directors ABA liaison.

**Justin L. Ferrell, '05**, Concordia, Kan., is the 2014-15 KBA YLS Board of Directors president-elect.

**Jeffrey N. Lowe, '05**, Wichita, has successfully achieved board certification as a family trial advocate.

**Jason N. Miller, '05**, Gilbert, Ariz., has been named a partner at Carpenter, Hazlewood, Delgado & Bolen, PLC.

**Kimberly A. Vining, '05**, Wichita, has been elected 2014-2015 president of the Wichita Women Attorney's Association.

**2006 Jessica L. Carrerata, '06**, Dallas, is senior planner at Frontier Investment Management Company.

**Ryan Gering, '06**, Wichita, has been named a partner at Hulnick, Stang & Gering P.A.

**Jason T. Gray, '06**, Washington, D.C., was elected shareholder at Duncan, Weinberg, Genzer, & Pembroke, P.C. He practices utility law and energy regulation.

**Mary K. Hanisch, '06**, Chicago, is assistant director of the business law clinic at Loyola University Chicago School of Law.

**Angel R. Zimmerman, '06**, Topeka, is the new vice chair for the international women in the law committee for J. Reuben Clark Law Society.

**2007 Kristen C. Kellems, '07**, Provo, Utah, is an adjunct professor at Brigham Young University.

**Captain Michael J. Scaleddy, '07**, Chapman, Kan., was chosen by the American Bar Association as one of 2014's Young Lawyer

Division Outstanding Military Service Award recipients.

**Daniel M. Westhoff, '07**, Broomfield, Colo., has formed the firm of Danielsen Westhoff, PC.

**2008 Jason T. Farley, '08**, Des Moines, Iowa, was named to the Master Builders of Iowa (MBI) MB EYE on the Future leadership program. The program is MBI's leadership development program, designed to prepare participants for leadership within their companies, the construction industry in Iowa, and the MBI. Farley is a member of Whitfield & Eddy, P.L.C. and has been selected by his peers for inclusion in *Great Plains Super Lawyers* 2014.

**R. Scott Gordon, '08**, Topeka, has been promoted to general counsel of the Kansas State Department of Education, where he has worked as an attorney IV since 2012.

**2009 Clayton I. Kerbs, '09**, Dodge City, Kan., is a 2014-15 KBA YLS Board of Directors social chair.

**Matt Koupal, '09**, Topeka, has been promoted to assistant vice president, assistant general counsel, and director of compliance with FHL Bank.

**Christine M. Larson, '09**, Liberal, Kan., has become a shareholder in Sharp McQueen, P.A. She has been with the firm the past five years. Her practice emphasizes family and civil law, along with general practice.

**Johnathon A. Rhodes, '09**, Denver, is senior corporate counsel - health care regulatory at DaVita.

**Aaron Sauerwein, '09**, Wichita, is an attorney at the Kansas Department of Transportation.

**2010 Ashley M. Barton, '10**, Kansas City, Mo., is an assistant city attorney for the City of Kansas City in the litigation department.

**Daniel S. Heinz, '10**, Topeka, is an associate with Riling, Burkhead, & Nitcher, Chtd., in Lawrence, Kan.

**Jennifer N. Horchem, '10**, Wichita, is associate general counsel at Slawson Companies.

**Kahlea M. Porter, '10**, Topeka, is now with the Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services.

**Robert M. Weaver, '10**, Utrecht, the Netherlands, is an adjunct lecturer at the University of Amsterdam. Weaver is also with Weaver & Henderson On Point Legal, focusing on European/Dutch immigration and free movement, European Union, Dutch administrative, and entrepreneurial/legal persons law.

**2011 Shawn P. Yancy, '11**, Topeka, is the 2014-15 KBA YLS Board of Directors mock trial chair.

**2012 Brandon M. Barros, '12**, China Lake, Calif., is a contract specialist with the U.S. Navy - NAVAIR - NAWCWD.

**Lisa M. Brown, '12**, Topeka, has joined Goodell, Stratton, Edmonds & Palmer. She practices primarily in the area of civil litigation.

**B.J. Harden, '12**, Topeka, is the Kansas State Treasurer's director of the Unclaimed Property Office.

**Joslyn M. Kusiak, '12**, Independence, Kan., is the 2014-

(cont. on page 34)

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## CLASS ACTIONS

### NEW ONLINE DIRECTORY

Washburn Law Alumni Services is pleased to announce the launch of the Online Alumni Directory.

