



DRAKE UNIVERSITY LAW SCHOOL COMMENCEMENT

TWO THOUSAND TWENTY FIVE

THE KNAPP CENTER — DES MOINES, IOWA



The One Hundred
and Fifty-Eighth
Commencement of
Drake University
Law School

Friday Evening at Seven O'clock
May Sixteenth, Two Thousand Twenty-Five



Dwight D. Opperman Hall and Law Library

Program

MAY SIXTEENTH, TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-FIVE, SEVEN O’CLOCK IN THE EVENING

ACADEMIC PROCESSIONAL	Drake Brass Quintet
WELCOME	Roscoe Jones, Jr. Dean, Drake Law School
NATIONAL ANTHEM	Erik Johnson, 3L Logan Kelleher, 3L Aubrey Kohl, 3L Irelynn McMurphy, 3L
REMARKS	Dean Jones Kayla Hruska President, Student Bar Association 2024–2025
COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS	Judge William Kelly, United States Magistrate Judge for the Southern District of Iowa
PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES	Dean Jones
CONFERRAL OF DEGREES AND ACADEMIC HOODS	Marty Martin, President Dean Jones John D. Edwards, Associate Dean Erin Lain, Associate Dean
ALUMNI WELCOME	Bill Miller, LW '02 President, Law School Board of Counselors
CONCLUDING REMARKS	Dean Jones
DRAKE ALMA MATER	Havyn Fish, BA '25
ACADEMIC RECESSIONAL	Drake Brass Quintet

Judge William Kelly

Judge William P. Kelly was born and raised on a horse farm in Central Illinois. He graduated from Brown University in 1990 before pursuing a legal career rooted in public service and leadership. He enlisted in the Iowa Army National Guard in 1995 and joined ROTC while studying at Drake Law School, where he earned his law degree in 1999.

His commitment to service extended beyond the courtroom—he was commissioned into the Judge Advocate General Corps in 2001 and later deployed to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, where he was awarded the Bronze Star in 2011.

Judge Kelly's legal career is distinguished by five key roles: litigator, mediator, teacher, judge advocate, and judge. He began as a civil litigator from 1999 to 2015 at the firm now known as Dentons Davis Brown. As a certified mediator since 2001, he has conducted nearly 400 mediations. His passion for legal education led him to serve as an Adjunct Professor at Drake Law School, where he taught pre-trial advocacy, reinforcing the importance of preparation, discipline, and adherence to the rule of law.

His judicial career began in 2015 as an Iowa District Court Judge in Polk County. In 2023, he was sworn in as U.S. Magistrate Judge for the Southern District of Iowa.

MARSHALS OF THE UNIVERSITY

Anthony Gaughan

Kern Family Chair in Law and Professor of Law

2025 Leland Stanford Forrest Outstanding Professor Award Recipient

William Keck

President, Student Bar Association 2025–2026

DRAKE UNIVERSITY LAW SCHOOL

Candidates Presented by Dean Roscoe Jones, Jr.

JURIS DOCTOR

Rosemary Adams
Jack Anderson
Kendall Anderson
Samuel Augustyn
Aaron Baker
Emily Barrett
Ally Bedwell
Britny Bergheger
Kendra Betz
Echoe Bilben
Paula Carlson
Hanna Chang
William Cooney
Cameron Cooper
Anthony Coppola
Shaye Coughlin
Alli Cummings Gauer
Melissa Curry
Jessica Danielson
John Danos
Myles Dean
Chloe Dinardo
Jacob Duff
Joseph Duggan
Joshua Dunsbergen
Sara Edgar
Jae Fehrle
Carter Koch Forrest
Fredaric Franklin
Natalie Gislason
Tia Goehring
Abigail Goulding
Witt Harberts - Joint Degree MBA
Jack Harper - Joint Degree MBA
Sean Henderson
Kayla Hruska
Nikolas Hudson
William Humphreys
Nathan Hunt
Camryn Huyser
Abby Ihlenfeldt
Saje Ites-Williams
Erik Johnson
Isabelle Kaiser
Diana Kajtazovic
Logan Kelleher
Delaney Kelly
Aubrey Kohl
Makenna Konkol
Jack Lander
William Laursen
Haley Ledford
Eric Lee II
Samuel Lincoln
Catherine Livingston

