

# WAKE FOREST JURIST

THE MAGAZINE OF WAKE FOREST LAW | 2023

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## WAKE FOREST LAW JURIST

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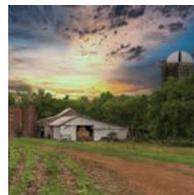
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Dear Wake Forest Law Community,

I'm pleased to share with you the 2023 issue of the *Jurist*, the theme of which is "collaboration." As the new dean of Wake Forest Law, I have been struck by how much collaboration takes place at the Law School and across Wake Forest. From faculty working across disciplines to conduct ground-breaking research, to students partnering with local nonprofits in innovative programs, to alumni building cross-sector relationships to effect change, our community not only understands the value of collaboration, but practices it daily. You'll see just how in these pages.

This collaborative spirit inevitably results in exciting initiatives and programming—and there's no shortage of these at the Law School over the coming year. Numerous symposia, fascinating faculty scholarship, student-driven events, and more are filling up the calendar and generating excitement in the building and across campus.

One such initiative is the Law School's strategic framework process. In August, the University unveiled its strategic framework, *Framing Our Future*, with President Wenthe and Provost Gillespie calling upon each school and unit across campus to develop their own frameworks to align. Over the next few months, Wake Forest Law will undertake a process to create a Law School-specific strategic framework, which will begin with collecting input from faculty, students, alumni, and staff. We aim to be comprehensive and inclusive in this process and ensure that all members of our community have the opportunity to participate. The end result will be a guiding document that will focus on how we think about our future and the ways we can enhance the important work we're already doing. I'm looking forward to this process, which will help to shape the future of both our school and Wake Forest more broadly. Again, collaboration will be at the heart of this work.

I hope you enjoy reading through the issue and learning about all of the incredible things happening in the Wake Forest Law community. I'm so honored to be a part of this law school. We have talented faculty who are outstanding teacher-scholars. We attract excellent students who become skilled lawyers and leaders. We have dedicated alumni, like you, contributing in myriad ways—with employment, recruiting, and philanthropy. We are part of a world-class university. By any standard, this is a fantastic institution. I hope you feel the same pride about being a part of Wake Forest Law that I have felt these past few months.

Sincerely,



Andrew Klein  
Dean, Wake Forest University School of Law



*Dean Klein welcomes President Wente before her address to the Class of 2026 on the first day of Foundations week.*

# From Law Student to Dean and Everything in Between

Andrew Klein's Journey to Dean of Wake Forest Law

If there's one thing Andy Klein is passionate about—besides, of course, helping to educate new lawyers—it's sports. During his undergraduate studies at University of Wisconsin in Madison, he studied sports journalism, worked in the sports information department, and even covered high school and Badgers sports for the *Wisconsin State Journal*. “That's what I thought I wanted to do,” says Klein. “But then I had this moment—I was interviewing players in the locker room after a football game—where I realized that sports journalism wasn't the right path for me.” Shortly after, he signed up to take the LSAT. That decision would be the start of a long career in legal education.

Klein's father, a trial and appellate lawyer, encouraged him to apply to Emory University School of Law where he received a scholarship through the Robert W. Woodruff Scholars and Fellows Program. While there, Klein had some fantastic mentors who sparked in him an interest in exploring academia. It was also at Emory where he met Diane Schussel, who was in the same class. Little did he know they would eventually marry and have two children—Tim, who works in public relations and marketing in Chicago, and Jason, who is currently a third-year law student at Washington University in St. Louis.

During school and after graduating, Klein participated in activities that would leave the door to academia open: he was the editor-in-chief of the Emory Law Journal, published his law review note, clerked for a federal judge, and practiced at a large firm.

After serving as a law clerk to Judge Joseph W. Hatchett on the Eleventh Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals, and then practicing at Sidley Austin in Chicago for three years, he finally decided to pursue a career in legal

education. “There are so many wonderful things about being a law professor,” he says. “When you're a lawyer, you focus on your clients' needs, but as a law professor, not only are you supporting students as they begin their journeys, but you can decide what areas of focus you want to spend your time

engaging with.” He transitioned into academia as a professor at Samford University's Cumberland School of Law, where he taught from 1992 to 2000.

Klein moved to Indiana University's McKinney School of Law in 2001, and in 2004, he was asked to serve as associate dean for academic affairs. “I felt like I was in the right place at the right time in terms of my skills, abilities, and experiences,” says Klein. He agreed to take the job, and thus began a new chapter in his career—administration.

After three years in that position, Klein took a sabbatical during which he was a visiting fellow at Clare Hall and a visiting scholar at the Faculty of Law at Cambridge University. Unsure of whether he wanted to stay in administration, when he came back to the States, he took up his teaching position again and engaged in public service through his election as a school board member. Then, in 2010, the chancellor of Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI), Charles Bantz, asked Klein if he would consider temporarily stepping away from the law school to serve as his chief of staff. Klein accepted. “It was a great opportunity,” he says. “I got a full view of the university—I was involved in everything from finances to promotion and tenure to facilities to athletics. It was an exciting and rewarding time, and it reignited my interest in a career in administration.”

His role as chief of staff prepared him for what was to come: in 2013, Klein was named dean of IU's McKinney School of Law. During his tenure, he led the law school through IU's bicentennial campaign, major diversity efforts, and the beginning of the COVID pandemic. After seven years on the job, Klein thought he would finally have a break from his back-

to-back leadership roles. His plans for heading back to Cambridge for a year were thwarted by the pandemic, though. And, he was called on yet again to step into a leadership position—this time as interim chancellor of IUPUI.

“

I've managed a lot of change in my various administrative and leadership roles. One of the skills I hope to bring to Wake Forest Law is an ability to help rally a community to navigate new circumstances and succeed.

— Dean Klein



Top to bottom: Dean Klein drops in on trial team students as they prepare for the Tournament of Champions; Dean Klein addresses students, faculty, and staff at a welcome barbecue in the Worrell courtyard; Dean Klein poses with members of the Class of 2026 during the Foundations Week Day of Service; meet the Kleins' adorable dog, Parker.

It was the biggest role of his career. He led a campus of 26,000 students and 3,800 full-time faculty and staff, oversaw 17-degree granting schools, and managed a large budget. But perhaps the biggest challenge he faced was being part of a leadership team overseeing the historic realignment of IUPUI that will establish the new Indiana University Indianapolis campus in 2024.

It was in the midst of this reorganization that Klein received a phone call from Nell Newton, then interim dean of Wake Forest Law. “I had no intention of leaving IUPUI,” he says. “But Dean Newton made such a compelling case for Wake Forest Law. I had to explore the opportunity further.” His exploration proved fruitful, as he realized that Wake Forest’s mission, vision, and values aligned with his own. Klein began his tenure in July 2023, becoming the 15th dean of Wake Forest Law.

In August, he and Diane moved to Winston-Salem, bringing with them their beloved Collie, Parker (“a pandemic pup”). Diane, whose career has centered around affordable housing and homelessness, began working at Reynolda House where she serves as the grants and stewardship manager.

“I’ve managed a lot of change in my various administrative and leadership roles,” says Klein. “One of the skills I hope to bring to Wake Forest Law is an ability to help rally a community to navigate new circumstances and succeed.” Klein’s varied experience has equipped him to take on the challenges inherent not only in serving as the dean of a professional school, but also in an ever-evolving higher education landscape.

As much as things may change in higher ed, some things continue to hold steady. At Wake Forest, that is the commitment to service. “The ideal of *Pro Humanitate* is one of the things that has impressed me the most about the Law School and the university,” says Klein. “It’s one thing to tout it as a tagline, but it’s another thing to really live it. People here take it seriously and truly aspire to be ‘for humanity.’ That’s one of the things that makes Wake Forest such a great place to be.”

In addition to the exceptional students, faculty, and staff, Klein has also been impressed by the strong community of alumni who support the Law School in a number of ways. “I’ve spent a lot of time talking to alumni,” he says. “And what strikes me is that they care deeply about this institution and about helping students however they can.”

While his journey has taken him from one exciting opportunity to another, Klein feels confident that he’s right where he’s supposed to be. And although he didn’t end up in sports journalism, his love for sports has endured. In his office at the Law School is a photo of him, his father, his siblings, and his sons at Wrigley Field when the Chicago Cubs won the pennant—surrounded, of course, by numerous awards for leadership and teaching.



Collaboration is at the heart of Wake Forest Law. Faculty, students, and alumni alike work across disciplines, organizations, and subject matter areas to conduct research and write scholarly works, develop solutions to societal issues, and effect change at local, national, and global levels.



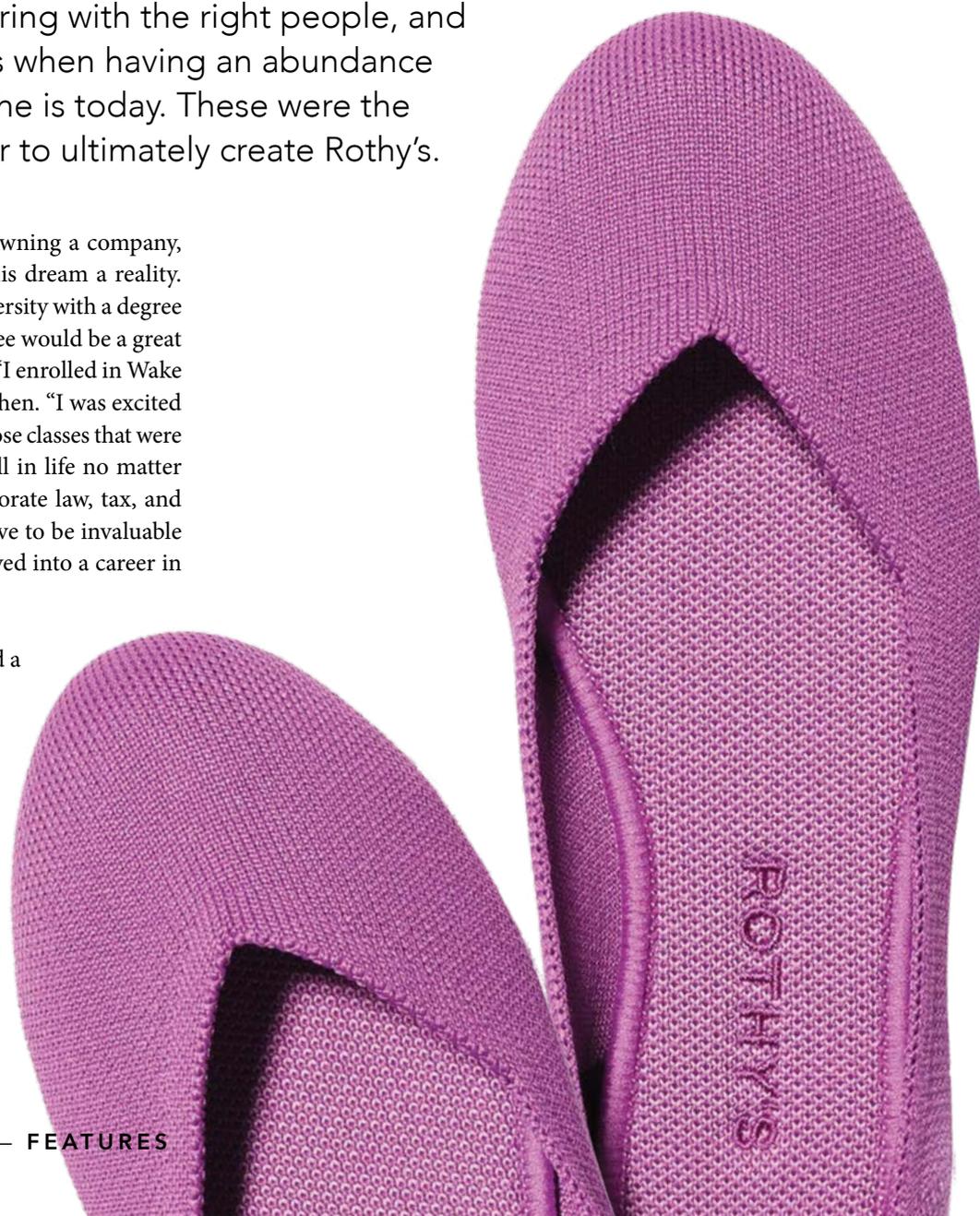
# Walking a Mile in His Shoes

## How Stephen Hawthornthwaite (JD '96) Fashioned His Own Career Path after Law School

When you think of a legal education, you don't often think of fashion. But as CEO of one of the hottest sustainable fashion brands to hit the scene in the last several years, Wake Forest Law alumnus Stephen Hawthornthwaite begs to differ. A circuitous yet enriching route, partnering with the right people, and a belief in life's possibilities when having an abundance mindset got him to where he is today. These were the threads that came together to ultimately create Rothy's.

From a young age, Stephen envisioned owning a company, but he wasn't quite sure how to make this dream a reality. After graduating in 1992 from Duke University with a degree in political science, he decided a law degree would be a great asset, regardless of his future career path. "I enrolled in Wake Forest Law with an open mind," says Stephen. "I was excited about the course offerings and tried to choose classes that were both interesting and would serve me well in life no matter what industry I went into." Indeed, corporate law, tax, and other business-related courses would prove to be invaluable as he graduated from law school and moved into a career in mergers & acquisitions.

After 15 years working on Wall Street, and a variety of experience including digital media transactions and e-commerce under his belt, Stephen realized he wasn't really any closer to realizing his dream. "So I took a risk," he says. It was time to start his own business.





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Cut to what would end up being a momentous dinner between Stephen and his close friend Roth Martin, a gallerist and creative. “The timing and opportunity for a collaboration was perfect,” says Stephen. “We were in the same place at the same time.” After kicking around a lot of ideas—some bad, some good—they settled on shoes. Again, the timing was just right.

The athleisure trend was on the rise, women everywhere were donning Lululemon leggings, and comfort mixed with style was the trend *du jour*. “But I saw firsthand with my wife and her friends that they could never figure out what shoes to wear with these clothes,” says Stephen. “I had always enjoyed the creativity around apparel. And I thought, ‘there’s a market for something stylish and comfortable that lends itself to frequent use—the shoe that lives in the front of your closet.’”

Fashion wasn’t the only thing changing at the time. The direct-to-consumer strategy was on the rise, with brands like Warby Parker and Bonobos earning record profits and changing the way people shopped. But Stephen didn’t just want to build a brand. Sustainability was top of mind for him, and that began with the supply chain.

In 2012, Stephen and Roth took a trip to visit factories in China. “We were stunned by how much waste there was in the manufacturing process—30-40% of the material ends up on the factory floor and in the landfill,” he says. It was then that things began to crystallize for the two partners. If their shoes were knitted, there would not be any cut off waste.

It took another three years for them to learn how to make their shoes, which are made from recycled plastic water bottles and post-consumer recycled materials, are knit and then sewn to the sole by hand, and paired with recycled foam and rubber soles. They set up a small factory in Maine, having wanted to base their operation in the US. But they faced supply chain issues, so they couldn’t commercialize. Finally, after Roth returned to China for a brief time to find a solution to their operational issues, they switched on their website in December 2015. Roth’s was officially launched.



*Above: Stephen, a new member of the Law Board of Visitors, participated in a “fireside chat” during Law Alumni Weekend.*

By Summer 2016, Rothy's had become profitable (it typically takes a business at least two years to see profits). Stephen and Roth raised more money and were eventually contacted by a venture capital firm that wanted to invest in their company. Today, Rothy's is worth more than \$1 billion and has 16 stores around the world. *Time* magazine named Rothy's one of the Most Influential Companies of 2021.

Collaboration has played an important role in Rothy's sustainability efforts. They've worked with non-governmental organizations and research institutions in the field of sustainability. Their factory is LEED-certified and has a Green Business Certification, which means that the company's facilities comply with the highest global green building standards. In fact, they are the first factory in China to achieve LEED Zero Waste. Rothy's also partners with other brands to help them advance sustainable practices and products. The company's expert head of sustainability and their sustainability council ensure the brand is not just about selling shoes, but about "doing the right thing."

"If the customer is demanding change, then that affects how the government legislates around sustainability," says Stephen. "I view it as a more powerful and effective model than a top-down approach."

Collaboration has played an important role in Rothy's sustainability efforts. They've worked with non-governmental organizations and research institutions in the field of sustainability. Their factory is LEED-certified and has a Green Business Certification, which means that the company's facilities comply with the highest global green building standards. In fact, they are the first factory in China to achieve that.

