How students, faculty and alumni are changing lives through pro bono work

ALSO  Two professors, two bold ideas | The Alumni Association presents its awards
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Greetings Chase Community,

For nearly two years we have lived in interesting times. While seemingly a blessing of aspiration, the expression “May you live in interesting times” is commonly understood as ironic – even as a curse – for the havoc that historic notoriety wreaks on our world. Today, we yearn to bid farewell to the global pandemic and welcome back an era of good health and social mingling. Not only have our daily lives and routines been disrupted of late, but the world of legal education has also experienced its own “interesting” time.

When the pandemic began in the United States in March 2020, approximately 38,000 first-year students were enrolled in ABA-accredited law schools. As of December 2021, that number is nearly 43,000, reflecting an increased interest in law as a career path. Several factors play a role in that uptick, including greater demand for legal services by the business sector, heightened awareness of the role of law in public health and social justice movements, and young adults searching for a relatively stable and fulfilling pathway to long-term job security. Increased interest in law schools coincides with greater opportunities for online learning. At Chase, we added our first fully online degree program – a Master of Legal Studies in Digital Law & Technology.

With more attention and scrutiny focusing on the practice of law, we have an opportunity to showcase the value that lawyers bring to a wide array of challenges. In this issue of our alumni magazine, we feature the pro bono service that our students, faculty and alumni perform for individuals and groups who benefit greatly from this work. Chase students are required to perform 30 hours of pro bono service to earn their law degree, instilling a culture of professional philanthropy in our community at large. Our pro bono program coordinator, Kathy Kelly (Chase Class of 2013), has brought many exciting opportunities to our students, including our new Veterans Discharge Upgrade Review Clinic.

According to the ABA, each attorney in the United States donates an average of 37 hours of pro bono service per year. The awesome privilege that our law license confers reminds each of us to consider lending a helping legal hand to those in need of zealous advocacy. After all, interesting times pose interesting problems, many of which we are uniquely skilled to tackle and solve.

I send continuing thanks for the high honor of serving as your dean. Every day I strive to be worthy of the role.

With warmest wishes,

Judith Daar

AMBASSADOR PATRICIA L. HERBOLD DEAN AND PROFESSOR OF LAW
All Rise, a program at Salmon P. Chase College of Law to expand racial, ethnic and economic diversity within the student body – and ultimately the legal profession – is now in its second year.

The initiative, created by Director of Student Affairs and Enrollment Management Ashley Siemer, offers professional skills and leadership training, and includes university-funded law books and a bar exam review course for students in its first class, and for a subsequent class, support from a Kentucky Bar Foundation grant. Students also mentor Northern Kentucky University undergraduates from similar backgrounds to help encourage them to consider law school.

"All Rise students continue to build a strong and supportive professional relationship with one another, which is essential to success. Their commitment to law school has been inspiring," Ms. Siemer says.

The program sets an objective for first-year students of a combined median grade point average above the 25th percentile of the entire class and having at least 75 percent of them obtain law-related summer jobs. Looking further ahead, the goal is for at least 85 percent of All Rise students to graduate and at least 70 percent of those to pass a bar exam on a first attempt.

Students in the All Rise program are, seated, from left, Mariah Woeste, Hadiyo Abdullahi, Leah Kubala, Jessica Boggis and Marie Ingguls; standing, Ahad Yonus, Will Erwin, Essengo Goz, Jessica Rodriguez, Jared Snow and Maiya Lane. Not pictured are Zachary Metz, Sofia Thomas, Kalena Lapid, Sydney Brogli and Shay Nix.

Study Group Smooths Out Path to Law School

An initiative to help potential students take a first step to becoming acquainted with Salmon P. Chase College of Law and possibly applying is in its second academic year.

Maria Llambi, assistant director of admissions and diversity initiatives, launched the LSAT Study Group after identifying that grappling with the Law School Admission Test is an obstacle for some diversity students.

Her strategy: Help those prospective students master the nuances of the test.

Her approach: Online discussions and tutorials to ensure that prospective students have solid understandings of requirements for law school admission, guidance and practice in preparing for and taking the LSAT and suggestions for improved essay writing, reading comprehension and time management.

