

Drake Law Announcements

March 11, 2026

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Have Breakfast with a Supreme Court Justice on Thursday, March 26

On Thursday, March 26, Iowa Supreme Court Justices will have breakfast with students at 8:30 before oral arguments at 9:30. 1Ls should sign up on the Legal Research TWEN page by March 17. 2Ls & 3Ls

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should e-mail Dean Edwards john.edwards@drake.edu. This year's case is *In re Election Contest of Highland School Bond Referendum*, [25-0873](#).

Security Reminder

Remember that Opperman and Cartwright Halls are open to the public during posted library hours. Please do not leave laptops or other valuables unattended. Also, if the building is locked, do not open the door for someone you do not recognize. Public Safety reports that unauthorized individuals have been let into the building after hours. Do not hesitate to contact a staff member or call Public Safety at 515-271-2222 anytime you have concerns.

Supreme Court Celebration Week - March 25-28, 2026

Make sure to join in the various events held during Drake University Law School's 89th Annual Supreme Court Celebration. Our annual Supreme Court Celebration is March 25 - 28, 2026. Join us to celebrate the tradition of academic excellence, leadership, and service at Drake Law School and honor our long-standing relationship with the Iowa Supreme Court. Registration Deadline is **Monday, March 16**. You can register [here](#).

- **SBA Luncheon and Awards**
Wednesday, March 25 - 12:30 p.m. - Kern Commons
- **Moot Court Banquet and Awards Celebration**
Wednesday, March 25 - 6:00 p.m. - Kern Commons
- **Final Round of the Supreme Court Celebration Competition**
Thursday, March 26 - 2:00 p.m. - Iowa Supreme Court, 1111 East Court Avenue, Des Moines
- **Drake Journal of Agricultural Law Banquet and Awards Celebration**
Thursday, March 26 - 6:00 p.m. - Kern Commons
- **Drake Law Review Banquet and Awards Celebration**
Friday, March 27 - 6:00 p.m. - Kern Commons
- **Supreme Court Celebration Banquet and Awards Ceremony**
Saturday, March 28, 2026
Reception 6:00 p.m., Dinner 7:00 p.m.
Drake University Olmsted Center, Parents Hall
Keynote speaker: Justice Brent Appel (Ret.)

Discounts and comps:

- **ALL students** are welcome to attend the SBA Lunch and Awards Celebration for FREE! (Please register).
- Members of Drake Journal of Agricultural Law, Law Review, and Moot Court will receive one FREE ticket to your group's event.
Additional tickets are available at a discounted rate (\$20 each) for your guests or students who are not members but wish to attend.
- All students receive one FREE ticket for Saturday night's banquet! Additional tickets are available at a discounted rate (\$35 each) for your guests.

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Use PROMO CODE "STUDENT26" AT CHECKOUT TO UNLOCK COMPLIMENTARY AND DISCOUNTED TICKETS!

- Click "[REGISTER HERE](#)".
- In Eventbrite, click the orange "Get tickets" button.
- At the top you will see Promo Code, please enter **STUDENT26** and click Apply.
- Once you click Apply, you will see all of the ticket options for Supreme Court Celebration Week.
- Select each ticket you will need for the week then proceed with check out.

Drake Legal Clinic Application for Fall Semester DUE March 13 at 12 noon

Want to be part of the Drake Legal Clinic for Fall 2026? Add your name to the lottery! Application link ([available here](#)) is open from Monday, February 23 – Friday, March 13 at noon. Eligible students are those who accrue 45 credit hours before fall semester (current 2Ls) and who have a CGPA of 2.25 or above. Check prerequisite and corequisite courses for each clinic on their [webpage here](#). Students selected by lottery. Selected students will be notified by Friday, March 20, and they will have an opportunity to accept or decline before fall registration dates. ***Please note: all Clinic students must participate in Clinic Orientation on August 20 & 21.***

Food Pantry Clear Out – Food Resources for Spring Break

Help us clear out the food pantry before spring break! Take home and enjoy the frozen meals in the Law School Food Pantry freezer, and feel free to take meal supplies from the cupboard, too. We will restock the pantry when classes resume on Monday, March 23. Over spring break, try these community resources to keep yourself healthy. Drake University created this list of nearby [free and low-cost food resources](#). Eat Greater DSM, a Des Moines nonprofit, maintains this list of [community fridges in Polk, Dallas, and Warren counties](#).

Buildings Closed – Monday, March 16

During Spring Break Facilities has scheduled transformer work for Monday, March 16. This means that both Cartwright and Opperman Halls will be closed that day. Personnel will be working remotely or taking planned vacation. Card access to the buildings will not be possible until power is restored, but that exact time is unknown. Other buildings on campus that will be impacted include Old Main, Cole Hall, Carnegie Hall and the Olmsted Center.

Tuition Billing Information – New Email

Please note that the automatic emails for your account information, including tuition, will now come from campuspayments@touchnet.com and no longer be sent from ebill@drake.edu. Please don't mark the new email as spam or junk. More information can be found [here](#).

Last Day to Drop a Class with a W – Sunday, March 22

An important deadline for class changes: Last day to drop a class *with* a W – Sunday, March 22

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Dan Saar – Bar Application Drop-In Office Hours – Wednesday, March 25

Stop by Cartwright 202 as you are able between 2:00 and 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 25 to chat with Dan Saar of the Iowa Office of Professional Regulation to get all your final questions answered about the bar application, character and fitness, details needed for disclosures, and exam-day logistics. As a reminder, the Iowa Bar Exam Application is due April 1!

Supreme Court Arguments March 26

The Supreme Court will hear arguments in the Legal Clinic Courtroom on Thursday, March 26, beginning at 9:30. This year's case is *In re Election Contest of Highland School Bond Referendum*, [25-0873](#). Petitioners contested an election based on ballots being given to voters that did not live in the Highland School District. District Court granted summary judgment. Supreme Court granted further review.