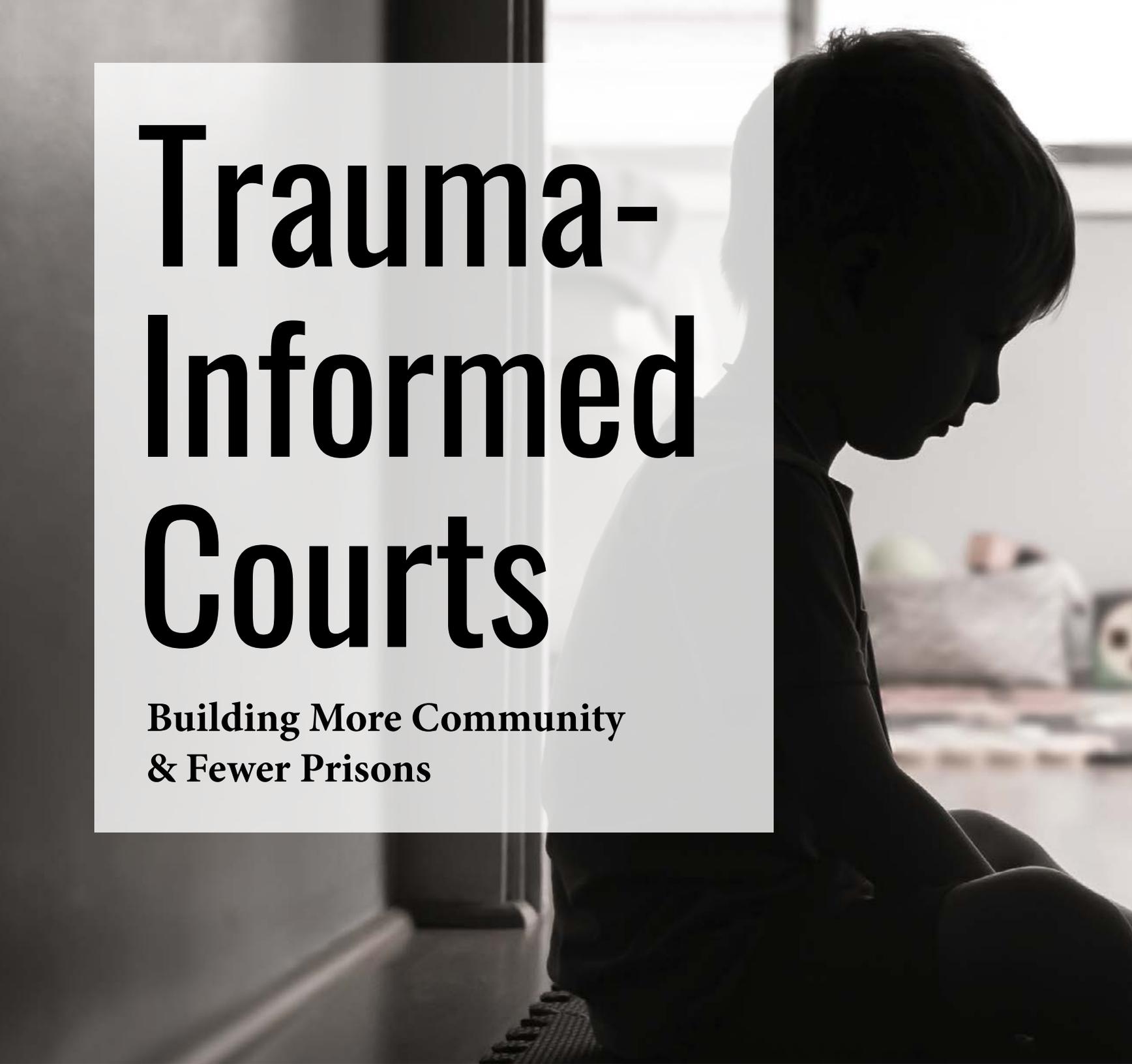
Stephen looks back on his legal education as having a significant impact on his current success. His education at Wake Forest Law gave him many of the skills he needed to start a business, including critical thinking, persuasive writing, and logical decision-making—in addition to the more technical aspects of a legal education. As an example, his time on moot court helped him learn to think on his feet and develop good public speaking skills—skills which have been instrumental in his business dealings.

Additionally, his coursework in IP law helped him provide guidance to Rothy's as the company navigated the R&D phase to protect what they created (Rothy's has over 200 design and utility patents). "I also remember taking great classes with Professor Suzanne Reynolds and Professor George Walker. Dean Foy always wore a bowtie, and to me that represented a level of professionalism that I still try and emulate," he says. "I worked really hard in law school and absorbed as much as I could." (Though that didn't stop him from the occasional break at Village Tavern!)

As Rothy's continues to grow in popularity, so too does Stephen's vision for the brand. They continue to create new products, push the envelope on design and manufacturing, and set up brick and mortar stores around the world. Most importantly, they continue to advocate for sustainability as a leader in sustainable fashion. "We wanted to make a shoe that was stylish, comfortable, and sustainable," says Stephen. "And most importantly, a product that had meaningful impact and stood for something beyond fashion."

Stephen's mantra throughout this journey has been a constant: "If you believe in possibilities and aren't afraid of failure—and hopefully have some luck and grit—you can be successful, do good in the world, and have fun doing it. Just because something has been done a certain way for a long time doesn't mean it shouldn't be disrupted. Step-by-step you'll get there."

Just be sure to wear those Rothy's while you do it.



# Trauma- Informed Courts

**Building More Community  
& Fewer Prisons**

**“ We use science to solve cases.  
Why can't we use it to prevent  
cases from ever occurring?**

— Ben David



More than **2 million** people go through the North Carolina court system each year. The circumstances around their involvement with the justice system vary; the details of each person's story are different. But most of these people have one thing in common: **childhood trauma**. The impact of adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) has changed the course of their lives—landing them in a courtroom, in front of a judge and a district attorney.

In North Carolina, one would count themselves lucky if that judge was Chief District Court Judge J.H. Corpening, II ('76, JD '79, P '09), and the district attorney was Ben David (JD '95). As the founding members of the Chief Justice's Task Force on ACEs-Informed Courts, Judge Corpening and Mr. David don't ask justice-involved individuals "What did you do to get here?" but rather, "What happened to you that got you here?" This question is at the heart of the Task Force's work, which seeks to understand the impact of ACEs on children and to develop strategies for addressing ACEs within the North Carolina court system.

ACEs are traumatic childhood events that can include violence, abuse, growing up in a family with mental health or substance use problems, or household members being in prison. In a 2019 study conducted by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), 61% of adults experienced at least one ACE; nearly 16% experienced four or more ACEs. ACEs are linked to poor health outcomes, hundreds of billions of dollars in economic and social costs, and involvement in the justice system. In fact, 98% of the country's prison population has at least one ACE.

"Most of the people coming through my courtroom had experienced childhood trauma," says Judge Corpening. "It became clear to me that ending the cycle of intergenerational trauma—the cycle that resulted in multiple generations of the same family appearing before me—required a paradigm shift. We needed to stop placing blame on the individual's behavior and instead address the root causes of that behavior."

The term “adverse childhood experiences” was first coined by researchers Vincent Felitti and Robert Anda in a study conducted by the CDC and Kaiser Permanente in the mid-1990s. One of the key findings of that study was that the more ACEs a person experienced, the greater the likelihood of poor health, education, employment, and other negative outcomes later in life.

While these scientific findings have only been expanded upon in the last 30 years, using this framework in the justice system is still in the nascent stages. “We use science to solve cases. Why can’t we use it to prevent cases from ever occurring?” says Mr. David. “Today’s victim is tomorrow’s defendant, and while not every offender is a victim, many have suffered from ACEs. If we listen and seek to better understand, provide services to build resilience, and support children and their parents and caregivers, we’ll all benefit—from better public health, safer communities, stronger families.”

And that’s exactly why Mr. David approached Judge Corpening with the idea to establish a Task Force on ACEs-Informed Courts.

The Task Force comprises judges, prosecutors, defense attorneys, clerks, law enforcement, private attorneys, child-representatives, and academic leaders—all appointed by Chief Justice Paul Newby. The Task Force is supplemented with an advisory group made up of subject matter experts, as well as representatives from law schools, universities, the Executive Branch, and private foundations. To say that collaboration is key to the Task Force would be an understatement—it is at the very heart of it.

“Sixty-six percent of people who go to prison end up back in a jail cell under the current rates of recidivism,” says Mr. David. “The existing model isn’t working. We need to focus on rehabilitation and second chances. We need to address issues with children from the very beginning of their lives and we need to support parents through job creation, removing barriers to reentry, mental health services. What we’re doing with the Task Force is bringing everything together—putting all of these strategies and services in one place and calling it trauma-informed courts.”

In the year-and-a-half since the Task Force kicked off its work, it has already made significant strides in using an ACEs frame-

work to find solutions to prevent further victimization and criminal conduct in North Carolina.

One of its first goals was to educate judges on ACEs by creating a mandatory trauma training and curriculum for new judges. The training comprises cultivating and strengthening skills around listening and better engaging with the people they see in their courtrooms. This past summer, they piloted the first training for new judges.

The Task Force has also helped to implement the School Justice Partnership (SJP), which develops and implements strategies to address student misconduct while reducing the number of suspensions, expulsions, and referrals to the justice system and helping students succeed in school. The program, which recognizes that education and crime are in-

versely related, is currently operating in 50 counties across North Carolina, but will soon expand to all 100 counties. As a result of this initiative, juvenile dockets have dropped significantly. “Through this initiative, we’re breaking the school-to-prison pipeline,” says Judge Corpening.

Championing state-wide funding for drug treatment courts is another key priority of the Task Force. Much of the funding for treatment courts was cut a decade ago, but these courts remain a key way to break the cycle of addiction that yields repeat offenses. There is also a statewide initiative to support families who appear in family court by providing timely hearings, custody mediation, family financial mediation, and other services.

The Task Force has also been involved in piloting five safe baby courts, a relatively new model that integrates knowledge about early childhood development, evidence-based strategies and services, trauma-informed care, and multidisciplinary collaboration to ultimately stop the intergenerational cycle of abuse and neglect—which often leads to criminal behavior across generations. “What we do with safe baby courts is front-load intensive services,” says Mr. David.

“For example, we ensure that mothers of newborns who have had their children taken away can see their kids 3-5 times a week, provide them with one-on-one parenting classes,

**"Most of the people coming through my courtroom had experienced childhood trauma. It became clear to me that ending the cycle of intergenerational trauma—the cycle that resulted in multiple generations of the same family appearing before me—required a paradigm shift. We needed to stop placing blame on the individual’s behavior and instead address the root causes of that behavior."**

— Judge J. H. Corpening

empower them to bond with their babies, and help to educate them on how to care for those babies and for themselves.” The jurisdictions that have implemented this approach have cut the time it takes to reunite children with their parents or with permanent placement in half. “It’s not surprising that the trajectory of a child who bounces from one foster home to another is right back to the courthouse as a juvenile defendant,” Mr. David says. “Safe baby courts are a way to minimize or mitigate that trauma.”

Judge Corpening and Mr. David view the work of the Task Force as a collective effort. “It’s essentially a starfish,” says Mr. David. The five arms of the starfish represent the makeup of the community—government, schools, nonprofits, businesses, and faith-based institutions—all working toward a common goal. The middle of the starfish is overall public health, which is at the center of the Task Force’s work. The Task Force, which is nonpartisan, has a subcommittee for each arm of the starfish. “With this framework,” says Judge Corpening, “we’re bringing everyone to the table to focus on and improve social deter-

minants of health for our community members.” The idea is that by making communities stronger and healthier, the crime rate will drop.

Although the work of the Task Force is winding down, the structures and partnerships it has put into place will endure—especially given the success of its initiatives. “The Task Force has brought together people and organizations from so many walks of life. Faith and science, Democrats and Republicans, prosecutors and defense attorneys,” says Mr. David. “We’re all working across systems, building bridges,” agrees Judge Corpening.

Justice officials focusing on ACEs is a recognition that the social determinants of health are the same thing as the root causes of crime. “We make our streets safer when we make our kids healthier and more resilient,” says Mr. David. “Ultimately, we fight crime by building community.”

Front row, left to right: Chief District Court Judge J.H. Corpening, II ('76, JD '79, P '09), District Attorney Ben David (JD '95), Chief Justice Paul Newby, and Andrew Heath visited Wake Forest Law on February 3, 2023 to educate the students about the ACEs-Informed Taskforce and its important work in our state. Back row: Professor Ron Wright moderated the panel discussion.



# RADICAL COLLABORATION:

## The Best of What Wake Forest University Has to Offer

By Christine Coughlin (JD '90)  
Professor of Law

On July 1, 2021, Dr. Susan Wentz became the 14th President of Wake Forest University. Her appointment is significant because of her academic reputation, and the challenge of beginning her leadership during a global pandemic. She is, notably, the University's first female President.

A core tenet of President Wentz's leadership is her vision for "radical collaboration," defined as "building partnerships and working in concert in ways that inspire individuals to offer the best of themselves." This, she maintains, "upholds the essence of *Pro Humanitate*. [We] are at our best when we are contributing and teaming up together in creative ways."

Upon reflection, Dr. Wentz has identified—and given a name to—the unique environment Wake Forest inspires. I have been fortunate to collaborate with a diverse group of colleagues from departments outside the walls of Worrell. We have worked in concert and built partnerships, like the Wake Forest Center for Bioethics, Health, and Society. As with my colleagues within the Law School, these collaborations have motivated me to become a better teacher, scholar, and human.

To honor Dr. Wentz and Wake Forest Law's first female dean, Suzanne Reynolds (JD '77), I focus on three Wake women faculty with whom radical collaboration has fostered novel teaching opportunities, publications, and a host of academic presentations at home, across the nation, and internationally: Professor Nancy King (Department of Social Sciences and Health Policy), Dr. Ana Iltis (Philosophy), and Dr. Pat Lord (Biology). Collaborating with this team confirms that we are, indeed, "best when we are contributing and teaming up together in creative ways."

Professor King and I have published many academic articles on topics ranging from research ethics in novel biotechnologies to reproductive justice, spending countless hours in coffee shops and sushi bars brainstorming, drafting, and editing. Our articles appear in outlets such as the *Oxford Handbook of Research Ethics*, and the *Cambridge Quarterly of Healthcare Ethics*, as well as law reviews and journals. We have created and co-taught Bioethics, Law, and Literature, which became the catalyst for a new student-run journal, *Awaken: The Creative Journal of Contemporary Bioethics*. We have organized symposia, like the pre-pandemic and somewhat prescient Legal and Ethical Implications of Quarantine, always brainstorming ways to include the humanities, such as a readers' theater presentation or a session where participants play Quarantine: A Bioethics Game, created by a former master of arts in bioethics student.



Nancy King



Dr. Ana S. Iltis



Chris Coughlin

Upon reflection, Dr. Wentz has identified—and given a name to—the unique environment Wake Forest inspires. I have been fortunate to collaborate with a diverse group of colleagues from departments outside the walls of Worrell...These collaborations have motivated me to become a better teacher, scholar, and human.

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*Christine Coughlin is a multiple-award winning teacher, recognized for both her teaching and scholarship, who teaches legal research and writing. She is also a core faculty member of the Wake Forest University Center for Bioethics, Health and Society and a member of the American Law Institute.*

Dr. Ana Iltis and I researched the legal structure and philosophical implications of public health emergency orders. We have applied for grants to create a multi-disciplinary team to examine how and when to initiate and terminate public health emergencies, and have co-authored an article, “Declaring and Terminating Public Health Emergencies: Performative Utterances that Can Change the World.” I have lectured about FDA regulation in her undergraduate class, using the eerily accurate 2011 movie *Contagion* to set the stage for these students.

Dr. Pat Lord frequently addressed health law classes and participated in Law School symposia, explaining how viruses and viral diseases work, even in pre-pandemic times. She led law students on field trips to Wake Forest’s Museum of Anthropology to tour an interactive exhibit she secured from the Smithsonian, *Outbreak: Epidemics in a Connected World*. These experiences enabled our law students to understand the

need for a well-resourced legal structure to support public health. In turn, I have delivered lectures to biology students about the physician-patient relationship, FDA regulation, and public health emergency orders, and recently served on a panel with Dr. Iltis and local health and public health officials to review Dr. Lord’s virology students’ viral pandemic preparation plan. Their thoughtful plan offers hope that future pandemic responses can be equitable, inclusive, and effective.

Drs. Iltis and Lord co-created the Dining Dilemmas program which draws together students across campus to share a meal while becoming more aware of the humanistic elements of medicine. Together, we have participated in programming such as the pre-pandemic *Going Viral: 1918 Flu Pandemic in Winston-Salem and Beyond* and post-pandemic *Covid: Will we be able to build on what we have learned?* We are currently planning another session on gene editing scheduled for November 2023.

These descriptions are illustrative rather than exhaustive. Radical collaboration, as Dr. Wentz notes, inspires individuals to offer the best of themselves. This rings true. I am grateful for an institution that promotes radical collaboration and the professional opportunities and personal friendships it fosters.

# ad•vo•cate /

(from the mid-14th century): “one whose profession is to plead cases in a court of justice”

(in Middle English): “one who intercedes for another; protector, champion, patron”

The term “advocate” gets thrown around pretty loosely these days. But when you break down the word and get to its roots, it carries much more weight and meaning than we realize.



Collins Saint

In other words, it takes more than a supportive social media post or DEI training to be a true advocate. Not everyone who calls themselves an advocate is a true advocate.

But then there are people like Collins Saint (JD '17), whose advocacy goes beyond their career, extending into their personal life; beyond just one social issue, extending to many; and beyond their skills as a lawyer, extending to their compassion as a human being.

Collins, a first-generation lawyer with a master's in education, attended Wake Forest Law with the intention of returning to the education sphere. Their goal was realized when they joined Brooks, Pierce, McLendon, Humphrey & Leonard, LLP in Greensboro, North Carolina as an attorney focused on Title IX issues, disability rights, mental health, and other complex civil rights issues within the education system. “A lot of my work centers around how a school system can support its students from both a legal and practical lens,” Collins says. “What does the law say, what is actually required of educators and administrators in the school system and at universities? And

then more importantly, how can that practically be achieved?” From handling civil rights claims to First Amendment cases, Collins puts their constitutional law training to good use every day. But Collins’ background in counseling has also proven invaluable to their legal work. “Anytime you’re working with kids, the stakes are so high,” they say. “It’s important to use empathy to connect with clients during some of their most challenging moments.”

Given the intersectionality of the issues they deal with, Collins is always working across sectors and subjects. Partnering with Equality North Carolina, the North Carolina Coalition on Domestic Violence, and national health care provider trade associations, they have provided pro bono impact litigation services on behalf of the LGBTQ+ community. They also have assisted hundreds of North Carolinians in obtaining government identification documents that affirm their gender. “I collaborate with a lot of incredible organizations in doing this work,” they say. “The North Carolina Bar Association (NCBA), law schools (including Wake Forest Law), and local nonprofits—we’re all helping to provide free legal services to LGBTQ+ community members.”

Collins deals with some of the most politically charged issues of the day. They argued—and won—that same-sex couples should receive the same domestic violence protections as heterosexual couples. In a case against the North Carolina Department of Health Services, they represented plaintiffs who were fighting for gender-aligned sex designations on birth certificates without state-mandated surgical interventions. Collins also is involved as amicus counsel in litigation related to state insurance refusing to cover gender-affirming care. “Working closely with medical professionals, our approach to this advocacy is to understand and apply the science behind gender care.”

Through their daily work, Collins witnesses firsthand the importance of community, inclusion, and representation. To that end, they joined Wake Forest Law’s Rose Council where they hope to get an LGBTQ+ Law Alumni group off the ground. “It’s been hard to find other queer attorneys to connect with. I want to create and nurture a community where queer attorneys can find mentors, engage with one another, and talk about the challenges of being queer and a lawyer in this social climate.”

In that same vein, recognizing the dearth of options for queer attorneys to come together, Collins collaborated with NCBA members, including Wake Forest Law alum Drew Culler (’17), to establish the Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Committee (SOGI) within the NCBA. As the inaugural chair appointed in 2022, Collins wanted to demonstrate to other queer law students and young attorneys that “you can authentically be yourself and be successful at the same time.” Collins continues, “In fact, you’ll be a great attorney because of your authenticity,

not despite it. And you’ll be a better advocate because of what you’ve experienced.”

