

# DePaul University

126<sup>TH</sup>  
COMMENCEMENT

**College of Law**

MAY 24, 2025

MAY 2025



**DEAR GRADUATE,**

Congratulations to DePaul's Class of 2025!

I'm thrilled to celebrate DePaul's commencement with you and your families. Today, you're joining one of the most powerful alumni networks in the nation.

Across the country and around the globe, DePaul alumni leave with more than just a degree. They carry with them a well-rounded education, a career-ready mindset, and a deep sense of purpose, equipping them to take on the world's most pressing challenges. As you move forward, let the Vincentian question guide you: What must be done?

Our collective impact on the world is now 6,000 people stronger, because of you. I'm proud of you and look forward to following your future success.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert L. Manuel".

**Robert L. Manuel, PhD**

PRESIDENT

MAY 2025



**DEAR GRADUATE,**

My heartfelt congratulations on this important milestone. Commencement is a ceremony with a dual purpose: it serves as a celebration of all that you have accomplished at DePaul and is also a launching pad for the next chapter of your life.

As you move forward, remember the lessons gained during your time at DePaul. You have learned a lot in and out of the classroom, and you are equipped to excel on your chosen path. Now is the time for you to go forward and make a difference in the world.

Go Blue Demons!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S. Ghanem".

**Salma Ghanem, PhD**

PROVOST

MAY 2025



## DEAR CLASS OF 2025,

Congratulations on your graduation! After years of focus and dedication, you are finally at graduation day! Your family and friends are excited to celebrate with you and we here at DePaul Law are thrilled to honor you on your day of celebration.

Being an attorney is a profession of service. You are graduating law school at a critical time in our country's history, where the rule of law and the role of lawyers have rarely been so critical. The rule of law is protected because of our willingness to serve. We need lawyers like you who are committed to serving our constitution and our communities with courage and humility. As I look to our future, because I know you and because I know DePaul Law, I have hope. Because at DePaul law, we protect rights, not undermine them. We lead the conversation, not just wallow on the sidelines. Because that's how you become the purpose-driven attorneys DePaul Law alumni are.

Before you enter the profession, reflect on your journey here. Reflect on the sacrifices of your ancestors, your families, and your friends to lead you to this place. Then rejoice for all you have accomplished. You have walked an amazing journey, and you have earned this day of celebration.

Because we are DePaul Law, I have every faith that when some future DePaul Law student calls you for guidance, support, or a word of advice, you will answer that call. Because taking care of each other is what we do.

Congratulations, 2025 DePaul Law graduate!

Much love,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Lawton".

**Julie D. Lawton, JD**

INTERIM DEAN, PROFESSOR OF LAW  
FOUNDER, BUSINESS LAW CLINIC

## 2025 PROGRAM

### College of Law

#### PROCESSIONAL

#### UNIVERSITY MARSHAL

Sioban Albiol, JD, *Professor of Legal Practice* | College of Law

#### INVOCATION

Patty Gerstenblith, PhD, JD, *Professor* | College of Law

#### NATIONAL ANTHEM

Maureen Andersen, *JD Candidate* | Class of 2025

#### ADDRESS TO THE GRADUATES

Introduction by Julie D. Lawton, JD, *Interim Dean* | College of Law

Hon. Franklin U. Valderrama, JD | Class of 1988

#### STUDENT ADDRESS

Alyssa Schmidt-Brookover, *JD Candidate* | Class of 2025

#### ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Julie D. Lawton, JD, *Interim Dean* | College of Law

#### CONFERRAL OF DEGREES

Julie D. Lawton, JD, *Interim Dean* | College of Law

#### CANDIDATES' NAMES ANNOUNCED BY

Maria Vertuno, JD, Assistant Dean of Student Affairs | College of Law

Benjamin Alba, JD, *Professor of Legal Practice and Director of Academic Success* | College of Law

#### REMARKS

Salma Ghanem, PhD, *Provost*

#### ALUMNI WELCOME

Robert L. Manuel, PhD, *President*

#### RECESSIONAL

#### College of Law Order of the Coif

*Juris Doctor honors are conferred upon candidates who demonstrate exceptional scholastic ability. All graduates in each academic year; full-time and part-time combined, are eligible.*