But the program involves more than an LSAT score. The hope is that participating students will build personal connections with Chase and with each other. "I felt the combination of providing prospective students the tools to succeed on the LSAT as well as providing the sense of community Chase is known for would translate to greater law school access," Ms. Llambi says.
Alumni Council has New Officers

As Salmon P. Chase College of Law Alumni Council chair this year, Judge J.R. Schrand is hoping that a disruptive pandemic wanes and a full schedule of planned, in-person Alumni Association events can blossom.

 Judge Schrand, who graduated in 1997, is leading the council, which oversees association activities, after serving as vice chair during a previous pandemic year in which events had to be cancelled.

“We are excited that we are returning to the tradition of sponsoring in-person alumni events,” he says. “We have two planned for this spring and two planned for this fall.” Among those events is a resumption of the pandemic-delayed Chase Alumni Luncheon, March 18 at the Hilton Cincinnati Netherland Plaza hotel. “Alumni participation is vital to the success of any law school, and especially Chase, as our alumni have always been great resources for both our students and graduates,” he says.

In addition to the alumni luncheon, the council is planning a springtime social gathering, a commencement-related event with new graduates and a summer program with incoming first-year students.

Judge Schrand serves on the Kentucky Circuit Court for Boone and Gallatin counties in Northern Kentucky. He was appointed in 2007, and won election that year and again in 2014, without opposition. His current term expires January 1, 2023.

Vice chair of the council this year is Lindsay Lawrence, a 2009 graduate, who concentrates her practice in the Cincinnati-area firm of Rittgers & Rittgers in matters involving medical malpractice. She also volunteers with the Cincinnati Volunteer Lawyers Project in the areas of domestic relations and probate.

Randy Blankenship, who graduated in 1986, is immediate past chair.

Alumni Association awards to be presented at the luncheon begin on Page 25.

First-Year Students Commit to Professional Standards

First-year students at Salmon P. Chase College of Law learn early what ethical standards are expected of lawyers. Like during their first week of classes.

First-year students this academic year continued the Chase tradition of acknowledging their obligation to uphold Chase and professional standards in their oath of professionalism on Professionalism Day, August 19, and, for the first time, received a small pin as a physical reminder of that obligation.

Students took their oath from Hamilton County (Ohio) Court of Common Pleas Judge Wende Cross, a 1992 Chase graduate, and were reminded why they were doing so by Dean Judith Daar, Ambassador Patricia L. Herbold Dean of Chase College of Law.

“It is important at the beginning of your career to understand the responsibilities you hold, so we developed this oath,” Dean Daar said. In remarks prior to the oath, Judge Cross told students, “How lawyers carry out their roles can be summed up in one word: professionalism. Professionalism is made up of three things: competence, behavior and demeanor. Professionalism isn’t a label you give yourself, it’s what others attribute to you. And it begins right here, day one.”

Judge Wende Cross ‘92 administers the Chase professionalism oath to first-year students in the ballroom of the Votruba Student Union at Northern Kentucky University.

Early Admission Program Grows

Salmon P. Chase College of Law has added a seventh partner to its program for undergraduates at select institutions to combine a final year of college with a first year at Chase. Campbellsville University, in central Kentucky, this past summer joined the 3+3 Accelerated Law Program in which students attend Chase as first-year law students and count those classes toward both an undergraduate degree and a law degree.

Other institutions in the program are Northern Kentucky University, Eastern Kentucky University, Thomas More University, Mount St. Joseph University, University of the Cumberlands and Union College. By reducing the traditional seven years of college and law school to six years, students are able to save a year of undergraduate tuition and enter practice a year earlier.
There are a lot of guilty people in prison. And Professor David Singleton knows it.

Some of them, though, have changed and deserve a second chance, he frequently tells students in his classes at Salmon P. Chase College of Law.

And those who have changed – and have completed a significant portion of a sentence – are whom he wants to see have a second chance through a project he created: Beyond Guilt.

The strategy behind it is seemingly counterintuitive: Ask prosecutors who convicted an inmate and family members of a victim to join him in petitioning for early release, followed by connections to mentoring and social services. It is an approach that lets him teach students about both law and life. (So far, more than 37 individuals have been freed since Beyond Guilt was begun in March 2019.)