Collins wrote a report for the NCBA on behalf of SOGI outlining what it means to be a true ally and how to effect meaningful change for the queer legal community. This report, and Collins’ presentations to the NCBA board, have already made an impact—among other things, the NCBA is planning to commission a report to examine LGBTQ+ equity issues within the organization. Undoubtedly, Collins has used their education to help others—both on an individual level and a systemic one. Their advocacy has been all the more effective through their collaboration and partnership with other individuals, organizations, and agencies. Collins was honored by NCBA for their work on SOGI on June 23, 2023.

From the beginning of their educational journey, Collins knew where they wanted to go and how they wanted to show up in the world. “In my 2L year, Mackenzie Salenger (JD ’16) (then president of OUTLaw) and I stayed up all night to prepare for the Winston-Salem Pride Festival. We were preparing to hand out literature about important legal issues relevant to the queer community,” they say. “I remember we were riding the high off the *Obergefell* decision and were so eager to help our community understand their rights as a result. It was thrilling, inspiring, and meaningful to be around others like Mackenzie who were so passionate about the same things as me, and to know that a resource we were providing could potentially change someone’s life for the better.”



**It’s been hard to find other queer attorneys to connect with. I want to create and nurture a community where queer attorneys can find mentors, engage with one another, and talk about the challenges of being queer and a lawyer in this social climate.**

—Collins Saint

# Saying **YES** to Student Success

How One Alumna Uses Her Legal Education  
to Help Students Live Up to Their Full Potential



When Bonita Brown ('95, JD '97) graduated from Wake Forest Law in 1997, she knew she wanted to use her degree to help people. After graduation, Brown began working in corporate law in Washington, DC. But after the terrorist attacks that took place on September 11, 2001, she decided she needed a change. Brown left DC and moved to North Carolina where she would begin her journey developing the next generation.



Eager to continue her legal career, Brown applied to be an attorney at Livingstone College, a private historically-Black Christian college located in Salisbury, NC. Right away, the president of Livingstone recognized Brown's skills, opting instead to hire her as Assistant to the President, essentially serving as her chief of staff. There, Brown was able to do what she had always wanted—give back and work with young people to help them realize their full potential. As she leaned into her new role, she fell in love with higher education administration.

After leaving Livingstone College in 2003, Brown continued working at universities and nonprofits focusing on higher education. Brown relied on her legal background and education to help her conduct research, analyze legal documents, communicate her findings, and make sound decisions.

In 2019, Brown was recruited to serve as the Vice President and Chief Strategy Officer at Northern Kentucky University (NKU), a public university in Highland Heights, Kentucky. There, she was tasked with a critical initiative: to lead the creation and implementation of the Success by Design Strategy, an action-oriented strategic plan aimed at transforming the way students perform at NKU.

Once Brown began her new role at NKU, she got straight to work, meeting with every constituent—alumni, donors, faculty, staff, students—with the goal of gaining an understanding of NKU's culture and needs. Brown's uncanny ability to connect with people was invaluable in collaborating with others. She harnessed the skills she developed at Wake Forest Law to research and write. And she listened, holding multiple listening tours across campus and the community to learn more about how to better solve problems students were facing.

Brown understands the importance of input, feedback, and listening to the constituents at NKU, which is why Success by Design has committees composed of faculty, staff, and students. "If people see your passion, they're willing to work with you," says Brown. "It is important to be out there and engaged with everyone and bring everyone together for a common cause."

From there, Brown used her research to begin developing the Success by Design Strategy, beginning with three pillars: Access, Completion, and Career and Community Engagement. Then she established four projects that would specifically address each pillar of the plan, focusing on barriers to student success, how to support students outside the classroom, what happens inside the classroom, and other strategies to engage students. After developing her framework, she assembled a team to implement the strategies identified in her strategic plan. Then COVID-19 changed everything, including her plan for implementation.

While in-person meetings were on hold, Brown wasn't going to let the pandemic slow down her progress. She used the changes brought on by the pandemic and her legal background and education as an opportunity to focus on the university's statistics to determine whether NKU was meeting its goals.

In January 2023, after developing her reputation as a problem-solver and strategist, Brown became the Interim President of NKU. In her new role, she focuses on challenges such as enrollment, the budget, and maintaining rankings and accreditations. She is also continuing to implement Success by Design at NKU, which is a model that can be duplicated at universities and community colleges across the country.

True to its name, Success by Design has already been a success. But Brown won't be satisfied until every student—at NKU and beyond—has the tools they need to be successful in and outside the classroom. "[You] have to listen to people," says Brown. "Design and create something they can buy into and add to. Who can say no to student success?"

# The Fight for the Right to a Healthy Environment

It only seems reasonable that everyone on this earth has the right to breathe clean air and drink clean water, to live with a stable climate free from constant extreme weather events, to be a part of thriving, intact ecosystems.

Not only reasonable, but essential. Not only essential, but absolutely fundamental to life.

And yet, the human right to a healthy environment is not guaranteed. But we're getting there.

The right to a healthy environment has its foundations in the general concept of human rights. International human rights date back to the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which was adopted shortly after the creation of the United Nations (UN) in 1945. The Declaration, which was drafted by a Human Rights Commission chaired by Eleanor Roosevelt, comprises a number of rights, like freedom of religion and freedom of expression, as well as economic, social, and cultural rights like the right to education. However, the modern environmental movement had yet to begin, and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights did not include the right to a healthy environment.

Over the past few decades, many nations added the right to a healthy environment to their constitutions. "Since the 1960s, it is the most popular right to be added to constitutions," says environmental law expert Professor John Knox. "It's now included in at least 100 national constitutions." Moreover, several US states have included the right in their state constitutions. But despite the rising popularity and critical importance of the right to a healthy environment, the UN had never adopted this right, and some countries—including the United States—do not recognize it in their domestic law. Professor Knox has devoted much of his career to remedying this.





In 2012, the UN Human Rights Council, which appoints independent experts called special rapporteurs to investigate and report on important global issues, asked Professor Knox to be a special rapporteur on the relationship of human rights and the environment. Professor Knox spent the next three years mapping how human rights bodies regarded the environment vis-a-vis human rights. He eventually determined and reported that even in the absence of a global human right to a healthy environment, many tribunals and other bodies had applied other human rights to environmental issues. In other words, states are obligated not to create or allow environmental problems that interfere with people's ability to enjoy their other rights, such as rights to life and health. "For example, if a state could reasonably foresee an environmental threat—say, a mudslide—and took no action to protect people from it, so that it wiped out a village, it would have violated its obligation to protect human rights," says Professor Knox. He referred to this application of human rights to environmental issues as "greening human rights."

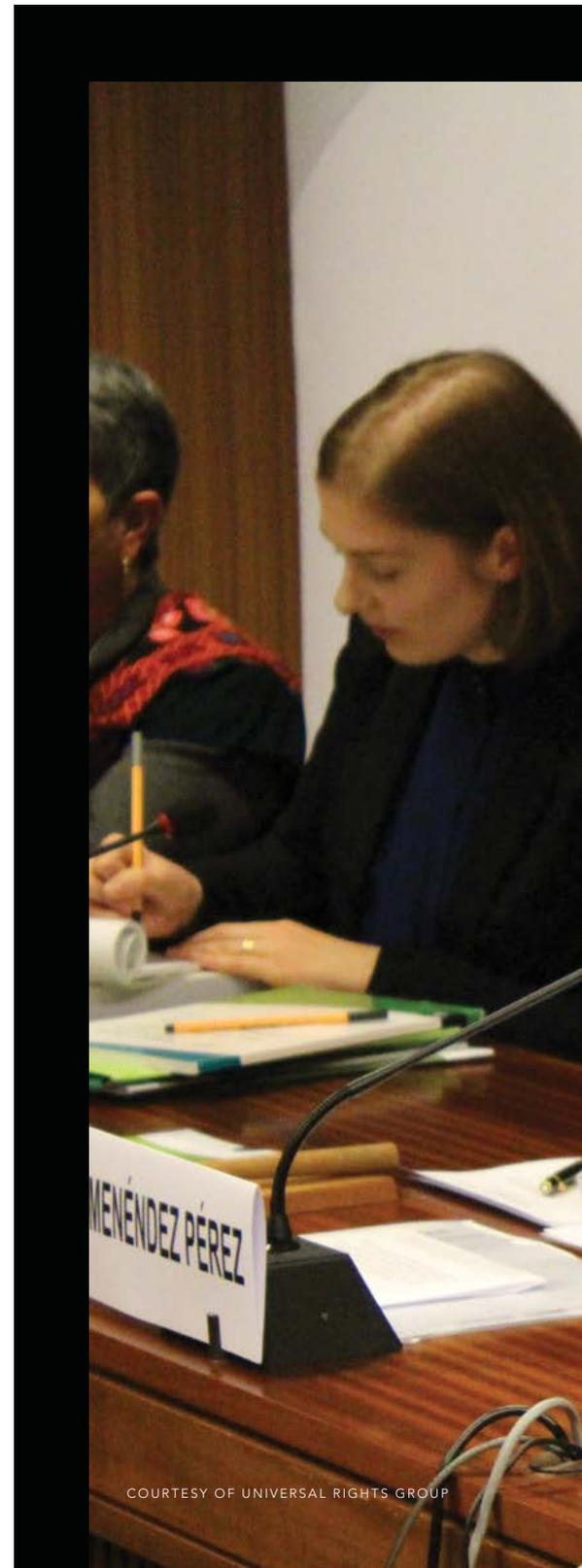
The relationship between human rights and environmental protection is interdependent. In an article he wrote about greening human rights, Professor Knox stated, "The exercise of human rights helps to protect the environment, which in turn enables the full enjoyment of human rights. In recent years, it has become equally clear that the converse is also true: the exercise of human rights is necessary, or at the very least highly important to, the enjoyment of a healthy environment."

In 2015, Professor Knox was reappointed as special rapporteur, but the UN added a new directive to his mandate—one that would not come without its challenges: to promote implementation of the rights relating to a healthy environment. With this command, Professor Knox visited countries and interacted with government officials to try and push them toward greater compliance. "States were often interested in talking with me because they needed guidance on how to implement the rights," he says. "But sometimes, my job was to essentially 'name and shame.' In other words, call them out on their noncompliance."

In his last report for the UN, Professor Knox presented his Framework Principles on Human Rights and the Environment, where he outlined 16 principles related to human rights and the environment that are based on existing work of the human rights system. He also called on the UN to recognize formally, for the first time, the human right to a healthy environment.

Although his second term as special rapporteur ended in 2018, the UN renewed the mandate and appointed Professor David Boyd of the University of British Columbia to continue what Professor Knox started. Professor Boyd championed the issue, writing reports and making arguments to countless audiences. Professor Knox continued to play a supporting role, constantly espousing the need to codify the right to a healthy environment.

After the pandemic, the campaign for the UN to adopt the right to a healthy environment ramped up and gained momentum. A group of 15 heads of UN agencies issued a joint statement supporting the right. "It was unusual for them to take such a strong advocacy position," says Professor Knox. Finally, in October 2021, the Human Rights Council voted 43-0 with 4 abstentions to recognize the right to a healthy environment. The abstentions came from China, Russia, Japan, and India.



**"The exercise of human rights helps to protect the environment, which in turn enables the full enjoyment of human rights. In recent years, it has become equally clear that the converse is also true: the exercise of human rights is necessary, or at the very least highly important to, the enjoyment of a healthy environment."**

— John Knox





**"Even though it's not legally binding, it's politically catalytic. The adoption of the resolution sets a global standard that countries can try and achieve—with bodies like the UN holding them accountable."**

— John Knox

The US, although not a member of the Human Rights Council at the time (President Trump had recently resigned from it), worked against the adoption of this right. "The US tends to ignore international human rights law," says Professor Knox. "Environmental justice advocates in the United States instead focus on what can be argued in a US court—and US courts are unfortunately not friendly to international human rights claims."

With strong support from the Human Rights Council, the countries that were in favor of adopting the right moved cautiously toward the next step: UN General Assembly approval.

This was no easy task, as very few rights have been added to the list of rights in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights since its creation. Professor Knox and Professor Boyd participated in a major effort to convince the General Assembly to adopt the

resolution recognizing the right to a healthy environment. The countries that took the lead on the effort were Costa Rica, Maldives, Morocco, Slovenia, and Switzerland. "It was an interesting group," says Professor Knox. "While these countries are fairly small, they are all well-respected within their regions."

This contingent went about their work very carefully, conducting many consultations with other countries and waiting to amass support—all with the goal that the resolution would pass with an overwhelming vote. They met with governments to explain what exactly this right was and what the consequences of not adopting the right would be. Nearly 1500 NGOs signed the petition in favor of UN recognition, and many governments got on board as well. In the US, Professor Knox and Professor Boyd met with congressional staff members, the American Bar Association wrote a letter in favor of the resolution, and other entities vocalized their support.



Finally, on July 28, 2022, the General Assembly adopted a resolution recognizing the right to a healthy environment with a vote of 161-0, and only 8 abstentions. “This resolution sends a message that nobody can take nature, clean air and water, or a stable climate away from us—at least, not without a fight,” said Inger Andersen, executive director of the UN Environment Programme (UNEP), after the resolution had passed. Perhaps most surprising was that Japan, India, and the US—all nations which had previously been against it—voted in favor of the resolution. The largest countries to abstain were China and Russia.

“It truly was a global effort,” says Professor Knox. “There were thousands of people involved—from UN experts and agency heads, to governments, to NGO leaders, and more. Like-minded people came together and put their weight behind it. That’s the only way we could succeed.”

But the fight is far from over. “Even though it’s not legally binding, it’s politically catalytic,” says Professor Knox. “The adoption of the resolution sets a global standard that countries can try and achieve—with bodies like the UN holding them accountable.” The hope is that the adoption of the resolution will have a trickle-down effect.

And in fact, the recognition of the right has led to efforts to add the right to the European Convention on Human Rights, a regional treaty that is legally binding. In September 2022, Professor Knox attended a governmental working group meeting to discuss whether to draft an amendment to the European Convention. National courts have begun to cite the right in their own laws. Concurrently, there have been efforts to try and clarify what the right to a healthy environment really means. The framework principles that Professor Knox developed in 2018 provide context to the right and set a minimum standard for countries to comply with.

The right to a healthy environment is part of a broader movement that is reinvigorating the overall environmental justice movement, which centers around the people who are “left behind.” “The whole way we should approach environmental issues is by focusing on those who are most impacted—racial minorities and people who are low-income” says Professor Knox. “Are

we doing enough to propel environmental justice forward? No. But at least there is now a lot of effort to bring more attention to underserved communities that are especially harmed by environmental threats and degradation.”

Indeed, one of the ways in which communities are marginalized is that they are made to bear the brunt of environmental deterioration. Professor Knox cites sacrifice zones—areas that are so environmentally degraded that people’s human rights are violated just by the sheer fact that they live there. Take, for example, Cancer Alley in Louisiana, which is made up of mostly Black residents and accounts for 25% of the petrochemical production in the US.

“Even though some view environmental justice as a separate issue from the right to a healthy environment, they are in fact part and parcel of the same issue,” says Professor Knox. “It would be beneficial to everyone if these two movements came together and built connections between them.”

Professor Knox posits that using rights-based thinking and language is a powerful step in effecting change. “US government leaders using rights-based rhetoric is relatively new and truly demonstrates the relevance of the human rights movement.” He believes the strength of the human rights movement is that it doesn’t just use a legal framework and legal language. “It’s political and social and aspirational,” he says. “It’s okay to start off with political statements and declarations and then eventually write those political aspirations into the law. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights started off just like that. A call to justice is a statement of how the world should be—and the law follows that.”

Professor Knox recognizes that it’s a slow process, and when it comes to the environment, the need to legislate around the right to a healthy environment is urgent and vital. As we know, “the arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice.” With environmental and human rights advocates working together, we can only hope the bend is in sight.



# HEIRS UNAPPARENT

Wake Forest Law Helps Families  
Protect Their Legacies



**W**hen a family member dies, it can be difficult for their relatives to divide and maintain assets left behind. It's an especially troubling situation for recipients of heirs' property—land inherited jointly after a family member dies interstate or leaves property to several heirs.

In these cases, the inheriting family members—who own the land under a comparatively obscure legal structure known as “tenants in common”—find it difficult to obtain commercial loans or receive government benefits. And while FEMA and USDA have relaxed some of their limitations on providing benefits to heirs' property owners in recent years,<sup>1</sup> such owners are often unable to receive assistance. In addition, North Carolina's property laws privilege clearing title over protecting families. Many owners see their ancestral homes sold at public auction without a right of first refusal or a guarantee they will receive fair market value for their land.

Though many families across the United States suffer the ill effects of owning heirs' property, the situation disproportionately affects communities of color and low-income families, especially in the South. As of January 2023, 22 states have adopted the Uniform Partition of Heirs' Property Act (UPHPA) in order to protect these owners.<sup>2</sup> The UPHPA establishes fair procedures for the clarification of titles and the division of corresponding property, applying updated buyout provisions that seek to provide owners with a right of first refusal and, if the property's sale is required, a market-driven process meant to provide fair market value.

Although all neighboring states and most southern states have already adopted the UPHPA, North Carolina has yet to act. Meanwhile, approximately 5% (worth up to \$2 billion) of North Carolina's land qualifies as heirs' property,<sup>3</sup> and instances of it can be found in every single one of its 100 counties.<sup>4</sup>

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1 Scott Schang, interview by author, September 1, 2023

2 Heirs' Property, [farmlandaccess.org](http://farmlandaccess.org)

3 Scott Schang, interview by author, September 1, 2023

4 Heirs' Property Project, [law.wfu.edu](http://law.wfu.edu)

Enter Wake Forest Law's Heirs' Property Project (HPP), spearheaded by Professor Scott Schang, director of the Environmental Law and Policy Clinic, and Clinical Fellow Jesse Williams. The HPP began as an effort to support a working group seeking UPHPA adoption in NC, and to dovetail with the many organizations—Black Families Land Trust, Land Loss Prevention Project, and Legal Aid of North Carolina among them—that were already on the ground. “We weren't going to start a project on our own to intercede. We were going to offer assistance to those who are already doing the work as an extra resource,” explains Professor Schang.