Initially, we are offering access to all Washburn Law alumni. After July 1, 2015, the online directory will only be available to Washburn Law Alumni Association members.

To register and access the directory, go to: [givetowashburn.org/lawalumnidirectory](http://givetowashburn.org/lawalumnidirectory). Click on “new user registration.” There will be a waiting period of up to two days, but once approved, you will have instant access to the directory.

We encourage everyone to check out the directory. Please join or renew your membership for continued access!

### YOUR LIFETIME E-MAIL ADDRESS IS WAITING FOR YOU

We are pleased to provide our alumni with free lifetime e-mail addresses. Your account has already been created. Contact the Alumni Office at 785.670.1011 or [alumni@washburnlaw.edu](mailto:alumni@washburnlaw.edu) to obtain your username and password. Access this account at: [washburnlaw.edu/alumni/email](http://washburnlaw.edu/alumni/email).

15 KBA YLS Board of Directors secretary/treasurer.

**Asel T. Mukeyeva, '12**, Kansas City, Mo., has joined Husch Blackwell. Mukeyeva focuses her practice primarily on corporate tax and tax controversy matters.

**2013 Jill R. Gillett, '13**, Fredonia, Kan., is a 2014-15 KBA YLS Board of Directors social chair. **Matthew W. Parker, '13**, Omaha, Neb., is the Americans with Disabilities Act coordinator for the Nebraska Department of Correctional Services.

**William E. Paulson, '13**, Ottawa, Kan., has accepted a commission into the United States Air Force Judge Advocate General's Corps as a first lieutenant to be stationed at Eglin Air Force Base in Fort Walton Beach, Fla.

**Timothy R. Sipe, '13**, Lawrence, Kan., is an associate attorney at Hamilton, Laughlin, Barker, Johnson & Jones.

**Jonathan D. Weishaar, '13**, Topeka, has joined Ralston, Pope & Diehl LLC.

**2014 Michael J. Baxter, '14**, Hays, Kan., has joined the Jeter Law Firm.

**Julianne N. Burton, '14**, Newton, Kan., has joined Cornerstone Law, LLC.

**Taylor B. Concannon, '14**, Kansas City, Mo., has joined Husch Blackwell's Business Litigation group.

**Christopher M. Ray, '14**, Kansas City, Mo., is an associate at B.L. Harrison Law.

**Patrick Salyer, '14**, Salina, Kan., is an associate with the firm of Kennedy & Coe, LLC. He will be

preparing tax returns and financial statements, and providing general accounting services.

### REMEMBERING PROFESSOR DAVID S. DALE, SR.



1975 Kaw  
(yearbook)

David Shelby Dale, Sr., Lakewood, Colo., passed away on February 21, 2014, at age 80. From 1970 to 1977, he taught environmental, property, and oil and gas law at Washburn Law. Some of David's law students would later teach his son, John J. (Jack) Dale, who graduated from Washburn Law in 1997.

Prior to teaching, he practiced oil and gas law at Vinson & Elkins. He returned to practice as an "oil man" in the 1980s, first with Conoco in Houston, then with Milestone Petroleum and Meridian Oil, in Denver. He retired in 1996.

To honor his work as an attorney, donations can be made to Washburn University School of Law Scholarship Funds.

# Dean's Circle Dinner 2014

Hilton President Kansas City

The annual Dean's Circle Dinner and cocktail reception was held September 27, 2014, at the Hilton President Kansas City. Supporters of the Law School, including alumni, faculty, and friends, enjoyed a wonderful evening of conversation and entertainment. Attendees heard updates on the law school from Dean Thomas Romig and **Sabrina Standifer, '99**, Washburn University School of Law Alumni Association president. Other speakers were Tabitha Chapman, JD candidate '14, and Washburn Student Bar Association president, and Chris Staley, JD candidate '14, and *Washburn Law Journal* editor-in-chief. After dinner and the program, attendees danced and listened to live music.

Members of the Dean's Circle give \$1,000 or more annually to Washburn University School of Law. They are invited to the Dean's Circle Dinner and receive special invitations for premier events and programs throughout the year. For more information about how to become a member of the Dean's Circle, please call 785.670.4483.

## 9th Annual Alumni Golf Tournament and Ethics CLE

The 9th Annual Washburn Law Alumni Association Golf Tournament and Ethics CLE were held on September 26, 2014, at the Alvamar Golf Course in Lawrence, Kan. Stan Hazlett, Kansas State Disciplinary administrator, presented the CLE.

There were 22 hole sponsors, seven student sponsors, and a total of 59 golfers. The golf committee chair was **John Jurcyk, '84**, Fairway, Kan.