APPELLANT'S STATEMENT OF THE ISSUES

Whether the district court erred in dismissing Contestants' election contest by interpreting Iowa Code Section 62.5(2)(e) (2024) as requiring strict compliance.

- The District Court's Interpretation of Iowa Code Section 62.5(2)(e), Predicated on the Use of "Shall", Incorrectly Imposed Strict Compliance Requirements on the Sufficiency of the Statement of Intent.
- The Legislative History Cited by the District Court Does Not Support A Finding That Strict Compliance with Iowa Code Section 62.5(2)(e) is Required.
- Where Undisputed Facts Prove Illegal Votes Were Received on the Public Measure Sufficient to Change the Results of the Election, [Not] Including the Names of the Illegal Voters Does Not Render Petitioners' Contest Jurisdictionally Deficient.

ISG: Class Registration and Planning – Friday, March 27

Join Dean Battles on Zoom to discuss how to register for classes and plan a balanced semester while fulfilling your requirements for graduation. This session is required for all 1Ls and attendance will be taken. The Zoom meeting will be held at 8:30 a.m. on Friday, March 27 and can be accessed using [this link](#). If you have any questions, please contact Ashley Madsen at ashley.r.madsen@drake.edu.

Office Hours at the Legal Clinic

Dean Jones will be working at the Drake Legal Clinic several times during the Spring Semester. If you'd like to stop and say hello, please do so. All faculty, staff and students can always stop by to chat, make an appointment to speak with him at any time -- at the Clinic or the Law School.

Date	Time	Location
Tues., March 24	1-4:30 p.m.	Office 101
Mon., April 13	1-4:30 p.m.	Office 101

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Advocacy in Action: Protest, Policy & the Courts – Monday, April 6

Explore the multiple ways one person can engage in civic change. Hear from Prof. Sally Frank about Public Assembly, Iowa Senator Matt Blake and Legislative Practice Center Director Sydney Gangestad about Lobbying, and representatives from the ACLU, One Iowa, Iowa Migrant Movement for Justice and Disability Iowa about Impact Litigation. The session will be in Cartwright Hall, Room 203 on Monday, April 6 from 12-1 p.m.

Food Security Survey

Drake University Food Security Coalition is conducting a campus-wide survey to better understand students' access to fresh, nutritious food. The law school has included a few questions specific to our Law School Food Pantry. We hope you'll share your experiences to help Drake respond to student need. https://drake.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_0rpGD3aI72807D8 Questions or suggestions about the food pantry may be directed to Lyra Halsten, lyra.halsten@drake.edu, or Dean Battles, liz.battles@drake.edu.

Press Release from Drake Law

Throughout the year we will be sharing the press releases about Drake Law. We want to be sure you know what is happening here and how proud we are of the efforts of our students, faculty and staff.

March 9, 2026

Drake Law School Hosts Supreme Court Banquet Featuring Justice Brent Appel

Drake University Law School will host its 89th annual Supreme Court Celebration from March 25-28, 2026, highlighting the school's strong connection to the judiciary and its commitment to legal education.

The celebration will culminate in the Supreme Court Celebration Banquet on Saturday, March 28, held in Parents Hall at the Olmsted Center. The evening begins with a reception at 6 p.m., followed by dinner at 7 p.m. Register [here](#).

This year's keynote speaker is Justice Brent Appel. Justice Appel served on the Iowa Supreme Court from 2006 to 2022. Since 2022, he has continued his commitment to legal education as a professor at Drake Law School. More information can be found [here](#).

AccessLex Law School Scholarship Databank

Numerous postings for national law student scholarships and writing competitions are available at <https://www.accesslex.org/databank>. Students can search by scholarship details and deadlines.

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Drake Law Women Emergency Fund

The DLW Emergency Fund offers confidential financial assistance to any Drake law student experiencing unforeseen emergencies. Applications for funding are anonymous and are open to all students. For more details and to fill out an application, visit the Resources tab of SBA's website here: <https://drakelawsba.org/dlw-emergency-fund/>. Questions can be directed to roxsanna.allen@drake.edu.

TimelyCare – Drake's new virtual health and well-being platform

Drake recently partnered with [TimelyCare](#) to deliver a new virtual health and well-being platform for students. (Please note that TimelyCare replaces the previous virtual platform, Uwill.) With TimelyCare you can access free, 24/7 virtual care from anywhere. See attached flyer for more detail or scan the QR code to get started.



Religious Observance Accommodations

If an academic deadline or exam conflicts with your religious observance, please contact Dean Battles before the conflict to arrange reasonable accommodations.

ADA accommodation renewal

Remember that accommodations must be renewed annually! To establish or renew accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), contact the [Office of Access and Success](#) for an appointment. Drake provides reasonable accommodations, as required by federal law, so that students' success is not hindered by disabilities.

Join Drake Law Connect - A new platform exclusively for members of the Drake Law community

All students are invited to join Drake Law Connect, which is a professional development platform for students, alumni, faculty and staff focused on making connections. It's never been easier to connect with Drake Law alumni and build your network.

[Click here to get started.](#)

Questions? Please contact [Tiffany Contreras](#).

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FREE Iowa State Bar Association membership for Drake Law students

Did you know that all Drake Law students are eligible for FREE student membership in the Iowa State Bar Association?

As a student member you can:

- Attend networking and mentoring events
- Attend CLE programs for FREE
- Join practice area sections to make important connections in the legal community
- Reserve rooms in the ISBA building
- Benefit from a variety of health and wellness offerings
- And more!

[Click here for more information and to activate your membership.](#)