The project is multi-pronged and richly interdisciplinary. Wake Forest Law students—under the supervision of Professor Schang and Williams—provide free representation to clients who wouldn't otherwise be able to afford legal counsel. But as Professor Schang and Williams explain, their efforts aren't all aimed at the title-clearing process. Even when someone secures a clear title, they might need help managing their land sustainably. To this end, the HPP seeks to enlist Wake Forest's School of Divinity students and undergraduate students to help support families with mediation and by conducting genealogical and other research.

In order to apply and maintain such a comprehensive model, Professor Schang and Williams lean on an extensive network out in the field. They express gratitude to the likes of self-styled “death and dirt” attorney Mavis Gragg, executive director of the Sustainable Forestry and African American Land Retention Project, and Savi Horne, who is the executive director of the Land Loss Prevention Project, both of whom contribute as steady allies and advocates. They also recognize Lesley Albritton, chief of staff at Legal Aid of North Carolina, as an early supporter of the effort.

Professor Schang and Williams also credit Ebonie Alexander, director of the Black Family Land Trust, for being a significant piece to the collaborative puzzle, not only because she helps lead clients to Wake Forest Law's resources, but because her familiarity with the clients enables her to be a liaison for all involved, and to educate both the representatives and the families. And still, these partnerships are just the tip of the iceberg. “When working with other organizations,”

explains Williams, “it might involve requesting their legal expertise, or turning to them for help understanding conservation easements. There's a lot of knowledge that revolves around sustainable land management, and we only own the legal piece of it.”

Of course, collaboration extends beyond the visible, measurable fruits of everyone's work. According to Professor Schang, a significant portion of the collaborative effort occurred before the Heirs' Property Project was even founded. Professor Schang, who had only been at Wake Forest Law for two years when he established the HPP, says it took over a year to bring the initiative to life. First, he had to raise money, gather expertise, and use three cases as a trial run. By Professor Schang's own estimate, he spoke with 15-20% of his fellow faculty members one-on-one, and those colleagues, such as Miles Silman (who founded the Andrew Sabin Family Center for Environment and Sustainability [formerly known as the Center for Energy, Environment, and Sustainability (CEES)]) not only helped him learn how to garner support from the administration but gave him a necessary base of support. From there, he was able to collect support from previous deans of the Law School, such as Nell Newton and Jane Aiken, to secure a grant from University Provost Michele Gillespie, and to officially pull Williams in as his trusted partner. Additional financial support came from the Wake Forest Program for Leadership and Character, the North Carolina Conservation Network, and a USDA subgrant from the Vermont Center for Food and Agriculture Systems. “It's one thing to say, ‘Let's collaborate radically,’ but it's another thing to do it,” says Professor Schang. He and Williams both believe that they're beginning to put the idea into action, and that others will continue to contribute to the advancement of their project. Adds Williams, “One of the virtues of working in this space is that if you come in with the right values and willingness to learn and recognize what the limits of your positionality are, people are excited to add a helping hand.”

As with any ambitious initiative, the challenges ahead remain large and seem incessant. As Professor Schang admits, “Even if they pass the UPHPA, there's still a ton of work to be done.” Williams puts it in even more stark relief: “It's easy to throw around numbers...but we're talking about tens of thousands of people, and





**"It's easy to throw around numbers... but we're talking about tens of thousands of people, and the legal work would take years to complete if every attorney in North Carolina did nothing but heirs' property representations for the foreseeable future."**

— Jesse Williams

the legal work would take years to complete if every attorney in North Carolina did nothing but heirs' property representations for the foreseeable future. The scale of the problem is such that we need orders of magnitude more resources in this space... or we need a really, really thoughtful, careful, and fair effort to address this at a legislative level. And I hope we'll see one of those things happen in the next decade or so."

In the meantime, it appears that work is happening where it should: in the education sector, residing with all the promise of students' personal and professional growth. According to Professor Schang, "Watching the students light up at this work

has been the real joy." To assist the project's efforts, awareness is being raised through the Environmental Law Society, which co-sponsored the Land, Power, and Justice symposium, along with the Law and Divinity Schools, in October 2023. While Professor Schang and Williams wait for North Carolina's Short Session to revisit the UHPA next year, the partners will be sure to keep growing alongside their students. Says Williams, "One of the things I love about this job is that I get to keep learning, too." This collaborative and educational spirit ensures that the Heirs' Property Project—and the current students involved—will remain flexible, comprehensive, and available to those in need.



# universities & bench & bar

Working Together to  
Improve the Law



Left: Professor Jonathan Cardi (right), 2018 Restatement of the Law Third, Torts: Intentional Torts to Persons project meeting. Courtesy of The American Law Institute/Kathleen Morton

Above: Professors Mark Hall and Tanya Marsh, Restatement of the Law Third, Torts: Medical Malpractice & Miscellaneous Provisions session, 2023 ALI Annual Meeting. Courtesy of The American Law Institute/Chris Ferenzi Photography

**The entire process takes many years... It's an intense and rigorous process because of the countless reviews that are conducted, the level of scrutiny by various groups within ALI, and the approval of the organization's entire membership.**

With the American legal system's roots in English common law, the principle of *stare decisis* plays a crucial role in the creation and evolution of the laws of this country. Case law is ever-changing, layered, and complex (in fact, more than 100 million cases are filed in state and federal trial courts each year). But thanks to Restatements of the Law, and the legal scholars who compile these treatises, judges and lawyers are able to clearly understand and apply common law to make decisions that are just and comply with the rule of law.

"Restatements are summaries of the law that have a profound effect because they not only reflect the law as it currently stands, but also serve as a way to improve the law," says Professor Jonathan Cardi. Professor Cardi currently serves as a reporter for the American Law Institute (ALI), the leading organization in the US producing scholarly work to clarify, modernize, and improve the law, and the body that oversees the Restatements process.

Different Restatements cover different areas of the law. Professor Cardi is working on the Restatement Third of Torts, focusing specifically on intentional torts. As a reporter, he is tasked with compiling all of the cases within his area of the law, distilling those cases into overarching “black-letter rules,” and providing a detailed discussion and analysis for each. “For example, there may be six different approaches to this one doctrine, and we have to determine which is the best and explain why,” he says. The work is arduous, ongoing, and collaborative, and reporters like Professor Cardi work alongside one another and with research assistants.

The entire process takes many years (Professor Cardi has been working on his chapter for seven years, while the Third Restatements project has been a 30-year endeavor). It’s an intense and rigorous process because of the countless reviews that are conducted, the level of scrutiny by various groups within ALI, and the approval of the organization’s entire membership. “We have to look at each of the 52 jurisdictions, conduct an immense amount of research, draft the content, and then defend our analysis as ALI members challenge our findings,” says Professor Cardi. But the benefit is immeasurable: his portion of the project has been approved by the ALI membership and will be used extensively by judges and lawyers across the country.

“There are so many interesting aspects to this work,” says Professor Cardi. “It can be very ‘small-p’ political, with strong voices and opinions advocating for different things, lobbyists who have a vested interest in the work, and each topic being challenging in its own way.” In his topic of intentional torts, he dealt with cases related to false imprisonment by means of legal assertion (e.g., the George Floyd case), the citizen’s arrest provision (e.g., the Ahmaud Arbery case), and other issues—many are hot button issues with wide-ranging implications. “The political climate makes a difference in how we use the law,” says Professor Cardi. “Sometimes doctrines end up being used in ways that are really dangerous, such as the citizen’s arrest laws. That’s why this work is so important—it helps to recontextualize and re-examine our laws.”

Professor Cardi credits former Wake Forest Law Professor Mike Green with both his involvement in the Restatements process and even his path to torts.

“When I entered the academy, Mike invited me to an ALI torts Restatement meeting. I found the meeting so compelling and interesting that I switched gears from focusing on copyright law to torts. It changed the entire trajectory of my career.”

Indeed it seems that Professor Green had a significant hand in Wake Forest Law faculty involvement in Restatements. Not only did he inspire Professor Cardi’s work in the ALI, he brought two other Wake Forest Law professors on as Restatement Reporters: Health law expert Professor Mark Hall joined as a reporter on the Restatement of medical malpractice, which will have a significant impact on the healthcare field; and Professor Tanya Marsh took on the topic of sepulcher and interference with human remains. Professor Marsh’s work was approved by the ALI membership at the 2023 Annual Meeting, and Professor Hall’s work is still in progress.

Professor Green’s own involvement in Restatements dates back to the 1990s when he worked on comparative fault with Bill Powers, who went on to become the dean of the University of Texas Law School and President of the University of Texas. “One of the components of Restatements is illustrations,” says Professor Green. “So I wrote an illustration of a basketball game between Wake Forest and Texas. Bill and I decided that whichever team won the next game would be the winner in the illustration.” Later, in 2000, Professor Green was asked to serve as a reporter for torts, and he is still in the midst of that project today.

“It’s always very rewarding when the ALI membership approves the final draft of your work—the last step in it becoming a Restatement,” he says. Indeed, the lengthy

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— Jonathan Cardi





and sometimes grueling process is worth it when judges and lawyers use the Restatements to inform their decisions. Professor Cardi agrees: “Nothing I have done or will do in my scholarly career will be as important or as fulfilling as my work on the Restatement.”

Restatements of the Law are ubiquitous and influential in the legal system, but their value is only as good as the experts who devote their time, energy, and expertise to these projects. Thanks to legal scholars like Professors

Cardi, Green, Hall, and Marsh, we can be confident in the excellence of these important treatises. As legal luminary Benjamin Cardozo said in 1923 about the first Restatement, “It will be invested with unique authority, not to command, but to persuade... Universities and bench and bar will have had a part in its creation. I have great faith in the power of such a restatement to unify our law.”

# THE INTERSECTION OF LAW AND ENGINEERING

## A Classroom Experiment at Wake Forest Law

By W. Keith Robinson  
Professor of Law  
Associate Dean for Research

What happens when a lawyer is involved in the product design process from the beginning? This was the question Wake Forest Law sought to answer last spring with a new classroom experiment.

As a patent lawyer, I uniquely appreciate the collaboration required to transform innovation into protectable intellectual property. A lawyer advising a technology company must comprehend not just the relevant law but also the client's business objectives, the competitive environment in which the client operates, and the prevailing business climate. However, in my experience, young technology companies often regard their lawyers as outsiders rather than integral team members.

To gain insight into what early-stage integration of a lawyer within an engineering team could look like, I collaborated with Professor Olga Pierrakos, the Founding Department Chair of the Wake Forest University Department of Engineering (Wake Engineering). Together, we piloted an innovative course that paired a Wake Forest Law student with Wake Engineering students.

Wake Engineering stands out for its unique grounding in the liberal arts tradition. As the sole bachelor of science (BS) engineering program provided by an undergraduate-exclusive department, its objective is to cultivate well-rounded engineers. In pursuit of this goal, Wake Engineering integrates entrepreneurial learning and character development into its curriculum, facilitated by partnerships like the one with the Law School.



We selected Wake Engineering's Capstone Design Project as the testing ground for our innovative collaboration. This Capstone Design Project equips engineering students with practical experience in employing industry-standard design processes to address real-world challenges. The project teams, composed of 3-5 senior students "design, build, and test solutions that meet real-world client, user, and stakeholder needs, with a focus on how their work positively impacts the human experience in the spirit of Wake Forest's motto [*Pro Humanitate*]." The Capstone course comprises both a lecture component and lab time dedicated to student teams working on their individual projects.

During his 3L year, Ben Suslavich (JD '23) participated in the engineering classes weekly, interacting with several different engineering teams during their project sessions. I also attended numerous classes and engaged in discussions with some student teams. During the course of these classes, students familiarized themselves with design methodologies like Agile, which underscores the importance of continuous collaboration and improvement. During the project work periods, Ben and I observed the project teams' deliberations.

In the early stages, we pinpointed several legal concerns that the teams would likely have to address if they were to bring their products to market. Out of the many legal issues identified, such as business formation, regulatory concerns, software licensing, and product liability, we chose to concentrate our efforts on intellectual property. Ben's assignment was to create two deliverables to aid the engineering students in understanding IP issues. Initially, based on a brief lecture I delivered to the engineering students on the subject of intellectual property, Ben developed an introductory resource on the topic. The aim of this resource was to simplify the various aspects of IP for the students and provide them with a basic understanding that would allow them to converse knowledgeably with a lawyer about protecting any IP they created. Additionally, Ben conducted a preliminary patent clearance search for a specific team with the objective of identifying any patented technology related to the team's final project.

Several valuable lessons emerged from this initial collaboration. First, as technological advancements simplify product creation

for undergraduates, it's crucial for students to have a fundamental understanding of intellectual property. Second, providing law students with a basic knowledge of business, product design, and methodologies such as Agile can help them become more proficient lawyers. Finally, we observed that when provided with a structured framework and a degree of autonomy, students can deliver remarkable results.

We hope that the Law School and Engineering School can continue to collaborate in the future, and here are some ways we can achieve that. First, it's essential that we simplify the cross-listing of courses, making it easier for interested students to engage in such collaborative learning. Second, faculty members need both training and funding to create optimal learning experiences for students. And third, we need the expertise and support of corporate partners.

With this combined effort, we can equip our students to excel in multidisciplinary professional collaboration and to thrive in their professional careers.

As we continue to reimagine legal education, we invite you to join us on this unique journey of integrating law with engineering. Whether you're a student interested in this multidisciplinary approach, a faculty member willing to contribute to curriculum development, or an alum ready to share your invaluable expertise, your participation is critical. Your involvement can shape the next generation of professionals who are adept at navigating both the complexities of law and the challenges of product design. Reach out to us, participate in this exciting experiment, and become a key player in bridging the gap between these two crucial disciplines. The future of technology and law depends on collaboration. Let's make sure Wake Forest Law leads the way.

[wfu.law/WalkWithWente](http://wfu.law/WalkWithWente)



*W. Keith Robinson is a nationally recognized patent scholar. He has commented on issues of intellectual property law in media outlets and given more than 70 presentations around the world on patent law. His recent work has explored how artificial intelligence may impact obtaining U S patents.*

# Shedding Light

The Next Generation of Jury Sunshine

By Ronald F. Wright, Professor of Law &  
Gregory S. Parks, Professor of Law



# Many lawyers claim

to know how juries work in criminal trials. They watch jury selection and jury trials, and even serve on juries from time to time. Mostly, however, what lawyers know about jury selection and performance is anecdotal rather than systematic. We see individual juries work but miss the larger patterns across all juries.

Back in 2012, the two of us (along with our colleague Kami Chavis, professor at William and Mary Law School) joined with Wake Forest Law students and librarians to collect systemwide data about juries in felony cases in North Carolina. We called this effort the “Jury Sunshine Project.”

Team members drove to the Clerk of Superior Court’s office in each of North Carolina’s 100 counties. In every office, we did our best to locate the files for every felony case that went to trial in 2011. From those files, we could reconstruct many details about the trial: the lawyers and judges involved, who was summoned for jury duty, who was removed from the jury box (and by whom), who served, what type of criminal charges were involved, how many days the trial lasted, and the jury’s verdict.

After returning from those 100 road trips, we assembled the notes into a database. It holds records for 1,306 trials, with information about 29,624 removed or sitting jurors, 1,327 defendants, 129 Superior Court judges, 694 defense attorneys, and 466 prosecutors. Some remarkable findings emerge from this data. For instance, there were zero felony trials between 2011 and 2013 in 10 different counties in the state. The trial rate (that is, the percentage of convictions obtained through trial rather than guilty plea)

varies a lot from county to county, with some counties producing trial convictions at four times the average statewide rate. Women and men are removed from the jury pool at about the same rates. We also know that removals from juries produce racial disparities, with prosecutors and judges removing Black jurors at a higher rate and defense attorneys removing white jurors at a higher rate. Our data tell us nothing about the case-specific motivations of the judges and attorneys, but at the end of the jury selection process, Black jurors (especially young Black male jurors) serve on juries less often than their population numbers would suggest. Finally, we know that North Carolina juries convict defendants at about the same rate as researchers have found based on samples of trials from other states.

Now the time has arrived, a decade later, for a second generation of Jury Sunshine. Our students will fan out across the state, collecting data about recent felony trials. Imagine the real-world education for students of criminal law and criminal procedure, as they get familiar with the typical documents in a felony file, learn how to cooperate with employees in the Clerk’s office—key gatekeepers for any litigator!—and absorb the weekday activities in urban and rural courthouses all over the state.

And when they return with data in hand? We’ll be able to tell factually grounded stories about change over time in jury trial practices. We can detail the differences among various courthouse working groups. And ultimately, we hope this work shines a light on jury duty to expand public awareness and to promote public trust in the courts. Get ready to welcome a researcher to a Clerk’s office near you!

*Ron Wright is one of the nation’s best known criminal justice scholars. He is the co-author of two casebooks in criminal procedure and sentencing; his empirical research concentrates on the work of criminal prosecutors.*

*Gregory Parks’ research focuses on race and social science issues within the law. His scholarship also focuses on black fraternal networks and their relation to the law. He has authored or edited nearly 10 scholarly books and has authored more than a half dozen law review articles.*



# Collaboration Is Key

## to the DC Summer Judicial Externship Experience

When Professor Abby Perdue joined the faculty of Wake Forest Law in 2012, she was determined for students to have an opportunity to learn about clerkships in Washington, DC. Her two consecutive federal clerkships had both been transformative experiences that she hoped her students could also enjoy. “My clerkship felt almost like getting a master’s degree,” says Professor Perdue. “I learned so much in such a short amount of time. My judges and co-clerks were incredible mentors.”

Fueled by her passion for clerking and students, Professor Perdue launched the DC Summer Judicial Externship (DCSJE) Program in the summer of 2013. Its creation involved her collaboration with colleagues, alumni, judges, attorneys, and law clerks. Celebrating its 10th anniversary in 2023, the DCSJE Program offers first- and second-year students the chance to extern full-time for a judge at a federal court or agency during the summer in Washington, DC while also taking an experiential, evening course on judicial clerking with Professor Perdue.

In addition to their regular externship responsibilities and class time, students participate in lunch-and-learns with federal judges and other guest speakers—an opportunity made possible by the collaborative nature of the externship. Each of the lunches is moderated by a different student and offers the chance for program participants to ask speakers questions about their ju-

dicial philosophy and practice area, to seek advice, and to learn how to stand out in the clerkship or job application process.