Emily Mast
Mariah McCarthy
Madeline Justine Foley McDonald
Irelynn McMurphy
Jessica Menken
Madelyn Michelini
Casey Middleswart
Brianne Miller
Emily Murphy
Jaswinder Nagra
Danielle Neu
Keaton Newgren
Matthew Noone
Nicholas Nyblom
Emsada Osmić
Ankit Pal
Adiceson Peppels
Monica Pietig
Elena Pinnow
Tristan Poirier
Patrick Powers
Ezekiel Quattlebaum
Karlie D. Reagan
Maryellen Reden
Johnny Ren
James Rettenmeier
Payton Rochford
Aiden Ruble
Kelsey Schott
Dylan Schuchard
Bryce Schulte
Anna Shull
Oulimata Sow
Kendra Sparby
Darbi Spellman
Erin Stender
Beth Stevermer
Michael Seok Suh
Catherine Lina Tanihu
Michael Taylor
Cara Teigum
Alexandria Townsend
Nadia Valentine
Zachary Van Waardhuizen
Madelyn Rose Waddell
Terumi Wayne
Jackson Robert Westen
Christi Wickre - Joint Degree LL.M.
Fred Wilcox
Colegrove Withers
Isabelle Wolf
Jasmine Yant
Ryan Youngstrom
Kendal Richard Zylstra

MASTER OF JURISPRUDENCE

Daniel Benavides**

M.J., *Compliance & Risk Management*

Danielle R. Boosinger**

M.J., *Compliance & Risk Management*

Jennifer J. Buntz**

M.J., *Compliance & Risk Management*

Melanie DeLashmutt**

M.J., *Compliance & Risk Management*

Catherine M.S. Edgerton**

M.J., *Compliance & Risk Management*

Lyndsey Heathman**

M.J., *Compliance & Risk Management*

David Jess**

M.J., *Compliance & Risk Management*

Lesley Nolan Judkins*

M.J., *Compliance & Risk Management*

Russell L. Jung**

M.J., *Compliance & Risk Management*

Bryce David Kelley*

M.J., *Compliance & Risk Management*

Sam E. Kollath**

M.J., *Compliance & Risk Management*

John A. Minton**

M.J., *Compliance & Risk Management*

Amanda North**

M.J., *Compliance & Risk Management*

Elizabeth J. Teigen*

M.J., *Compliance & Risk Management*

Donovan Theodore Thomas**

M.J., *Compliance & Risk Management*

Kurtis A. VanDellen**

M.J., *Compliance & Risk Management*

Tessa Yawn**

M.J., *Compliance & Risk Management*

MASTER OF LAWS

Christi Wickre

LL.M., *Compliance and Risk Management*

* The degree may be conferred with “High Honors” upon a student whose final cumulative grade point average is 3.5 or above and with “Honors” upon a student whose final cumulative grade point average is 3.25 to 3.49. The honors designations in the program are based upon grades earned through the Fall 2024 semester and are subject to change based upon grades earned thereafter. This commencement program, therefore, does not constitute an official list of confirmed graduates or confirmed academic honors for the May 16, 2025, commencement at Drake University. Participation in the commencement ceremony does not signify that degrees and academic honors have been awarded unless all pertinent academic requirements have been met.