*The roster of degree candidates as represented in this program was reflective of degree candidates at the time of production of this program as of April 15, 2025. We request that all candidates for graduation, their families and their guests, remain seated until the conclusion of the ceremony.*

## CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES

### College of Law

#### **Master of Laws in International Law**

MARIA MICAELA ANNA  
CAYTON GARRIDO

#### **Master of Laws in US Legal Studies**

NICOLAS ARRAUTH  
TRUJILLO  
NOVERA S. BHATTI  
JOCIELLE JAHNS  
SAMBAMURTHY MUSTY  
EDEITH ELIZABETH  
OJEDA MORA  
RITESH SINGH  
ZIAUDDIN QUADRI SYED

#### **Master of Legal Studies in Business Law**

MICHAEL RICARDO  
LANGFORD  
LUBIA RAMIREZ  
KERRY SHEEHAN  
TARA L. TURNER

#### **Master of Legal Studies in Criminal Law**

MICHAEL S. AMORELLA  
ALLA KAZEM AWADALLAH  
DAVID ALLEN CHERRY  
DAMIEN L. COLE  
CRISTOPHER CORTES  
NIKIA D. DAVIS  
TYREON C. DAVIS  
JESUS DELAROSA  
KAYLA GILES  
TIFFANY I. HOEGER  
LAUREN A. HOLT  
MAYKIAE K. INGRAM  
TIASHAVON C. JONES  
HANAN KISHTA  
MARY R. LINDAHL  
KAYLA D. LIVINGSTON  
JASMINE M. MONDAINE

SUZANNE NIEMOTH

FERNANDO E. ONTANON

MELISSA L. RODRIGUEZ

EVELYN ROLDAN

LEO SHVARTSER

JENNIFER URIBE

JENNIFER M. WESTERKAMP

LAKEISHA MONIQUE WITT

#### **Master of Legal Studies in General Legal Studies**

CARLOS K. CLARK  
NICHOLAS D. SEIDEL

#### **Master of Legal Studies in Health Law**

SABINA VINCEVIC

#### **Master of Legal Studies in Public Interest Law**

CARLOS A. DIAZ  
SHANNON L. HOWARD  
MINH C. NGUYEN  
RUNESHIA WALLACE

#### **Juris Doctor / Master of Laws in Intellectual Property**

MAKAYLA A. REYNOLDS  
ALLISON G. TALLMAN

#### **Juris Doctor**

PAULA S. ACOSTA  
ALEENA F. AHMED  
OLIVIA M. AJERO  
MURTAZA AKHTAR  
JAD M. ALAMUDDIN  
SARAH K. ALPERT  
MAUREEN EMPERATRIZ  
GOVE ANDERSEN  
KELLY J. BAKER  
OWEN H. BAKER