Professor Perdue also collaborates with her growing network in DC to coordinate fun and enriching field trips for students throughout the summer. One special highlight is the annual trip to Quantico, which is not open to the public but is offered as a result of Professor Perdue’s partnership with a generous Wake Forest Law alumnus. Students have also visited the United States Supreme Court, the Capitol, the White House, the National Gallery of Art, the Library of Congress, and other prominent buildings in DC. They have even sometimes enjoyed a private audience with the Counselor to the Chief Justice of the US Supreme Court.

Students are matched with multiple mentors—Wake Forest Law alumni—from the DC area who help them build their network, provide guidance, and navigate challenges during their experience. While most mentors live and work in DC, program alumni from around the country also serve as virtual mentors. “We have the best alumni in the world,” says Professor Perdue. “They go above and beyond to really nurture these students.”

Along with serving as mentors, alumni and other attorneys in the DC area agree to participate in panels over the summer,



“

I am so appreciative of the support and generosity of the alumni and participants in the program because without their generosity, this program would not be possible.

— Abby Perdue

speaking to students about using their law degree in non-traditional ways, how to excel in diverse careers, how to select the right practice area, the path to partnership, how to thrive as an associate, and other topics of interest.

In addition to fueling their growth as future attorneys, students also spend time networking with each other and attending social events, such as baseball games, Mentorship Mixers, and more.

For many students, participating in the DC externship during their summer is a natural fit, allowing them to return to law school with a greater understanding of law. The externship also helps students launch their legal careers upon graduation.

Which is exactly what Joseph Greener (JD '16) was able to do.

After his first semester of law school, Joseph struggled to understand how the concepts articulated in class were applied in the real legal world. Following his first year of law school, he attained an externship through the DCSJE Program at the Office of Special Masters, known as “vaccine court,” where claims against vaccine manufacturers are heard. As a part of his externship, Joseph attended daily status meetings and drafted orders summarizing conferences and any pending deadlines. He also got the opportunity to draft

and revise orders involving motions to enforce a settlement agreement for summary judgment.

For Joseph, the experience solidified his interest in clerking after law school. And he strengthened his ability to apply law concepts to real-world situations. “I gained practical knowledge of litigation and my grades in my second year drastically improved.”

After law school, Joseph clerked for a federal magistrate judge, an opportunity he owes, in part, to his DCSJE experience. His favorite part of his externship? Getting to know the law clerks. “They became mentors to me in my first years after law school.” Joseph now practices labor and employment law at a prominent firm in DC.

It’s stories like Joseph’s—stories that wouldn’t be possible without collaboration—that make the DCSJE Program valuable. “[I love] talking to the students at the end of each summer and hearing about their experiences,” says Professor Perdue. “How their perspectives have changed, how they feel empowered, how the program has made such a positive impact on their lives.”

And other alumni are just as enthusiastic about the DCSJE Program as Joseph. Indeed, one of them established a Designated Gift Fund in 2023 for the DCSJE Program to help fund other students’ DCSJE externship experiences. The establishment of the fund inspired other alumni and friends to donate, making it possible to award a sizable summer scholarship for the first time in 2023. Professor Perdue hopes to award even more scholarships in the future so cost is not a barrier to other talented students who would benefit from the DCSJE experience.

“I am so appreciative of the support and generosity of the alumni and participants in the program because without their generosity, this program would not be possible.”

For more information on the Wake Forest Law DC Summer Judicial Externship Program or to donate to the DC Summer Judicial Externship Program Fund, visit <https://dcsje.law.wfu.edu/>.



# Teens Take the Lead

Wake Forest Law Students Help Youth Offenders Find a Second Chance

It might look like business as usual at the Forsyth County Courthouse. Litigants appear before judges. A clerk calls the case names. Bailiffs maintain order.

But look a little closer...

Many of the court personnel are teenagers, and so are the litigants and jurors. Prosecutors and defense counsel are youth or Wake Forest Law students. This is Teen Court.

This simulated court program—a mock-trial-type proceeding that takes place in a courtroom before a jury of teens—is coordinated by the Forsyth County Court to give first-time juvenile offenders an alternative to the juvenile justice system. Defendants in the program already have admitted guilt to non-violent offenses and agree to abide by the ruling of the Teen Court. Instead of juvenile detention, sentences include alternatives like community service, skills and education seminars, tutoring, jury duty for other Teen Court proceedings, and letters of apology.

Teen Court is one of nine standing programs of the Wake Forest Law Pro Bono Project. Through the Pro Bono Project, Wake Forest Law students volunteer their time for pro bono legal projects for low-income and marginalized communities under the supervision of licensed attorneys.

## Practical Legal Experience

In addition to prosecution and defense, Wake Forest Law students also serve as clerks of court, administering an oath of confidentiality and handling documents, as well as jury assistants, coordinating jury pools consisting of teens, many of whom are participating as part of their own Teen Court sentences. Law student volunteers are trained on everything from how to conduct defendant interviews to how to deal with upset parents. During the

proceedings, which typically last 20-30 minutes, each side gives opening and closing statements and direct and cross examination.

Wake Forest Law student Daniel Wilkes (JD '24) serves along with Kaylee Tillett (JD '24) and Peyton Mitchell (JD '25) as the current Pro Bono Project coordinators for Teen Court. Wilkes recalls a case in which he defended a girl with special needs. Due to the collaborative nature of the proceeding, Wilkes was able to pause the prosecution's questioning and speak with the girl's mother and the volunteer counsel on the other side about tailoring the cross-examination to accommodate her disability. Everyone involved in the "trial" cared about what the girl was going through, Wilkes says. At the end, there was a "heartfelt moment" when her mother thanked him for his work on the case.

## An Alternative to Traditional Juvenile Justice

The Forsyth County Teen Court program is part of a movement of youth-administered "courts" in the United States that began expanding in the 1990s. According to some estimates, more than 1,000 exist today.

Sponsored by the United Way and the YWCA of Winston-Salem & Forsyth County, the Forsyth County program has been in existence for 20 years. In 2022, it heard cases of 80 youth.

A dozen or more Wake Forest Law students generally participate in Teen Court sessions, which take place every other Tuesday. Mitchell says the law students often



**Teen Court is one of nine standing programs of the Wake Forest Law Pro Bono Project. Through the Pro Bono Project, Wake Forest Law students volunteer their time for pro bono legal projects for low-income and marginalized communities under the supervision of licensed attorneys.**

are interested in mentoring teens and doing something good for the community, in addition to gaining litigation experience. She is encouraged when she sees teens in the program who take themselves seriously, “as not kids anymore,” and want to make up for the poor choices that got them into the system in the first place.

### **Turning Lives Around**

According to Forsyth County YWCA documents, its juvenile crime prevention programs—including Teen Court—have reduced recidivism more than 80% over the past 10+ years, but the numbers only tell half the story.

According to the Pro Bono Project web page on Teen Court, the program offers involved youth “the chance to turn their lives around, avoid a future criminal record, and introduce teens to the world of legal advocacy.”

That is well beyond business as usual.



## 1 Event: The Future of Reproductive Justice Symposium

On June 23, 2023, Wake Forest Law Professor Meghan Boone and Dean of Temple University Law School Rachel Rebouché hosted The Future of Reproductive Justice Symposium at Wake Forest University (Wake Downtown). The Symposium brought together academics and activists for a robust conversation around reproductive rights and justice. Panelists discussed how the *Dobbs* decision is so entwined with the overall question of the health of our nation's democracy, the real and perceived fear around abortion access, the role of telehealth and abortion medication, and more.

## 2 Event: Leading Change in the Legal Profession Symposium

The Wake Forest Law Review held its 2023 Spring Symposium on February 24, 2023. Co-sponsored by the Program for Leadership & Character, the theme of the event was "Leading Change in the Legal Profession." The all-day event featured legal scholars and leaders from across the region who participated in panels on topics ranging from experiential education, to professional identity formation, to women leading in law, and more. As Wake Forest Law Professor Kenneth Townsend said in his opening remarks: "We have to be able to think more holistically and more aspirationally as we prepare law students to be leaders. We hope this Symposium will spark conversations and relationships that will be meaningful and productive, and further the discourse around what it means to be a lawyer."

## 3 Award: Wake Forest Law Professor Honored with Kirk Warner Award

On May 30, Ellie Morales (JD '10), assistant professor and director of the Veterans Legal Clinic at Wake Forest Law, received the Kirk Warner Award for Distinguished Service to the Military and Veterans. The North Carolina Bar Association's (NCBA) Military and Veterans Law Section recognized Professor Morales with the award for dedicating her time in service to the United States and to military members and veterans. "Ellie Morales's work as the director of the Veterans Legal Clinic has been instrumental in getting justice for veterans," said Interim Dean Nell J. Newton. "We are very proud of her

work on behalf of veterans and her inspirational teaching of the students in the clinic." The Veterans Legal Clinic, which trains law students on legal theory and practice by assisting low-income former service members in need of representation and advocacy to correct injustices in their military records, serves 15-20 veterans each academic year.

## 4 Award: Professor Sarah Morath Wins Nautilus Book Award

Professor Sarah Morath won a Nautilus Book Award - Silver in the Green, Restorative Practices/Sustainability category for her book *Our Plastic Problem and How to Solve It* published by Cambridge University Press. *Our Plastic Problem and How to Solve It* considers plastic's harm to the environment, from its production to its disposal, and offers a spectrum of solutions that require action by local and federal governments, businesses and nonprofits, and individuals. Using specific examples and case studies, the book describes the history and chemistry of plastic, illustrates its harms, and points toward specific legislation and policies to offer concrete solutions. To solve our plastic problem, collaboration across disciplines will be critical; innovations in science, law, and design will be essential.

## 5 Bar Passage and Employment Rate

In July 2023, Wake Forest Law's Class of 2023 took the North Carolina bar for the first time, leading to a bar passage rate of 91.49%. The bar passage rate is more than four points higher than the previous year and nearly 14 points higher than the overall North Carolina first-time-takers success rate. Wake Forest Law's 2022 graduating class boasts a 96% employment rate in full-time positions for which bar passage is a requirement or the JD is an advantage ten months after graduation, making the law school fifth in the nation for employment outcomes. More than 53% of the 2022 graduating class are employed in North Carolina. The remaining 47% represent 27 states across the United States.

## 6 1L Class Is Most Credentialed to Enter Wake Forest Law

The Wake Forest Law Class of 2026 enters law school with a 165 median LSAT score, a record high for the Law School. The Class' undergraduate median GPA, also a record-high,

was 3.79. The 1L class is composed of 176 students from 104 undergraduate institutions, representing 34 states across the country and Washington, DC. Class of 2026 students enter law school with a variety of backgrounds: 49 undergraduate majors represented, 6% of students hold a graduate degree, and 10% are first-generation college students. Eighteen percent of students are members of the LGBTQ+ community and 20% of students are minority ethnicity, meaning they self-identify as one or more ethnicity other than white.

## 7 Former Faculty Member Butch Covington Named Professor Emeritus

On Wednesday, March 29, 2023, Professor Isaac Boyce "Butch" Covington, who taught at Wake Forest Law for 25 years, was presented with an official document from the Provost's Office naming him Professor Emeritus. Professor Covington was beloved by students and faculty alike, and developed close relationships with many people in the Law School community. In fact, his dedication to his students was so inspiring that Charlie Trefzger (JD '84, P '10, P '12), Professor Covington's former student and dear friend, even established the I. Boyce Covington Law Scholarship in 2006, to honor Butch and to provide financial assistance to law students based on merit and need. Without teachers like Butch Covington, who devoted so much of his time and energy to his students, Wake Forest Law would not be what it is today.

## 8 Honoring the Legacy of Professor Wendy Parker

From teaching civil procedure, torts, and employment discrimination law to countless students, to leading the Pro Bono Project and being a champion for the Public Interest Law Organization (PILO), to volunteering in the Winston-Salem community, Professor Parker's commitment to her students and colleagues—and to social justice—has never wavered. After 20 years of service to Wake Forest Law, Professor Parker is retiring. Although she has been appointed a research professor of law and will continue to be a part of the community (especially through her efforts with PILO), the effects of her taking a step back will be felt deeply among the community. "Wendy exemplified everything that is best about Wake Forest Law," says Professor John Knox. "She



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combined a clear-eyed intelligence with a full-hearted concern for everyone else in the community, from students to staff and faculty. We will miss her enormously, but her legacy will remain part of the Wake DNA.”

### 9 Remembering Professor Emeritus Ralph Peeples

Professor Emeritus Ralph Peeples passed away on Friday, May 12, 2023. He was 71 years old. Professor Peeples joined the Wake

Forest Law faculty in 1979. He was an expert in business law, dispute resolution, and torts, among other subjects. He also served as the associate dean for academic affairs from 1995 to 2000. A distinguished and beloved teacher and scholar, Professor Peeples was a four-time winner of the Excellence in Teaching Award at the Law School. When he retired in 2018, alumni “returned in droves” to honor and recognize his decades of service to Wake Forest Law. He was known for his excellent

rapport with students, close camaraderie with his fellow faculty members, and of being a part of the “Fab 5”—five revered professors who all retired in the same year (Professors Miles Foy, Charley Rose, George Walker, and Dean Emeritus Bob Walsh). Professor Peeples will be deeply missed, but always remembered as a cherished part of the Wake Forest Law community.

# STUDENT LEADERS



## Steven Blank (JD '24)

Moot Court Chief Justice

After trying numerous activities and experiential opportunities in law school, I realized that Moot Court is the one thing I truly love. In my role as the Chief Justice of Moot Court, I hope that my burning passion for appellate advocacy will bleed into everything I do.



## Jaylynn Ellington (JD '25)

President, Black Law Student Association

My interests lie at the intersection of race, civil rights, environmental law, transactional law, and global compliance. I am deeply passionate about cultivating spaces for minorities, especially in environments that can sometimes feel unwelcoming. Through my leadership role, I aim to bring a vision that future Wake students and surrounding BLSA chapters can build upon, ultimately contributing to the betterment of the larger legal community as a whole.



## Rory Hatch (JD '24)

Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Law and Policy

I love my role as the Journal of Law and Policy's editor-in-chief because I have the pleasure of working with my fellow journal members on my favorite legal skills: writing and research. I'm also in the exceptionally fortunate position of collaborating with friends on the journal, especially the journal's fantastic board of editors. This year, I hope to advance our journal's mission through our publications and increased online presence, and host a historically successful symposium covering veteran and military law issues.

Meet some of Wake Forest Law's student leaders. From student organizations to journals to moot court, these students exemplify leadership and dedication.

## Kit Kniss (JD/MDIV '24)

President, OUTLaw

I'm passionate about pursuing a career in civil legal services, particularly tenants' rights. As the President for OUTLaw I hope to foster community among Wake's LGBTQ+ students and lift up the unique perspectives we offer. Our communities are more vibrant and equitable when we all feel empowered to bring our full selves to the classroom (and the office and the courtroom).



## Ty Long (JD '24)

President, Student Bar Association

I am a proud first-generation college graduate of Duke University. I've gained a passion for trusts and estates in law school and will happily be staying in Winston-Salem after graduation to be the man with answers regarding estate planning in this great city that I've grown to love. This year, I'm serving as the Student Bar Association President, and SBA has already had some wins this year. I hope that in my role I can continue to create affordable and safe social spaces, advocate on behalf of students, and work with the administration to make Wake Forest University School of Law as amazing and welcoming for everyone as I have found it.



## Daniel Wilkes (JD '24)

Honor Council

After graduating from The Citadel, I've been pursuing my dream of becoming a public defender while at Wake Forest Law. Whether it be Honor Council, the Society for Criminal Justice Reform, or the Pro Bono Project, it is absolutely astounding the ability of law students to help their community grow, and I feel incredibly lucky to help lead those organizations. The greatest feature of Wake Forest Law is its sense of community among the student body, and the work the student body continues to do is incredible to participate in.



# Another year, another record for ALUMNI SUPPORT

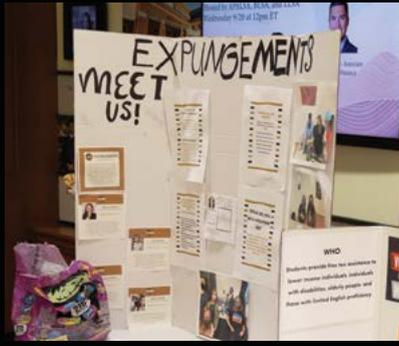


The Wake Forest Law Development department announces another record-breaking year of fundraising, raising over \$1.2M in cash for the Law School's annual fund—the third-highest-ever total in the Law School's history. Overall cash gifts—which amount to more than \$3.75M—combined with \$4.6M in pledges, resulted in a total of \$8.35M. Over \$2M was raised in new scholarship support. These numbers include 24 major gifts and 1 principal gift.

“Fiscal year 23 marked an extraordinary period of investment for the School of Law,” says Assistant Dean of Development Logan Roach ('07). “These accomplishments not only underscore our steadfast commitment to our mission of equipping our students to address legal challenges with confidence and creativity, but also highlight the remarkable philanthropic support we received in FY23 from our community of alumni and friends. Providing more access to a Wake Forest Law legal education is our principal priority here, and we take immense pride in our team's dedication and the remarkable generosity of our supporters.”

In keeping with the University's motto of *Pro Humanitate*, Wake Forest Law has continued to build on its legacy of developing not just lawyers, but “citizen lawyers,” who will have a positive impact at the local, state, national, and international levels. Thank you to our many donors and supporters for making this possible.

Philanthropic commitment from our alumni and friends is essential to our success. If you are ready to make a difference in the lives of future citizen lawyers at Wake Forest Law, our Development department is ready to meet you. Please email [lawalum@wfu.edu](mailto:lawalum@wfu.edu) for questions about contributions, pledges, and staying involved with Wake Forest Law.



# CLASSES NOTES



## DEACS DAYS OF LIVING

Wake Forest Law professors are some of the best in the nation, so it's no surprise our #LegalDeacs remember their classes fondly. Here's a snapshot of what our alumni had to say about their **favorite class** in our inaugural series, Wake Forest Law's **Deacs Days of Living**. Be on the lookout for more to come. We want to hear from you!

Trial Advocacy, our 2nd year, because we were selected for the National Trial Competition team. Reason: Met a cute guy. Been married to David Sousa > 4 decades with 2 children.

— BETTIE SOUSA (JD '81, P '10)  
Law Board of Visitors



## 1950s

**Major B. Harding ('57, JD '59)** received the Susan Rosenblatt Lifetime Achievement Award, given by the Florida Supreme Court Historical Society, in recognition of his distinguished judicial career and devotion to improving the lives of others. Harding served on Florida's Supreme Court from 1991-2002 and was chief justice from 1998-2000. He and his wife, Jane Lewis Harding ('58), have served on the historical society board of trustees for more than 25 years.