*Honors

**High Honors

**THE FOLLOWING 2024–2025 LAW SCHOOL GRADUATES PARTICIPATED IN THE DECEMBER 14, 2024
COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY:**

JURIS DOCTOR

Trinity K. Hopkey
William Robert Kunkle
Jessa Marfal
Benjamin Alexander Toal

MASTER OF JURISPRUDENCE

Elvin Deumić
M.J., *Compliance and Risk Management*
Angel Eggerson
M.J., *Compliance and Risk Management*
Benjamin Michael Hager
M.J., *Compliance and Risk Management*
Ashleigh Sheehy
M.J., *Compliance and Risk Management*
Eric Van Drew
M.J., *Compliance and Risk Management*

LAW SCHOOL DESIGNATION OF HONORS*

HIGHEST HONORS	HIGH HONORS	HONORS
Kendra Betz	Samuel Augustyn	Jack Anderson
Chloe Dinardo	Emily Barrett	Ally Bedwell
William Laursen	Cameron Cooper	Britny Bergheger
Brianne Miller	Shaye Coughlin	Melissa Curry
Karlie D. Reagan	Natalie Gislason	Joseph Duggan
Payton Rochford	Kayla Hruska	Joshua Dunsbergen
Aiden Ruble	Nathan Hunt	Jae Fehrle
Dylan Schuchard	Camryn Huyser	Abigail Goulding
Kendra Sparby	Aubrey Kohl	Witt Harberts
Erin Stender	Makenna Konkol	Delaney Kelly
	William Kunkle	Jack Lander
	Ankit Pal	Jessa Marfal
	Monica Pietig	Emily Mast
	Elena Pinnow	Emily Murphy
	Tristan Poirier	Nicholas Nyblom
	Johnny Ren	Adiceson Peppels
	Christi Wickre	Patrick Powers
	Jasmine Yant	James Rettenmeier
	Kendal Zylstra	Kelsey Schott
		Oulimata Sow
		Beth Stevermer
		Michael Taylor
		Nadia Valentine
		Jackson Westen
		Fred Wilcox
		Ryan Youngstrom

* The degree may be conferred with "Highest Honors" upon a student who graduates in the top 10 of their graduating class, with "High Honors" upon a student whose final cumulative grade point average is 3.5 or above, but is not included in the top 10, and with "Honors" upon a student whose final cumulative grade point average is 3.25 to 3.49. A degree may be conferred "with honors" upon a student only if that student's final cumulative grade point average places him or her in the top 40 percent of his or her class. The honors designations in the program are based upon grades earned through the Fall 2024 semester, without regard to the top 40 percent requirement and are subject to change based upon grades earned thereafter. This commencement program, therefore, does not constitute an official list of confirmed graduates or confirmed academic honors for the May 16, 2025, commencement at Drake University. Participation in the commencement ceremony does not signify that degrees and academic honors have been awarded unless all pertinent academic requirements have been met.

ACADEMIC PROGRAM CERTIFICATES**

BUSINESS LAW CERTIFICATE	FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL LAW CERTIFICATE	LEGISLATIVE PRACTICE CERTIFICATE	PUBLIC SERVICE CERTIFICATE
Kendall Anderson Samuel Augustyn Aaron Baker Emily Barrett Hanna S. Chang Jacob Duff Joshua Dunsbergen Fredaric Franklin Abigail Goulding Trinity Hopkey William Humphreys Diana Kajtazovic William Laursen Jessica Menken Casey Middleswart Tristian Poirier Payton Rochford Aiden Ruble Dylan Schuchard Oulimata Sow Alexandria Townsend Jackson Westen Christi Wickre	Ally Bedwell Kendra Betz Sara Edgar Sean Henderson Catherine Livingston Cara Teigum Zachary Van Waardhuizen INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW CERTIFICATE Tristian Poirier Dylan Schuchard Erin Stender Michael Seok Suh INTERNATIONAL LAW AND GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP CERTIFICATE Emily Barrett Fredaric Franklin Haley Ledford Casey Middleswart Emily Murphy	Carter Forrest Witt Harberts Aubrey Kohl Haley Ledford Kelsey Schott Oulimata Sow Christi Wickre Kendal Zylstra PROSECUTION AND DEFENSE CERTIFICATE Britny Bergheger Isabelle Wolf	Rosemary Adams Sara Edgar Sean Henderson Aubrey Kohl Danielle Neu Nicholas Nyblom Emsada Osmić Elena Pinnow Maryellen Reden Bryce Schulte Catherine Tanihu Nadia Valentine Christi Wickre Isabelle Wolf Kendal Zylstra SOCIAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC INTEREST LAWYERING CERTIFICATE Rosemary Adams Delaney Kelly Maryellen Reden Catherine Tanihu Nadia Valentine
CONSTITUTIONAL LAW AND CIVIL RIGHTS CERTIFICATE			
Rosemary Adams Delaney Kelly Madelyn Michelini Ankit Pal Michael Taylor			

** Students who complete a required set of courses and internships receive a certificate recognizing their area of specialization.