First place winners were **Ron Beal, '83; Mark Lazzo, '86**; Matt Lazzo; and Rocky Wiechman. The team of **Jeff Harris, '09; Kevin Mechtle, '09; Cory Gallagher, '09**; and **Chris Conroy, '98**, won second place. The third place winners were **Jeff Jones, '81; Eric Johnson, '78; Gary Laughlin, '71**; and **Tim Sipe, '13**.



[1] Michelle Slinkard, '03, and Duston Slinkard, '03 [2] Bill Bunten, '56 [3] Christina Collins-Apperson, '97 [4] Chris Staley, JD candidate, '15 [5] Tabitha Chapman, JD candidate, '15

# Student Perspectives

- 1 What activity at Washburn Law is helping you become practice ready?
- 2 Which course has been the most intriguing for you and why?
- 3 Describe your dream job.
- 4 What current legal issue in the news do you follow closely and why?

**Lindsey  
Debenham**

1st Year  
Topeka



**1** I think the activity that has made me most practice ready isn't necessarily an activity but rather the memo and briefs we write for the legal writing class. In practice, we will spend a large portion of time working on legal writing, so these writings will make us that much more prepared for when we are drafting our own client documents.

**2** I think the most intriguing course so far has been Constitutional Law because it always starts an interesting debate in class.

**3** My dream job would probably include being a judge, but until that day arrives I would really like to be doing criminal prosecution.

**4** I've been trying to keep up with news on the Brownback administration's efforts to modify the way we appoint judges from a merit system to an elective or federal system of appointment. This is a directly relevant topic for those of us going into law. The way judges are appointed could impact the decisions made by judges because of the political pressure placed upon them.

**Michael  
Kitowski**

2nd Year  
Marysville, Kan.



**1** Washburn Law is helping me become practice ready by creating an atmosphere where I can interact with faculty and other students to develop important oral and written skills that I will use upon graduation. In the Veterans Legal Assistance Clinic, I was able to interact with local veterans, listen to their needs, and determine if we could assist them in writing a will, living will, and/or durable power of attorney.

**2** I have been intrigued by every course I have taken at Washburn Law. Each course has taught me a different aspect of law. I found Decedents' Estates and Trusts particularly interesting because I think being able to give clients peace of mind on personal affairs is very rewarding.

**3** My dream job in law encompasses my interest in Decedents' Estates and Trust. I would find it rewarding to use the skills and knowledge I have gained through my studies at Washburn Law to help clients plan and prepare for the future and put their personal affairs in order.

**Adeel  
Syed**

3rd Year  
Wichita,



**1** In Advanced Oil and Gas Law, I was required to draft increasingly complex contract provisions. Washburn Law also provides a number of extracurricular opportunities, such as Moot Court Council and Trial Advocacy Competitions. The combined effect of in-class work and participating in extracurricular activities has helped me become practice ready.

**2** I have found the study of Oil and Gas Law to be most intriguing because it combines the complex concepts and application of principles that are taught in the very first year of Law School. It is the one field where I am able to apply concepts from every course I have taken at Washburn Law.

**3** My dream job is to work as an in-house counsel, preferably for an oil and gas company.

**4** I have been following ethical issues faced by attorneys for quite some time. As a soon-to-be attorney, it is not only important to know the "dos and don'ts" but also to learn about creative and ethical ways to practice law, and advocate zealously for clients, yet fulfill all of our obligations to our chosen profession.



Washburn Law alumni, you are encouraged to identify prospective law students, visit with them about a career in law, and tout your alma mater. When they apply to Washburn Law, they will receive an application fee waiver upon mentioning your name to an admissions representative.



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## *Upcoming Events*

### **MAY 2015**

- 16 School of Law Commencement – 6:30 p.m.
- 27 Houston alumni event – noon lunch downtown and evening reception in suburbs

### **JULY 2015**

- 14 Denver alumni event – 6-8 p.m.
- 16 KWAA Conference, Washburn Law Reception Ol' Stuga in Lindsborg

### **AUGUST 2015**

- 5 St. Louis alumni event – 6-8 p.m.

### **SEPTEMBER 2015**

- 16 Topeka alumni event – noon

### **OCTOBER 2015**

- 7 Kansas City alumni event – 6-8 p.m.
- 21 Atlanta alumni event - 6-8 p.m.

*All events on Washburn University campus unless noted otherwise.*

**[washburnlaw.edu/events](http://washburnlaw.edu/events)**