**Joe T. Millsaps ('57, JD '61)** retired from his general civil law practice, Millsaps & Bratton, after 61 years. He and his wife, Betty Reinhardt Millsaps, live in Charlotte.

## 1960s

**Dallas Clark ('65, JD '68)** wrote his second novel, "Murder at Fourth and Elm." It continues the story of "The Investigation Officer's File," his debut novel, about a case in which a Marine is convicted of charges relating to the murder of an officer by grenade, but doubt arises about his guilt. The book is based on Clark's experiences as a lawyer in the US Marines in Vietnam and Okinawa, Japan. "The Investigation Officer's File" won an honorable mention in the general fiction category of the 2022 Los Angeles Book Festival.

**Richard S. Towers (JD '68)** received the 2021 Chief Justice's Professionalism Award for his dedication to professionalism and public service from North Carolina Chief Justice Paul Newby. Towers has been an attorney in High Point, NC, since 1976.

## 1970s

**Howard Williams (JD '72, P '03)** was named to the 2022 edition of Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business in tax law. He is a partner in the Greensboro, NC, office of Brooks, Pierce, McLendon, Humphrey & Leonard LLP.

**Cecil Whitley (JD '73)** received the 2022 Citizen Lawyer Award from the North Carolina Bar Association. He received the John B. McMillan Distinguished Service Award from the North Car-



Harding  
( '57, JD '59)



Whitley  
(JD '73)



Freeman  
( '67, JD '74)



Stevenson  
(JD '79)

olina State Bar in 2016. Whitley is an attorney with Whitley, Jordan, Inge & Rary PA in Salisbury, NC, and has more than 40 years of experience in criminal, traffic and domestic law.

**William "Bill" Halsey Freeman ('67, JD '74)** was reappointed chair of the North Carolina Ethics Commission by Gov. Roy Cooper. The commission oversees the conduct of more than 7,000 legislators, judicial officers and certain state employees. Freeman served 24 years as a Superior Court judge in North Carolina before retiring. He and his wife, Corty, live in Winston-Salem.

**Charles H. Henry (JD '75)** retired after serving for 24 years as the senior resident Superior Court judge for the 4th Judicial District of North Carolina. He is now an emergency Superior Court judge. He lives in Jacksonville, NC.

**James Wiley Narron (JD '75)** received the John B. McMillan Distinguished Service Award from the North Carolina State Bar. He is senior partner with Narron Wenzel PA in Raleigh and Smithfield, NC. He has written more than 100 manuscripts and law review and journal articles for the bar and has given continuing legal education presentations across the country. He is past-chair of the board of the North Carolina Community Foundation Inc. and was selected as Citizen of the Year in 2006 by the Smithfield-Selma Chamber of Commerce.

**Richard Dewitte Sparkman (JD '75, P '99)** received the 2022 Lifetime Achievement Award from the North Carolina Bar Association's bankruptcy section. He was surprised with the award at the Annual Bankruptcy Institute at the Grandover Resort in Greensboro, NC, while he was entertaining attendees with his guitar and humor. Sparkman has practiced bankruptcy law in the US District Court for the Eastern District of North Carolina for more than 40 years and is a Chapter 7, 11 and 12 bankruptcy trustee.

**Forrest "Don" Bridges Sr. (JD '77, P '03)** received the 2020 Chief Justice's Professionalism Award for his dedication to professionalism and public service from North Carolina Chief Justice Paul Newby. Bridges is the senior resident Superior Court judge for District 27B (Cleveland and Lincoln counties).

**Gaither Keener Jr. (JD '77)** and his wife, Beverly, were named the 2022 Deacon Club Members of the Year. They have funded athletic scholarships and supported capital projects, including the Olympic Sports training room in the Miller Center and the Keener-Horn Training Room at Couch Ballpark. Gaither Keener is a past president of the Deacon Club and a past member of the School of Law Board of Visitors. He is special counsel to The McIntosh Law Firm in Lake Norman, NC, after retiring from Lowe's Companies as executive vice president, general counsel, chief compliance officer, and secretary of the board. The Keeners live in Waxhaw, NC.

**Bob Singer (JD '79)** was named to the 2022 edition of Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business in banking and finance. He is a partner in the Greensboro, NC, office of Brooks, Pierce, McLendon, Humphrey & Leonard LLP.

**Scott M. Stevenson (JD '79)** was recognized in the 2023 edition of The Best Lawyers in America in medical malpractice law — defendants and personal injury litigation — defendants. He is a partner at Shumaker, Loop & Kendrick LLP in Charlotte.

## 1980s

**Stephen "Steve" J. Owens (JD '80)** was named senior counsel at Husch Blackwell LLP in Kansas City, MO. Previously, he was general counsel of the University of Missouri System for 14 years.



**Rick Glazier (JD '81)** was named director of the Campbell University Law School's Blanchard Community Law Clinic. Glazier has been an adjunct professor at the law school for more than 30 years and was executive director of the North Carolina Justice Center. He served seven terms representing Cumberland County in the North Carolina House of Representatives.

**Rick O. Kopf (JD '81, P '09)** was recognized in the 2022 edition of Chambers USA in his practice area (real estate law). He is a founding partner and shareholder in the Dallas office of Munsch Hardt Kopf & Harr PC.

**Ted Smyth (JD '81)** was named to Business North Carolina's 2023 Legal Elite list in litigation. He is of counsel in Cranfill Sumner LLP's Raleigh office.

**David Furr ('80, JD '82)** was appointed to Atrium Health's Levine Cancer Institute Protocol Review and Monitoring Committee as the independent patient advocate for a team that oversees all new and existing trials for cancer. His experience with lymphoma is documented in a YouTube video by Kite Pharma, a division of Gilead, which calls his story one of "hope and endurance." Furr is a partner at Gray Layton Kersh Solomon Furr and

Smith PA in Gastonia, NC. The South Carolina Cybersecurity Conference has named an award for industry cybersecurity excellence in his name. See the video at [bit.ly/3fydbJr](https://bit.ly/3fydbJr).

**Gerald F. Roach ('80, JD '82, P '09, P '12, P '12)** was named to the 2022 edition of Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business in corporate/mergers and acquisitions. He is firm chair at Smith Anderson in Raleigh and past chair of Wake Forest's Board of Trustees.

**Eric R. Spence (JD '82)** was named to Business North Carolina's 2023 Legal Elite list and to the 2023 Best Lawyers in America and North Carolina Super Lawyers lists in real estate law. He is of counsel at Ragsdale Liggett PLLC in Raleigh.

**Marcia High Armstrong (JD '83)** was installed as the 88th president of the North Carolina State Bar by North Carolina Supreme Court Chief Justice Paul Newby. She is a partner at The Armstrong Law Firm

PA in Smithfield, NC. She practices with her husband, Lamar, their children, **Lamar Armstrong III (JD '11)** and **Eason Armstrong Keeney ('12, JD '15)**, and son-in-law **Daniel Keeney (JD '14)**. Their son Hinton Armstrong ('10) is a biochemical engineer.

**James "Chip" Burrus ('79, JD '83)** is vice president of corporate security at Penske Media, publisher of digital and print brands, including Variety, Rolling Stone, WWD, Billboard, Deadline Hollywood, Bollywood Life, and The Hollywood Reporter. He is based in Park City, UT.

**William Reingold (JD '83, P '19)** received a 7 Over Seventy award from the Winston-Salem Journal and Senior Services. Reingold was a judge for more than 27 years, including 15 years as chief judge of Forsyth County District Court. He started specialized courts for truancy, mental health, and juvenile drug treatment. He is board president for Temple Emanuel in Winston-Salem and a member of the Wake Forest School of Law Board of Visitors.

**Jim Phillips (JD '84)** was named to the 2022 edition of Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business in litigation: general commercial. He is a partner in the Greensboro, NC, office of Brooks, Pierce, McLendon, Humphrey & Leonard LLP.



It would be a tie between Torts with Professor Logan because of his enthusiasm and theatrics (I can still picture those long arms gesturing through the air) and Evidence with Professor Rose, in particular because of the recurring appearances by Mr. Smooth, who made his way into many hypotheticals and was frequently anything but smooth. Another great memory is the library in Carswell Hall. That was an old-school law library if there ever was one.

— EDWIN WILLIAMSON (JD/MBA '89)  
General Council Advisory Committee



I was absolutely crazy about Torts and loved Professor David Logan!! No doubt the crossover with medical (earlier career for me) was part of the attraction. But just loved the whole flow of the five elements, duty, breach, actual cause, proximate cause, and damages. Sounds a bit nerdy, I know!

— ANNAMARIE D'SOUZA (JD '91, MBA '00)  
Law Board of Visitors

**Mike Mitchell ('86, JD '89, P '18)** was named to the 2022 edition of Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business in litigation: general commercial. He is an attorney at Smith Anderson in Raleigh.

**Susan F. Wiltsie (JD '89)** was named one of Virginia Lawyer Weekly's 2022 Influential Women of Law. She is a partner in the Washington, DC, office of Hunton Andrews Kurth. She focuses on labor, employment and OSHA compliance, pandemic preparedness and response, litigation, and defense.

## 1990s

**Andrew Avram ('82, JD '90)** was named to the 2023 edition of The Best Lawyers in America in workers' compensation law, employers. He is a partner at Cranfill Sumner LLP in Charlotte.

**Forrest Campbell (JD '90, P '14)** was named to the 2022 edition of Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business in healthcare law. He

**David D. Daggett (JD '85)** competed in the Ironman 70.3 World Championship, a half Ironman (1.2-mile swim, 56-mile bike ride and 13.1-mile run), in St. George, UT. He finished first in his age group (over 60) in the Ironman Executive Challenge. The same month, he competed in the iconic Hawaii World Triathlon Championships (2.4-mile swim, 112-mile bike ride and 26.2-mile run) for the ninth time. Daggett is managing partner of Daggett Shuler Attorneys at Law in Winston-Salem.

**James K. Pryor (JD '85)** is in his fifth year working for Diamond Communications, a wireless infrastructure company, in Springfield, NJ. He handles site acquisition and development. He also maintains a limited private practice in Randolph, NJ. He and his wife, Jennifer Robinson Pryor, live in Mine Hill, NJ. His daughter, Alice, is a music teacher, and his son, Patrick, attends County College of Morris.

**Robert Griffin ('83, JD '86)** was named to the 2023 edition of The Best Lawyers in America in insurance litigation. He is a partner at Cranfill Sumner LLP in Raleigh.

**J. Kevin Moore (JD '86)** was named to the 2022 Northern California Super Lawyers list for construction litigation. He is an attorney at Bold, Polisner, Maddow, Nelson & Judson in Walnut Creek, CA.

**Paul T. Flick ('83, JD '86)** was one of 13 lawyers in the state named to the 2023 North Carolina Super Lawyers list for alternative dispute resolution. He is the principal at Flick Dispute Resolution and practices law with Miller, Monroe & Plyler PLLC

in Raleigh. He was also named to Business North Carolina's 2023 Legal Elite list in litigation.

**Bob King (JD '88)** was named to the 2022 edition of Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business in environmental law. He is a partner in the Greensboro, NC, office of Brooks, Pierce, McLendon, Humphrey & Leonard LLP.



My favorite class at Wake Forest was Unfair Trade Practices with Guy Blynn (an adjunct professor). He used colorful and real-life examples from his in-house legal work in combination with the textbook and additional materials to help ingrain the concepts and legal principles in my mind. This encouraged me to pursue a legal career in intellectual property.

— JEFFREY WHITTLE (JD/MBA '91, P '23)  
Law Board of Visitors



is a partner in the Greensboro, NC, office of Brooks, Pierce, McLendon, Humphrey & Leonard LLP.

**Patrick Flanagan (JD '90)** was named to Business North Carolina's 2023 Legal Elite list in employment law. He was also named Lawyer of the Year in insurance litigation and municipal litigation in the Charlotte area in the 2023 edition of The Best Lawyers in America. He is a partner at Cranfill Sumner LLP in Charlotte.

**Scott F. Wyatt ('88, JD '91)** was recognized in the 2023 edition of The Best Lawyers in America. He is partner and head of the litigation practice group at Wyatt Early Harris Wheeler in High Point, NC.

**Timothy P. Veith (JD '91)** joined the Atlanta office of Adams and Reese LLP as special counsel in the corporate services, transactions group.

**Steve Levin (JD '92)** joined Steptoe & Johnson LLP in Washington, DC, as senior counsel in the independent & internal investigations and white-collar defense practice groups. He was recognized as a top 25 criminal lawyer in Maryland by The Daily Record's 2022 Criminal Law Power List.

**Nick Valaoras ('89, JD '92)** was named to the 2023 edition of The Best Lawyers in America in workers' compensation law, employers. He is a partner at Cranfill Sumner LLP in Charlotte.

**David J. Shipley (JD '93)** was admitted as a fellow of the American College of Tax Counsel. He is a shareholder at Stevens & Lee in Princeton, NJ, and co-chair of the firm's state and local tax group.

**Bruce Thompson ('88, JD '94)** was recognized by Best Lawyers in America in administrative/regulatory law and government relations practice. He is a partner at Parker Poe Adams & Bernstein LLP in the Washington, DC, and Raleigh offices. He is an adjunct professor at Wake Forest School of Law.

**Jennifer Van Zant (JD '94)** was named to the 2022 edition of Chambers USA: America's Leading

Lawyers for Business in antitrust law. She is a partner in the Greensboro, NC, office of Brooks, Pierce, McLendon, Humphrey & Leonard LLP.

**Curtis Brewer (JD '95)** was named to the 2022 edition of Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business in banking and finance. He is a partner at Smith Anderson in Raleigh.

**Dawn M. Dillon (JD '95)** was elected the first female managing partner at Raleigh-based Young Moore and Henderson PA. She is a shareholder at Young Moore and co-chairs the compensation and employment law group. She joined Young Moore in 1996 and has been recognized in The Best Lawyers in America and Business North Carolina's Legal Elite.

**Robert "Bob" Ramseur ('92, JD '95, P '23)** was named to the 2023 edition of The Best Lawyers in America in real estate law for the 11th consecutive year, the 2023 North Carolina Super Lawyers list in real estate law for the 10th consecutive year, and Business North Carolina's 2023 Legal Elite list

for the 17th consecutive year. He is a partner at Ragsdale Liggett PLLC in Raleigh.

**Tricia Goodson ('92, JD '96)** was named to the 2022 edition of Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business in labor and employment law. She is a partner in the Raleigh office of Brooks, Pierce, McLendon, Humphrey & Leonard LLP.

**Robert "Bert" C. Kemp III (JD '96)** received a Professionalism Award from North Carolina Supreme Court Chief Justice Paul Newby during an event with the North Carolina State Bar and North Carolina Bar Association. Kemp is chief public defender in Pitt County. He is also an adjunct professor at Campbell University's Norman Adrian Wiggins School of Law and a state military judge in the North Carolina National Guard.

**Michele Stoddard Settle (JD '96)** was promoted to deputy general counsel of employment at Truist, where she oversees the employment and benefits law team. She is based in Richmond, VA.



Professor Suzanne Reynold's Family Law class was one of my favorites. Her caring and friendly demeanor was refreshing, her lessons so clear and practical, and there was a project final instead of a test!

— ANN MADDOX UTTERBACK (JD '93)  
Law Board of Visitors



**Harvey**  
(JD/MBA '97)



**Quander**  
( '95, JD '98)



**Hunt**  
(JD '99)



**Rubain**  
(JD '99)



**Shuirman**  
(JD '99)



Watch as Dean Klein reflects on the Wake Forest Law community that he's proud to join.

[wfu.law/LawCommunity](http://wfu.law/LawCommunity)

## DEACS DAYS OF LIVING 2024



Get your thinking top hats on and be ready for next year's Deacs Days of Living prompt:

**What is one of the most meaningful connections you made during law school?**

Wake Forest Law's Marketing and Communications will send an email calling for experiences and photos later next year, but you can also submit early at

[LAWCOMM@WFU.EDU](mailto:LAWCOMM@WFU.EDU)

Submit your Class Notes to be featured in both the Wake Forest Magazine and the Jurist:

### Email:

[classnotes@wfu.edu](mailto:classnotes@wfu.edu)

### Online:

[magazine.wfu.edu/class-notes/submit](http://magazine.wfu.edu/class-notes/submit)

### Standard Mail:

Class Notes Editor  
Wake Forest Magazine  
PO Box 7205  
Winston-Salem, NC 27109-7205

**Rick Wallace (JD '96)** was promoted to managing director at private equity firm The Carlyle Group, where he is global head of investment valuations. He and his wife, Lynda Boggs, live in Arlington, VA, with their blended family of four teenagers.

**William "Bill" Barrett (JD '97)** joined Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati in Boulder, CO, as a partner in the patents and innovations department. He has more than two decades of experience in technology and intellectual property law.

**Jeffrey M. Harvey (JD/MBA '97)** joined law firm Clark Hill PLC as a member in its corporate practice group in Dallas. He advises clients in mergers and acquisitions, joint ventures and strategic partnerships, private equity financing, startup funding and venture capital, technology and licensing transactions, and franchising and dealership relationships.

**Dan Katzenbach (JD '97)** was named to Business North Carolina's 2023 Legal Elite list in construction law. He is a partner in Cranfill Sumner LLP's Raleigh office.

**Heather H. Szajda ('94, JD '97)** was named to Virginia Business magazine's 2022 Legal Elite list for taxes, trusts and estates and to the 2022 edition of The Best Lawyers in America for trusts and estates. She is a partner at Virginia Estate & Trust Law PLC in Richmond, VA.

**Tom Langan (JD '98)** was reelected to his second term as District Court judge in Surry and Stokes (NC) counties. He was certified as a juvenile court judge in 2022. He is also a North Carolina State Bar councilor. He lives in Pilot Mountain, NC, with his wife, Jennifer, and stepson, Tyler.

**James E. Quander ('95, JD '98)** joined the Winston-Salem office of law firm Womble Bond Dickinson as of counsel. He is a North Carolina board-certified specialist in state and federal criminal law. His practice focuses on complex criminal litigation and white-collar cases. He has tried more than 50

jury cases in the last five years and regularly appears in courts throughout the Southeast.