DRAKE UNIVERSITY LAW SCHOOL

ADMINISTRATION

Marty Martin, B.A., J.D., LL.M., President of the University
Roscoe Jones, Jr., B.S., J.D., Dean and Professor Law

Erin C. Lain, B.A., J.D., Ph.D., Associate Dean and
Professor of Law

John D. Edwards, B.A., J.D., M.A.L.S., Associate
Dean for Information Resources and Technology,
Director of the Law Library and Professor of Law

Elizabeth Battles, B.A., J.D., Assistant Dean for Student
Services

Ashley Madsen, B.A., J.D., Director of Academic Success

J. Kara Blanchard, B.S., M.S., Assistant Dean for
Admission and Financial Aid

Matt Johnson, B.S., B.S.B.A., M.P.A., Ph.D., Director of
Admission and Financial Aid

Brianna Leistikow, B.A., Assistant Director of Admission
and Diversity Initiatives

Laurie Dufoe, B.A., M.A., Assistant Dean of Career
Development

Annie Reser-Moorehead, B.M., M.M., J.D., Director of
Career Development

Amy Cutler, B.A., M.A., Continuing Legal Education and
Legal Clinic Coordinator

Susan Edwards, A.A., Budget and Office Manager

Theresa Howard, B.A., M.A., Director of Communication,
Alumni Relations and Special Events

Andrea Solomon, B.A., M.P.A., Advancement Officer

FACULTY

James A. Albert, B.F.A., J.D., Professor of Law

Jerry L. Anderson, B.S., J.D., Richard M. and Anita Calkins
Distinguished Professor of Law

Hon. Brent Appel (Ret.), B.A., J.D., Distinguished Lecturer
and Jurist in Residence

Hon. Mark W. Bennett (Ret.), B.A., J.D., Director of the
Institute for Justice Reform and Innovation

Sayoko Blodgett-Ford, B.S., M.S., M.A., J.D., Sease Faculty
Research Scholar and Associate Professor of Law

Alexandra Brennan, B.A., J.D., Reference and Instruction
Librarian and Instructor of Law Librarianship

Hunter R. Clark, A.B., J.D., Professor of Law

Erica Nichols Cook, B.A., J.D., Director of the Wrongful
Convictions Clinic and Clinician in Residence

Colleen Cullen, B.A., J.D., Director of the Criminal Defense
Clinic and Assistant Professor of Law

Steven Foritano, B.A., J.D., Practitioner in Residence

Sally B. Frank, A.B., MAT/CLE, J.D., Professor of Law

Sydney Gangestad, B.A., J.D., Director of the Legislative
Practice Center and Instructor of Law

Anthony J. Gaughan, B.A., M.A., Ph.D., J.D., Kern Family
Chair in Law and Professor of Law

David B. Hanson, B.A., M.A.L.S., Collection Management
and Metadata Librarian and Associate Professor of Law
Librarianship

Christoph Henkel, J.D., LL.M., S.J.A., Professor of Law

Mark S. Kende, B.A., J.D., Director of the Constitutional Law
Center, James Madison Chair in Constitutional Law and Professor
of Law

Jeremy Kidd, B.A., Ph.D., J.D., Professor of Law

Rebecca A. Lutkenhaus, B.A., M.A., J.D., Reference and
Instruction Librarian and Professor of Law Librarianship

Natalie Banta Lynner, B.S., J.D., Dwight D. Opperman
Distinguished Professor of Law

Allison McCarthy, B.A., J.D., Director of the Refugee Clinic and
Instructor of Law

Nickole Miller, B.A., J.D., Director of the Middleton
Children's Rights Center and Associate Professor of Law