ZACHARY BELLAIRE

SARAH C. BENSON

MIRIAM I. BERNE

GURKARAN SINGH BHATTI

NANCY L. BITZER

KATHERINE A. BLUM

CHRISTOPHER M. BOGUSCH

MARIE BOLTZ

JAMIE BORSCHA

NICOLE S. BRATTON

JOSEPH D. BROWDY

ARNOLD RAMOND BROWN

JAXON BUMBAUGH

MARGARET K. BURNETTI

NEENA P. BURNS

MAXWELL X. CAMPBELL

KAYLA M. CANDOS

JOCELINE CARRERA

SARAH K. CARTAGENA

ALEXIS CASSIDY CARTER

AMNA CEHAJA

JOHN HENRY R. CLARK

ANNA J. COOPER

MATTHEW R. COULTER

MARGARET E. DE LA CRUZ

AVA ROSE DELOACH

ROBERT S. DOLEZAL

SYDNEY E. DRAY

JOHN B. DUNGAN

DEREK M. DURNAVICH

HALEY N. DYER

ANAIA T. ELLIOTT

RYAN FALKENBERG

VERONIKA FILIP

COLTEN J. FISHER

MICHAEL B. FITZPATRICK

ALEXEA N. FLEMING

MEGAN M. FOGARTY

CHRISTINE FOLLENWEIDER

JAKE FONDEL

ABIGAIL T. FONTANA

DREW CECILIA GAINES

## CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES

### College of Law

SOFIA J. GALIOTO	CASSANDRA D. MARLOW	KATHRYN SLUMAN
TIMOTHY J. GANSHIRT	EMMA MARTINEZ	JUSTIN R. SMITH
JESSICA JOY GARNER	ANDREA B. MARTINO JR.	STACIE V. SMITH
AYNARA ALANIS GAUTO	GINA JOSEPHINE MAYER	EMMA F. SOGLIN
JOSHUA A. GEORGE	MAURA C. MCGINNITY	KRISTEN P. SOMERVILLE
EMILY L. GETZ	MICHEL'LE MESSINGER	KARLYE A. SOPCZAK
PATRICK A. GILLESPIE	HALEY N. MILLER	HANNAH M. SPENADEL
ISABELLA R. GOLDBERG	MARC K. MONTANO	JOHN P. STEVENS
ALEXIS M. GONZALEZ	CATHERINE E. MOSSING	NATHAN W. STONE
CAITLIN M. HAMILTON	CLIFF P. MUSIAL	AGRON ARIS SULEJMANI
HENRY WHARTON HARPER	HANA MUSLIC	LUAN SULEJMANI
ALEC B. HEILIZER	NICOLE MUSZKATEL	JOHANA TENEQEXHI
PAMELA Y. HOOVER	MELISSA L. NEEDLMAN	ARIANA G. THAO
MADISON K. HOUGHTON	PETER J. NICKELL	ERICA L. THOMAS
JULIA HRYC	MADELYN R. NIX	JOHN TRAVERS
BROCK IMEL	CHRISTOPHER J. NIXON	LATESHA D. TUBBS
SHANNON JANIA	JESSICA LYNN OBI	KRYSTAL J. VEZZETTI
JOSEPH J. JOHNS	RYAN T. O'CONNELL	IAVORA PETKOVA
MADIE C. JURASEK	MARIA C. OLIVER	VLAYTCHEVA
JACOB RYAN KAMINSKI	MARAM SALEH OTHMAN	MORGAN P. WALLACE
ALEKSANDRA E. KANIA	CLOE H. PACE	SYLVIA WAZ
KAYLYNN B. KATTIYAMAN	JULIANNE L. PALCZYNSKI	ALYSSA N. WHITE
MANMEEN KAUR	DHARA PATEL	ADDISON V. WRIGHT
JOANNE KIM	KELLY D. PEARCE	JENNIFER M. YOUNAN
DANIEL P. KINSTEDT	SEKOYA JNAE PELAYO	KIZA ZIA
DAVID S. KIRMSE	MAYA S. RESSLER	KAILEE V. ZINGLE
RAYNA A. KLATT	SAMUEL T. RESUALI	
MEGAN A. KOSTOLANSKY	GARIELLE RICHARDS	
MARIDEE A. KRAMPEN	NIRIA RODRIGUEZ-DAVILA	
CARRIE KRUSE	ANDREW ROMAN	
CLAIRE ELIZABETH KURNICK	CECILIA RULLO	
KATELYN A. LARAIA	ZAID SALEM	
DANIELLE C. LAY	AMERICA SALGADO-DOMINGUEZ	
ROSS LEAVITT	ALVARO SALVADOR CRESPO	
MATTHEW S. LEONARD	JACOB S. SAUTER	
ANNA D. LEOPOLD	MEGAN M. SCHMIDT	
BENJAMIN LERARIS	ALYSSA R. SCHMIDT-BROOKOVER	
DANIEL M. LESTER	SYARRA S. SELLERS	
ALEXANDRA LETTO	LAYLA SHAABAN	
ADAM G. LEVINSON		
STEPHEN DAVIS MACKEY		
HALEY MANLEY		

CONGRATULATIONS!