**Coe Ramsey (JD '98)** was named to the 2022 edition of Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business in intellectual property. He is a partner in the Raleigh office of Brooks, Pierce, McLendon, Humphrey & Leonard LLP.

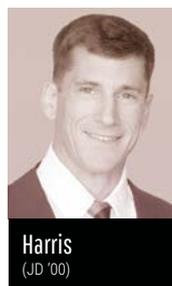
**Kenneth R. Hunt (JD '99)** was named to the 2023 edition of The Best Lawyers in America in insurance law. He is a partner at Roberts & Stevens in Asheville, NC.

**Andrew Lampros (JD '99)** has an active trial and litigation practice at Hall & Lampros LLP in Atlanta. He represented the family of a Black man killed by a Georgia state trooper in 2020 and negotiated a \$4.8 million settlement between the man's family and the state, a record civil rights settlement with the state of Georgia.

**Patti West Ramseur (JD '99)** was named president-elect of the North Carolina Bar Association and the North Carolina Bar Foundation, and chair of the audit and finance committee of both organizations. She will be installed in 2023 as the 129th president of the NCBA and NCBF. Ramseur is a partner at the employment law firm Ramseur Maultsby LLP in Greensboro, NC.

**Stacey Rubain (JD '99)** joined the Office of the Federal Public Defender in Greensboro, NC, as an assistant federal public defender. For 17 years, she was the managing partner of a small law firm in Winston-Salem. She is a North Carolina board-certified specialist in state and federal criminal law. She serves on the Indigent Defense Services Commission and the Criminal Justice Council of the North Carolina Bar Association.

**Ryan Shuirman (JD '99)** joined Cranfill Sumner LLP as a partner in the Raleigh office. He has more than 23 years of litigation experience in medical malpractice law, representing physicians and hospitals.



## 2000s

**Sarah Villani Davis (JD/MBA '00)** is senior vice president of the University Partnership Group at Learfield. She received the 2022 Sports Business Journal Game Changers Award that recognizes innovators and trailblazers in the sports industry. She and her husband, Peter Davis (MBA '98), and son, Landon, live in Dallas.

**Jason Harris (JD '00)** was named to the 2023 North Carolina Super Lawyers list in transportation/maritime law. He is a partner at Cranfill Sumner LLP in Wilmington, NC.

**Gretchen Hollar Kirkman (JD '00)** was appointed by North Carolina Gov. Roy Cooper as a district court judge in District 17B for Surry and Stokes counties. She was in private practice in Mount Airy, NC.

**Beth Mabe Gianopulos (JD '01)** joined the Salem Academy and College Board of Trustees. She is senior associate general counsel at Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist and associate dean of faculty relations and retention at Wake Forest School of Medicine. She is also an assistant professor at the medical school and an adjunct professor at Wake Forest School of Law. Before joining Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist in 2006, she was the first general counsel and chief planning officer at Salem Academy and College. She received her undergraduate degree in chemistry from Salem College in 1997.

**James "Jim" E. Hickmon (JD '01)** was named to the 2023 North Carolina Super Lawyers list in estate planning and probate and estate and trust litigation. He was also recognized by Martindale Hubbell as an AV Preeminent peer-rated lawyer and by Business North Carolina in its Legal Elite listing. He is firm principal at North Carolina Estate Planning & Fiduciary Law in Charlotte. Hickmon

is also an adjunct professor at the Wake Forest School of Law, where he teaches wealth transfer and fiduciary income taxation of trusts and estates.

**Missy Sumerell Spainhour (JD '01)** joined Constangy, Brooks, Smith & Prophete LLP as a partner in the Asheville, NC, office. She has more than 20 years of experience in labor and employment law.

**Laura Huntingdon Budd (JD '02)** was elected to a two-year term in the North Carolina House of Representatives to represent District 103, which includes South Charlotte and Matthews.

**Richard Dietz (JD '02)** was elected associate justice of the North Carolina Supreme Court. Previ-

ously, he served on the North Carolina Court of Appeals. His wife, Kelley Wilson Dietz ('02), joined the development office at UNC-Chapel Hill. She was director for presidential operations at William Peace University. They live in Raleigh.

**Brad Evans ('98, JD '02)** was named to Business North Carolina's 2022 Power List for the second consecutive year. He is a co-managing director at Ward and Smith PA in Greenville, NC. He specializes in civil litigation, trade-secret misappropriation, intellectual property infringement, corporate dissolution, and antitrust disputes.

**Todd King ('98, JD '02)** was named to the 2023 edition of The Best Lawyers in America in personal



My favorite two professors were Tim Davis and Alan Palmiter. [My favorite] class was probably Corporations with Alan Palmiter because it introduced me to the interplay between securities and tax law. Entrepreneurs are always tasked with forming a company and revisiting entity choice as they grow. 20 years later I work with 90% business owners and still rely on the fundamentals that I learned from that course. It also inspired me to continue my education and get my LL.M. in securities and financial regulation from Georgetown University Law Center.

— JAMES BRENNAN (JD '03)

injury litigation, defendants. He is a partner at Cranfill Sumner LLP in Charlotte.

**Kelly Motycka Otis (JD '02)** was named partner at Akerman LLP in its real estate practice group in Winston-Salem. She has experience in commercial real estate, community development, and data center development.

**Walter W. "Trip" Baker III (JD '03)** was appointed a District Court judge in Judicial District 18, serving Guilford County, by North Carolina Gov. Roy Cooper. He was an assistant district attorney in Guilford County.

**T.L. Brown ('99, JD '03, MBA '08)** was named chief fiduciary and planning officer at Members Trust Co. He lives in Winston-Salem.

**William "Bill" Bulfer (JD '03)** was admitted to the American College of Coverage Counsel, an invitation-only organization of senior lawyers who have devoted most of their practice to insurance disputes for 15 years or more. Bulfer is a partner at Teague Campbell Dennis & Gorham LLP in Asheville, NC, where he co-chairs the insurance coverage services group.



**Bosco**  
(JD '04)



**Dunn**  
(JD '04)



**Kelly**  
(JD '04)



**Hurley**  
(03, JD '06)



**Malone**  
(03, MSA '04, JD '07)

**Brys Stephens (JD/MBA '03)** founded Brothers Gerard Baking Co., a Charleston, SC-based brand of frozen biscuits and scones that are available online and in grocery stores including Kroger, The Fresh Market, and Earth Fare. He developed the brand in 2020 to offer breads and pastries made with simple ingredients and no artificial ones.

**John Bosco (JD '04)** was recognized in the 2022 Lawdragon 500 Leading Corporate Employment Lawyers guide. He is a partner at Bailey Brauer PLLC in Dallas, and represents clients in labor, employment, and accessibility matters.

**Amanda Branam Dunn (JD '04)** was appointed a criminal court judge in the 11th Judicial District in Hamilton County, TN, by Gov. Bill Lee. She was an attorney at Houston & Alexander PLLC in Chattanooga, TN, handling state and federal criminal defense cases.

**Gabrielle "Gabi" Kelly (JD '04)** joined leadership search firm Coleman Lew Canny Bowen in Charlotte as an executive search consultant. She recruits officers and senior level executives for companies, academic institutions, and nonprofit organizations. Previously she was an assistant district attorney for 17 years in the Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Office.

**Sally Kirby Turner (JD '04)** was appointed a Superior Court judge in Judicial District 27B, serving Cleveland and Lincoln counties, by North Carolina Gov. Roy Cooper. She was an assistant district attorney in those counties.

**Vincent Guglielmotti (JD '05)** was elected CEO of Brown Rudnick LLP and chair of the firm's management committee. He is a tax partner in the New York office and was previously managing director of the corporate and capital markets department. At 41, he is the youngest partner to serve as CEO.

**Randall Perry (JD '05)** was designated a board certified specialist in residential real property law by the North Carolina State Bar. He is managing attorney with The Law Offices of Randall L. Perry PLLC, a real-estate law firm in Winston-Salem.

**Stacy K. Hurley ('03, JD '06)** joined Barton Gilman LLP in Providence, RI, as an associate. She represents physicians, hospitals, and health care providers in civil litigation.

**Linda M. Malone ('03, MSA '04, JD '07)** became a shareholder in the law firm of Howard, Stallings, From, Atkins, Angell & Davis PA in New Bern, NC. She was named to Business North Carolina's Legal Elite list for tax and estate planning.



I went to law school knowing exactly what I wanted to do (spoiler alert, I am not doing that anymore) so every class outside that area was like an elective—fascinating but nothing I needed to worry about for long. Several classes really stuck with me though, and special moments in those classes. Prof. Wilson Parker's constitutional law class with the Swiss cheese analogy will always be stuck in my head! And of course our depictions of Palsgraf in Prof. Taylor's class! But it was Prof. Peeples' negotiation class that I enjoyed the most. It was my first taste of what a career in the law would look like for me.

— **CLARA COTTRELL (JD '07)**  
General Counsel Advisory Committee



**Munroe**  
(’03, JD ’09)



**Simmons**  
(JD ’10)



**Bell**  
(JD ’12)



**Douglass**  
(JD ’12)



**Clark**  
(JD ’13)



**Corriveau**  
(JD ’13)



**Fourmy**  
(JD ’13)

**Anna Warburton Munroe (’03, JD ’09)** was named a 2023 North Carolina Super Lawyer. She was also recognized in The Best Lawyers in America in family law for the sixth consecutive year. She is a shareholder in Allman Spry Davis Leggett & Crumpler PA in Winston-Salem.

**Frank E. Schall (JD ’09)** was selected as one of Law360’s Rising Stars in the white collar category. He is a member at Moore & Van Allen in Charlotte.

## 2010s

**Jerri Simmons (JD ’10)** was recognized as a Rising Star in workers’ compensation in the 2023 edition of North Carolina Super Lawyers. She is a partner at Cranfill Sumner LLP in Charlotte.

**Jason Benetti (JD ’11)** joined FOX sports as a play-by-play announcer. He spent 11 years with ESPN calling college football and basketball, MLB, NFL, and NBA games. Benetti has been the voice of the Chicago White Sox since 2016. He lives in Chicago.

**Erin Marie Tanner Choi (’08, JD ’11)** was recognized in the 2023 edition of Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch in America in commercial litigation. She is counsel at Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP in Dallas.

**Peter H. Ledford (JD ’11)** was appointed North Carolina clean energy director by Gov. Roy Cooper. He was general counsel and director of policy at the North Carolina Sustainable Energy Association.

**Stephen J. Bell (JD ’12)** was featured in a Washington Post article in October 2022 about his representation of a whistleblower who exposed alleged securities violations involving Trump Media & Technology Group Corp. Bell is a partner in the white collar, government investigations, and

special matters group at Cranfill Sumner LLP in Wilmington, NC.

**Scott M. Douglass (JD ’12)** joined the law firm Baker Donelson as a shareholder in the intellectual property group in Memphis, TN.

**Sarah Riedl Clark (JD ’13)** joined Kaufman Dolo-wich as a partner in its insurance coverage and litigation practice group in Chicago.

**Steven Corriveau (JD ’13)** has been named shareholder in the Raleigh law firm Martin & Jones PLLC. Since joining the firm in 2015, he has focused on representing workers injured on the job. He has been recognized in The Best Lawyers in America and as a Rising Star in North Carolina Super Lawyers.

**Perrin B. Fourmy (JD ’13)** was elected a partner at Bell Nunnally & Martin LLP, a Dallas-based law firm. He practices civil litigation in state and federal matters.

**Alex Ingle (JD ’13)** joined Westmount Realty Capital, a commercial real estate investment firm in Dallas, as senior legal counsel. He lives in Arlington, TX.

**Thomas S. Lambert (JD ’13)** was named to the 2023 edition of The Best Lawyers in America: Ones to Watch for the third consecutive year in commercial litigation, litigation—construction and product liability litigation—defendants. He is a member at Pullman & Comley LLC in Bridgeport, CT, where he represents businesses, individuals, fiduciaries and municipalities in state and federal courts and Connecticut’s Probate Courts. He was elected to the Representative Town Meeting of Fairfield, CT, in 2021.

**Caitlin Vamvakaris Woolford (JD ’14)** was promoted to of counsel in the Charlotte office of Mayer Brown LLP, where she focuses on banking and finance.

**Clay Armentrout (JD ’15)** was named chief of staff for US Sen. Katie Britt, R-Ala. Previously, he oversaw Alabama US Sen. Richard Shelby’s legislative staff. Armentrout is a native of Alabama.

**Heidi Muller Hoover (JD ’15)** was promoted to senior manager of operations at CT Assist LLC, a health care staffing company specializing in cardiac surgery providers. She lives in Dayton, VA.

**Benjamin “Ben” Winikoff (’11, JD ’15)** was one of 25 young professionals to receive the Winston Under 40 Leadership Award from Greater Winston-Salem Inc. He is a partner attorney at Elliot Morgan Parsonage PLLC in Winston-Salem. His civil litigation practice focuses on employment law, workers’ compensation and personal injury. He is an adjunct professor at Wake Forest School of Law and a captain in the US Army Reserve Judge Advocate General Corps.



I really loved Products Liability with Michael Green. It was a small class, no computers (only paper), and it was a very engaging style of teaching/dialogue.

— JORDAN DONGELL  
(JD ’15)



**Lambert**  
(JD '13)



**Winikoff**  
(‘11, JD ‘15)



**Holloway**  
(JD '16)



**Grace**  
(JD '16)



**Readling**  
(JD '16)



**Benavides**  
(JD/MBA '17)

**Rolf Garcia-Gallont (JD '16)** is associate general counsel at PSPDFKit. He lives in Winston-Salem.

**Michael "Mike" Grace (JD '16)** was one of 25 young professionals to receive the Winston Under 40 Leadership Award from Greater Winston-Salem Inc. He is an associate at Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton LLP in Winston-Salem. He was recognized in the 2023 edition of The Best Lawyers in America: Ones to Watch in banking and finance law and corporate law.

**Heather Higgins (JD '16)** joined Patrick, Harper & Dixon LLP in Hickory, NC, as an associate attorney practicing civil litigation, family law, and criminal law. She is originally from Hickory and lives in near-by Newton, NC, with her husband and their two children and rescue dachshund.

**Caleb J. Holloway (JD '16)** received the Julius L. Chambers Diversity Champion Award from the Mecklenburg County (NC) Bar. He is associate general counsel for Atrium Health, where he focuses on labor and employment matters. He helped establish Atrium Health's disability resource group, A4A Accessibility for All, and co-chairs the Charlotte Legal Diversity Clerkship program for the Mecklenburg County Bar.

**Timothy J. Reading (JD '16)** was named to the Rising Stars list in the 2023 edition of North Carolina Super Lawyers in civil litigation and general litigation. He is managing attorney at Davis & Davis, Attorneys at Law PC, in Salisbury, NC, and vice president of the North Carolina State Bar Judicial District 27 (Rowan County) Bar.

**Luis F. Benavides Jr. (JD/MBA '17)** was named to the Hispanic National Bar Association's Top Lawyers Under 40 list. He is a debt finance lawyer at McGuireWoods LLP in Charlotte, where he represents lenders and borrowers in finance transactions.

**Caitlin A. Stone (JD '17)** joined Young Moore and Henderson PA in Raleigh as an associate attorney.



My favorite law school class was Contracts with Professor Davis. After studying Economics as an undergraduate, the concepts were the most familiar in a sea of unfamiliarity. Professor Davis taught us to meticulously study the uniform commercial code and its comments and the nuances of case and common law principles. As a result of taking Contracts with Professor Davis, I am a more thoughtful, analytical, and well-reasoned advocate. I would also like to believe that I am now skilled at analyzing complex multiple choice questions.

— ALAN BOWIE (JD '16)

Such a tough time nailing down just one [class]! My favorite class was Securities Regulation with Professor Palmiter. Working with classmates (some of which became colleagues) to navigate a difficult and oftentimes dense area of the law was a fantastic experience. I would be remiss if I didn't mention my M&A class with Professor Gyves as well. The practical aspects of that class were tremendously beneficial for those going into corporate law!

— MICHAEL JOHNSON (JD '19)

Rose Council



**Earl Storrs III (JD '18)** joined Barclay Damon LLP as an associate in Rochester, NY. He focuses on insurance coverage disputes and products liability defense matters.

## 2020s



Tax with Prof. Morrow because she's such an incredible & enthusiastic teacher!!

— NICK PAPPAYLIOU  
(JD '20)

Environmental Law with Scott Schang! Thought provoking and useful group work.

— KATIE OTTERBECK  
(JD '21)



My favorite class was Secured Transactions. When I started law school I felt lost and often felt like law was not for me. I felt like there was no place for me in the field. When I took Secured Transactions, my hope was renewed. It was a course that I enjoyed a lot, I was able to apply knowledge from my background in data analysis in that class, and from that moment moving forward I understood that law is a field wide enough to accommodate all interests, and no matter how long it takes you'll find your place.

— OCEANE TANNY (JD '23)

**Lauren Green (JD '21)** joined Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP as an associate in the litigation practice group in Dallas. In law school, she was an articles editor for the Wake Forest Journal of Law & Policy and vice president of the Women in Law organization.

**Zach Hutchinson (JD '21)** joined the law office of Alexander Ricks in Charlotte as an associate attorney. He focuses on mergers and acquisitions, corporate finance, and corporate lending.

**Patrick "Cade" Spivey (JD '21)** joined Boyd & Jenerette PA as an associate attorney in the Jacksonville, FL, office. He earned his undergraduate degree from the US Naval Academy and was a US Navy surface warfare officer.

**Maria Aguilera (JD '22)** joined Cranfill Sumner LLP in Charlotte as a civil litigation associate attorney. She was president of the Latinx Law Student Association at Wake Forest and founded the school's first Latinx scholarship for incoming students.

**Samantha Jenkins (JD '22)** joined Roberts & Stevens PA in Asheville, NC, as an associate attorney, concentrating in corporate and employment law. At Wake Forest, she was managing editor of the Journal of Law & Policy and provided legal services to assist small businesses, nonprofits, and startups through the Community Law & Business Clinic.

**Rachel Ormand Laughery (JD '22)** joined Young Moore and Henderson PA in Raleigh as an associate on the transportation and logistics team, concentrating on trucking accidents and litigation. At Wake Forest, she was an executive editor of the Journal of Law & Policy and participated in the Appellate Advocacy Clinic.