Alexa Perez, B.A., J.D., Assistant Professor of Law

Suzan M. Pritchett, B.A., M.A., J.D., Director of Clinical and
Experiential Programs and Professor of Law

Nick H. Roby, B.S., J.D., Director of the
Entrepreneurial/Transactional Clinic and
Clinical Professor of Law

Joe Schomberg, B.A., J.D., Assistant Professor of Law

Miguel Schor, B.A., M.A., J.D., Class of 1977 Distinguished
Scholar and Professor of Law

Danielle M. Shelton, B.A., J.D., Professor of Law

Julia Steggerda-Corey, B.A., J.D., LL.M., Director of the
Compliance and Risk Management Program and Instructor
of Law

Karen L. Wallace, B.A., M.A., Circulation/Reference
Librarian and Professor of Law Librarianship

Melissa H. Weresh, B.A., J.D., Dwight D. Opperman
Distinguished Professor of Law and Herb and Karen Baum
Chair of Ethics in the Profession

Ellen L. Yee, B.A., J.D., Director of International Programs and
Professor of Law

Jennifer Zwagerman, B.S., J.D., LL.M., Director of
the Agricultural Law Center and Associate Professor of Law

FACULTY EMERITI

James A. Adams, A.B., J.D., Professor Emeritus

Andrea S. Charlow, A.B., J.D., LL.M., Professor Emeritus

Laurie Kratky Doré, B.A., J.D., Professor Emeritus

Matthew G. Doré, B.A., J.D., Professor Emeritus

Neil D. Hamilton, B.S., J.D., Professor Emeritus

Robert C. Hunter, B.A., J.D., Professor Emeritus

Suzanne J. Levitt, A.B., J.D., LL.M., Professor Emeritus

Russell E. Lovell II, B.B.A., J.D., LL.M., Professor Emeritus

David E. McCord, B.A., J.D., Professor Emeritus

Keith C. Miller, B.A., J.D., LL.M., Professor Emeritus

James R. Monroe, B.A., M.B.A., J.D., LL.M., Professor Emeritus

Robert R. Rigg, B.A., J.D., Professor Emeritus

Maura I. Strassberg, B.A., M.A., J.D., Professor Emeritus

Allan W. Vestal, B.A., J.D., Professor Emeritus

David S. Walker, B.A., J.D., Professor Emeritus

IN MEMORIAM

William Hennan

Assistant Dean

Director of Drake Continuing Legal Education

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Drake University and the Law School gratefully acknowledge the Law School Endowment Trust for its financial support of the Law School Commencement.

A reception will be held immediately following the Commencement Ceremony at the Courtside Club in Shivers Practice Facility. Refreshments will be provided. The graduates, their families and friends, alumni, faculty, staff, and other law students are cordially invited to attend the reception.

DRAKE ALMA MATER

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Words by
EMMA J. SCOTT '11

Music by
CLIFFORD BLOOM '18

Very broad

With broad and firm foun - da - tion, our fa - thers built for Drake, With
Thy loy - al chil - dren ev - er, through - out the na - tions wide, Will

The first system of musical notation for the song. It features a vocal melody line in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time, with lyrics written below it. The piano accompaniment is shown in grand staff notation (treble and bass clefs) below the vocal line.

loy - al vea - e - ra - tion, our way to - day we take, To hon - or high our
cease to bless thee nev - er, for rich - es mul - ti - plied, In grate - ful ad - o -

The second system of musical notation, continuing the vocal melody and piano accompaniment from the first system.

Var - si - ty in all she strives to do, May fame and wealth at - tend her, our
ra - tion, their love will bear a - new, A full and rich ob - la - tion, dear

The third system of musical notation, continuing the vocal melody and piano accompaniment.

dear old White and Blue, May fame and wealth at - tend her, our dear old White and Blue.
Al - ma Ma - ter true, A full and rich ob - la - tion, dear Al - ma Ma - ter true.

The fourth system of musical notation, concluding the song with a final vocal line and piano accompaniment.