## Marriages

**Jay D. Hockenbury (JD '72)** and Elizabeth Cameron, 5/21/22 in Wilmington, NC, where they live.

**Jasmine Michelle Pitt ('12, JD '15)** and **Brandon Kenneth Jones (JD '15)**, 8/27/22 in Winston-Salem. They live in Greensboro, NC. The wedding party included Breonna Hammond (JD '15), Eric Jones (JD '17), Alison Lester (JD '15) and Hannah Nicholes Rahimzadeh (JD '15).

**Caitlin Rebecca Herlihy ('17, JD '20)** and Harris Walker Hickman ('17, MSA '18), 8/28/21 in Charlotte, where they live. The wedding party included Nikiar Ahmadi ('17), Hannah Carter (JD '20), Kellie Geisel ('17), Kylie Hamilton (JD '20), John "Daniel" Herlihy IV ('11), Sally Hunt ('17), Katherine Kacsur (JD/MA '20) and Samantha Moench (JD '20).

**Parks Noyes ('15, JD '21)** and Casey Orr ('14) 10/1/22 in Emerald Isle, NC. They live in Charlotte. The wedding party included Griffin Brumbaugh ('15) and Amalia Klinck-Shearman ('14).

**Ashley Julianne Williams (JD '22)** and Winston Robert Kimmel, 8/27/22 in Raleigh, where they live. The mother of the groom is Susan Crockett Batson Kimmel ('81).

## Births

**William "Will" P. Dickinson III ('07, JD '10)** and Angela Peay Dickinson, Richmond, VA: a son, Anthony Myers. 2/22. He joined his brother, William IV (3).

**Judith Haensel Whelan (LLM '08, JD '10)** and Matthew Whelan, Charlotte: a son, Samuel Felix. 6/10/22. He joined his sister, Sophie (4).

**Kelley Chan Gass (JD '13)** and **Matthew Gass (JD '13)**, Atlanta: a daughter, Sophie Grace. 10/17/22. She joined her brother, Noah James (3).

**Benjamin Winikoff ('11, JD '15)** and Holley Nelson Winikoff ('11, MSA '12), Winston-Salem: a daughter, Mary Ella. 8/1/22. She joined her sister, Lindley (3).

**Wes Harty (JD '17)** and **Rachel Raimondi (JD '17)**, New York: a daughter, Fiona Vittoria Eloise Raimhart. 10/9/22. She joined her brother, Finnegan (2).

## Deaths

**Ernest "Bud" Morton Jr. ('50, JD '53)**, March 10, 2022, Albemarle, NC. He served in the US Army Air Corps. He practiced law in Albemarle for 59 years and was legal counsel to the Stanley County (NC) Board of Education for 20 years. He started running at age 51 and completed his last marathon when he was 78. He carried the Olympic torch before the 1996 Olympic Games in Atlanta. He received the Order of the Long Leaf Pine from then-North Carolina Gov. Beverly Perdue. He was preceded in death by his wife, Joann G. Morton ('53).

**John Cornelius Riggs ('52, JD '56)**, July 28, 2022, High Point, NC. He served in the US Navy. He was an attorney in High Point for 61 years until retiring at age 90, and president and secretary of the 18th Judicial Bar Association. He was president of the High Point Civitan Club and was named Civitan of the Year in 1982. He was preceded in death by his wife, Fern Tharrington Riggs ('56). Survivors include daughters Beth Batchelor ('82) and Rebecca Lockhart ('84), son-in-law Bob Batchelor (MBA '82) and granddaughter **Katharine Batchelor (JD '21)**.

**Philip Tracy Wall (JD '56)**, Aug. 29, 2022, Greensboro, NC. He served in the US Air Force and the US Air Force Reserve and was an attorney in Greensboro. He was a past president of the Greensboro Lions Club and received the highest award given by Lions International, the Melvin Jones Award.

**Arch E. Lynch ('52, JD '57)**, Aug. 31, 2022, Pinehurst, NC. He played baseball at Wake Forest and practiced law in Raleigh until retiring from Poyner Spruill LLP.

**Jack H. Morton (JD '59)**, May 5, 2022, Savannah, GA. He served in the US Army and was the chief regional counsel for the criminal tax division of the IRS.

**Ronald Conrad Dilthey ('57, JD '60)**, March 26, 2022, Raleigh. He was a member of Kappa Sigma fraternity at Wake Forest and the Southerners Dance Band, a group of students who played around the state. He served in the US Army in the Military Police Corps. He was a trial attorney at Patterson Dilthey LLP in Raleigh and an adjunct professor at Campbell University School of Law.

He was vice president of the board of governors of the North Carolina Bar Association and a Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers. He gathered twice annually with a group of lawyers and judges from Wake Forest, called the "Wake Forest Fishing Team," to fish, eat, and swap stories. He took annual reunion trips back to the original campus with his Kappa Sigma brothers. Survivors include his wife, Shirley Burrus Dilthey ('57). He was preceded in death by daughter Lauren Dilthey Sink ('92).

**D. Lamar Dowda ('58, JD '60)**, June 19, 2022, Asheville, NC. He was a paratrooper in the US Army. He was an attorney in Greensboro, NC, and former district attorney of Guilford County (NC).

**Robert "Kason" Keiger (JD '60)**, Dec. 14, 2022, Lake Norman, NC. He was a Forsyth County (NC) District Court judge for 20 years. A courtroom in the Forsyth County Hall of Justice is named for him. He was preceded in death by his second wife, Ann Williams Keiger ('79). Survivors include stepdaughter DD Thornton Kenny ('81).

**Emil F. "Jim" Kratt ('58, JD '61)**, May 1, 2022, Charlotte. He was a lawyer for over 50 years and president of the North Carolina State Bar. Survivors include son **Bill Kratt ('84, JD '87)**, daughter Laura Kratt ('85), and sister, Toni Kratt (JD '74).

**William "Bill" Lee Powell Jr. ('58, JD '61)**, March 11, 2022, Greenville, NC. He served in the US Army and practiced real estate law for 44 years in Goldsboro, NC. He was preceded in death by his father, William Lee Powell Sr. ('27), and sister, Jo Anne Powell Crawford ('56).

**Peter Driscoll (JD '63)**, May 27, 2022, Milwaukee. He was an artist in Winston-Salem, where he studied engraving under Wake Forest Professor David Faber, and in Columbia, SC. He was chosen by US Sen. Richard Burr ('78) of North Carolina to paint the state's ornament for the White House Christmas tree in 2008. He also created a sculpture for Centenary United Methodist Church in Winston-Salem. He was recognized by the New Bern (NC) Historic Restoration Commission for his leadership of downtown redevelopment.

**Robert “Bob” Cecil Hedrick (‘58, JD ‘63)**, Sept. 3, 2022, Lexington, NC. He was president of Kappa Alpha fraternity at Wake Forest and served in the US Army. He practiced law for over 50 years and was the attorney for Davidson County and Davidson County Community College. He was president of the Kiwanis Club, chair of the March of Dimes and Jaycee Man of the Year. Survivors include his wife, Jane Aycock Hedrick (‘58), daughters **Laura Lucile “Laura Lu” Hedrick (‘83, JD ‘86)** and Martha Delia “Mardee” Johnson (‘85), and grandchildren Baily Johnson (‘18) and Taylor Jane Johnson (‘20).

**Bob W. Bowers (‘62, JD ‘64)**, Sept. 12, 2022, Lexington, NC. He practiced law for nearly 50 years, including with his law school classmate **Skip Stoner Jr. (JD ‘64)** at Stoner Bowers & Gray PA in Lexington.

**Robert “Bob” L. Harris Sr. (JD ‘64)**, March 2, 2023, Williamsburg, VA. He served in the US Army Judge Advocate General’s Corps. He was a circuit court judge in Richmond, VA, and a mediator at the McCammon Group.

**Jack Grady Monday (JD ‘64)**, Nov. 24, 2022, Martinsville, VA. He and his late wife, **Frances Helms Monday (JD ‘65)**, practiced law together for almost four decades.

**Arthur John Redden Jr. (JD ‘64)**, Sept. 1, 2022, Hendersonville, NC. He served in the US Army as a military police officer at the Brandenburg Gate in Berlin. He was an attorney for 45 years.

**Larry Eugene Harris (JD ‘65)**, Dec. 5, 2022, Concord, NC. He served in the US Marine Corps and practiced law in Cabarrus County (NC) for 51 years.

**Joshua J. Morton Jr. (‘63, JD ‘66)**, April 6, 2022, Albemarle, NC. He was an attorney in Stanly County (NC) for 56 years and the county attorney for years. He was on the Stanly County school board and board of commissioners.

**Wade “Leon” Davis (JD ‘67)**, Dec. 19, 2022, Lancaster, SC. He graduated from the US Naval Academy and served in the US Navy in the West Pacific in the early 1960s. He practiced law in Charlotte.

**Charles “Mac” McFarland Hunter (JD ‘67)**, Nov. 11, 2022, Wilmington, NC. He served in the US Army Reserve. He practiced law at his own firm for 50 years and was town attorney for Erwin, NC, for

30 years. He received the Order of the Long Leaf Pine, North Carolina’s highest award for service.

**Herbert Taylor Mullen Jr. (JD ‘67)**, Sept. 13, 2022, Elizabeth City, NC. He was a “country lawyer” in Elizabeth City, Camden County, and attorney and counsel for Albemarle Regional Health Services.

**William “Bill” Grady IJames Jr. (‘63, JD ‘68)**, Feb. 17, 2023, Mocksville, NC. He served in the US Army during the Vietnam War and was a lawyer and District Court judge.

**William “Kelly” Johnson (JD ‘68)**, April 18, 2022, Montezuma, NC. He served in the US Army and was an attorney in Newland, NC. Survivors include son Jamie Johnson (‘92) and daughter Paula Johnson Swindle (‘95).

**Samuel Latham Whitehurst Jr. (‘66, JD ‘69)**, Oct. 16, 2022, Clayton, NC. He practiced law in New Bern, NC, for many years.

**Richard Gordon (‘67, JD ‘70)**, Dec. 3, 2022, Matthews, NC. He was a judge advocate general in the US Marine Corps. He was a partner at the Dozier Miller Law Group in Charlotte and assistant US attorney in the US District Court for the Western District of North Carolina.

**Roscoe “Rock” Lindsay Jr. (JD ‘70)**, Jan. 15, 2023, Charlotte. He was a member of Phi Alpha Delta fraternity in law school. He served in the US Army and US Army Reserve and practiced law in Charlotte for more than 20 years. He also served in the North Carolina National Guard and commanded the 30th Mechanized Infantry Brigade Separate in Clinton, NC. He retired as a brigadier general and was named honorary commander of the 113th Field Artillery Regiments.

**John George Wolfe III (JD ‘70)**, Nov. 5, 2022, Kernersville, NC. He was a longtime private attorney and town attorney for Kernersville. He helped preserve his family’s 1880s Victorian mansion, now the Körner’s Folly house museum, and helped develop the Paul J. Ciener Botanical Garden. He and his wife, Bobbie, helped found the Kernersville Museum and donated a historic house for the museum’s home. Wolfe was also a collector of eclectic curiosities, including antique typewriters, adding machines and cameras, old medicine bottles, a 1920s time clock and an 1870s organ. He received the Order of the Long Leaf Pine, North

Carolina’s highest civic honor. Survivors include son John Wolfe (‘93).

**Carolyn Burnette Ingram (JD ‘72)**, March 9, 2022, Kenansville, NC. She was the only female in her law school class at Wake Forest. She was the first female to practice law in Henderson County, NC, and the first female on the law faculty at Campbell University. She practiced law with her husband in Kenansville for 40 years. She was chair of the Duplin County (NC) Board of Elections and was inducted into the Duplin County Hall of Fame in 2014. She was a member of the Wake Forest Legacy Society.

**Benjamin Hudson “Chip” Bridges III (JD ‘73)**, Dec. 15, 2022, Salisbury, NC. He served in the US Army Reserve. He practiced law in Salisbury for 50 years and was corporate counsel for Ryan’s Family Restaurants of Greer, SC.

**G. Redmond “Reddy” Dill Jr. (JD ‘73)**, Aug. 18, 2022, Morganton, NC. He served in the US Army in Vietnam and practiced law in Burke County (NC) for nearly 50 years.

**William Herbert Boone (JD ‘75)**, Jan. 21, 2023, Fort Mill, SC. He was a corporate attorney at Airgas.

**William “David” Lee (JD ‘75)**, Oct. 4, 2022, Monroe, NC. He was an attorney and a senior resident Superior Court judge. He was chair of the North Carolina Dispute Resolution Commission. He received the Order of the Long Leaf Pine, North Carolina’s highest civic honor, from the governor. Survivors include his wife, Kim Carpenter Lee (‘74).

**George Alexander Kaneklides (JD ‘76)**, Jan. 23, 2023, Coats, NC. He was chief justice in Phi Alpha Delta law fraternity at Wake Forest. He was an attorney who served under North Carolina Governors James Holshouser (P ‘85) and James G. Martin (LLD ‘87, P ‘95). He was the author of “The Making of a Governor” about his time with Holshouser. He was awarded the Order of the Long Leaf Pine, North Carolina’s highest civic honor, by Holshouser.

**Victor Lefkowitz (JD ‘77)**, June 28, 2022, Winston-Salem. He served in the US Air Force and the Air National Guard in New York and North Carolina and ended his almost 30-year military career as commander of the 263rd Air National Guard in Badin, NC. He practiced law in Winston-Salem for 45 years and was an adjunct professor at the Wake Forest School of Law.

# EXPERT ENCOUNTERS AT WAKE FOREST LAW

What do you know about sports law? Professor Tim Davis, one of the nation's best known sports law scholars, literally just wrote the book on the subject. Listen to him talk about his teaching and his scholarship in the first installment of Wake Forest Law's new video series.



wfu.law/ExpertEncounters

**Theodore "Ted" Franklin Cummings III (JD '78)**, Jan. 12, 2023, Hickory, NC. He served in the US Army and was a criminal defense lawyer.

**William Ray Armstrong (JD '80)**, July 4, 2022, Deland, FL. He was a mediator and civil-trial attorney specializing in personal injury and medical malpractice.

**Kirsten Dale "Kris" Edwards (JD '81)**, Oct. 17, 2022, Columbus, OH. She was an attorney, small-business owner, environmentalist, teacher and writer.

**Lynne Hicks (JD '82)**, Nov. 28, 2022, Mocksville, NC. She practiced law and organized Davie County's first Veterans Day ceremony. She received the Order of the Long Leaf Pine, North Carolina's highest civic honor.

**Rudy Langdon Ogburn ('79, JD '82)**, March 30, 2022, Raleigh. He was an attorney for Young Moore and Henderson PA for 31 years and developed its estate planning department. He received the 2020 Estate Planning Section Distinguished Service Award from the North Carolina Bar Association. He was president of the Raleigh Jaycees and chair of the board of the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Eastern North Carolina.

**John Kendrick Burns Jr. (JD '84)**, Jan. 12, 2023, Wilmington, NC. He was editor of the Jacksonville (NC) Daily News and was honored by the North Carolina Press Association for his editorial writing. After going to law school, he practiced in Wilmington for 35 years and won a case before the North Carolina Supreme Court. He was preceded in death by his father, **John Kendrick Burns (JD '36)**.

**Pamela Howard Lutin (JD '84)**, Jan. 4, 2023, Lincolnton, NC. She is survived by her daughter, Anne Lutin ('08).

**William "Bill" S. Weiss (JD '85)**, Dec. 17, 2022, Mount Vernon, ME. He served the commonwealth of Massachusetts for 40 years, including 20 years as the first assistant clerk magistrate in the Worcester housing court.

**Terrence "Terry" J. Bolan ('82, JD '86)**, July 1, 2022, Allenhurst, NJ. He was a member of ROTC at Wake Forest. He was a commissioner in Allenhurst and a founding partner of the law firm Bolan Jahnsen Dacey in Shrewsbury, NJ.

**Ellen Bailey Gordon (JD '87)**, Feb. 26, 2023, Winston-Salem. After practicing law, she earned a master's in library science from UNC Greensboro and was a librarian at the Downtown School and the Main Street Academy in Winston-Salem.

**Susanne Marie Robicsek (JD '87)**, Jan. 15, 2022, Charlotte. She was a bankruptcy attorney.

**Suzanne Elizabeth Deddish Taylor (JD '00)**, June 18, 2022, Acworth, GA. She was associate general counsel for employment at Aaron's corporate offices in Atlanta.

**Edward Avery Wyatt (JD '03)**, Nov. 24, 2022, Raleigh. He was editor-in-chief of the Wake Forest Law Review. He practiced law at firms in Atlanta, Raleigh, and Washington, DC, before being a stay-at-home dad and opening his own firm in Raleigh specializing in corporate law. He established the Edward Avery Wyatt Family Scholarship at the Wake Forest School of Law.

## Friends, Faculty, Staff, and Students

**Marjorie Ann Singleton Bass**, Nov. 11, 2022, Statesville, NC. She was a secretary in the Wake Forest School of Law.

**Arthur R. Gaudio**, March 22, 2022, Springfield, MA. He was dean of Western New England University School of Law from 2001 to 2013 and professor of law until retiring in 2019. He also was a professor and dean of the University of Wyoming College of Law and a professor of law at Wake Forest.

**Jean Canaday Reader, Dec. 12, 2021**, Clemmons, NC. She was circulation desk supervisor at the Wake Forest School of Law Professional Center Library for 14 years. Survivors include daughter Catherine French ('08).

**Scott William Roth**, Sept. 21, 2022, Winston-Salem. He was a second-year student in the Master of Studies in Law program at Wake Forest.

**Barbara Stanley Swisher**, July 8, 2022, Greensboro, NC. She was a member of the Society of 1834 at Wake Forest. The Swisher Commons Lounge in Worrell Professional Center is named in honor of her and her husband, **James L. Swisher ('61, JD '62)**. Survivors include her husband, daughter **Laura Swisher Nye ('85, JD '89)** and son-in-law, **Ward Nye (JD '87)**, and grandchildren Elizabeth Nye ('14), Eleanor Nye ('18) and **James Nye (JD '23)**.

# BUILDING STRONG FOUNDATIONS

Every year, Wake Forest Law welcomes the incoming class with Foundations Week, a week of welcoming, guidance, and preparation that puts students on the track to success before classes even start. This year, the Class of 2026 spent time getting to know their new home through an active scavenger hunt, developing their leadership and character skills through collaborative activities, and, of course, making an impact on the local community during the Foundations Week Day of Service. Watch a highlight reel and get a glimpse of the great students who are your future fellow alumni.



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