“At Chase, I teach the Constitutional Litigation Clinic [in which students represent offenders in civil rights claims], Criminal Law and occasionally Criminal Procedure. Certainly with the clinic, but also to a lesser extent in Criminal Law and Criminal Procedure, I try to remind students of the humanity of the people who fill our prisons and jails,” he says. “It is easy to see incarcerated people as ‘less than’ because we lack the contact with them that reminds us of their humanity. In my classes I often mention my Beyond Guilt clients and offer students the opportunity to work on a case and meet one of the human beings we represent.”

Professor Singleton launched Beyond Guilt under the umbrella of the Ohio Justice & Policy Center, where he has been executive director of the prison reform and pro bono representation initiative since before he joined the Chase faculty in 2007.

In a classic case of “one thing leads to another,” he started Beyond Guilt after working five years to free a woman who had been improperly convicted as a teenager and had spent 23 years in prison.

“After finishing the case of a lifetime, I had a ‘what next?’ moment. In some ways, I felt I had wandered from my [pre-Chase] public defender roots in handling an innocence case, since most people I proudly represented as a public defender were guilty of at least some of what the government alleged.

“Most of the incarcerated friends [of the freed woman] I got to know while representing her were not innocent like she was, but they, like her, had an abundance of humanity. So, ‘what next?’ became Beyond Guilt. I wanted to free people whom most people would just as soon write off and never let out. We must move beyond guilt (that is, the person’s crime) in order to see the individual’s humanity and potential.”

Along with having an impact on individuals, Beyond Guilt is designed to have an impact within the criminal justice system

“The United States accounts for less than five percent of the world’s population, yet it has 25 percent of the world’s incarcerated population. That’s sickening. And I haven’t even gotten to racial disparities yet,” Professor Singleton says. “Beyond Guilt fits into the broader issue of criminal legal system reform because in this country we are addicted to incarceration as a way to solve social problems, such as poverty, inadequate schools and lack of good jobs that pay a living wage.”

As for racial disparity: “Black people are over-represented in our criminal legal system. A disturbing statistic in that regard is the fact that one in three Black men will spend time in prison at some point in their lives, compared to one in 17 white men. And one in 18 Black women can expect to spend time in prison at some point in their lives, compared to one in 111 white women.”

And while there is no question that inmates for whom Beyond Guilt seeks early release are guilty, the overriding question is, is it worthwhile to keep someone in an overcrowded prison system who is a different person than when the prison doors slammed shut? The threshold that Beyond Guilt requires is a legally recognizable admission of guilt, a significant portion of time served, evidence of rehabilitation and, in some instances, years to mature following a crime committed as a teenager or in the early 20s.

“Beyond Guilt works to end mass incarceration not by seeking the release of people who committed low-level, non-violent crimes, but by freeing people...
who have committed violent crimes and have rehabilitated themselves during lengthy periods of incarceration,” Professor Singleton says. “The reason we focus on these folks is because mass incarceration, contrary to what most people believe, is driven by the over-punishment of people convicted of violent offenses, which are often committed by young people whose brains (and impulse control) have not fully developed. It makes no sense to continue to lock people up after they no longer pose a risk, especially if they have demonstrated through their behavior and prison programming that they have changed for the better.”

The first person freed through Beyond Guilt – whom the Constitutional Litigation Clinic had represented in an unrelated matter and who had been asking Professor Singleton if there was anything he could do to help him be released – fit the years-to-think-about-it criterion perfectly. Convicted in his early 20s of manslaughter, the Cincinnati man had spent 22 years in prison when he was released in 2019, at 43 years old. Joining Professor Singleton in the petition for release was the Hamilton County (Cincinnati) chief assistant prosecutor, supported by an affidavit from the victim’s sister. While Beyond Guilt works in the steely-edge world of prison bars, it also has an academic side. Chase students who have volunteered with the Ohio Justice & Policy Center have helped represent Beyond Guilt clients and Professor Singleton has written about the concept behind it in “Restoring Humanity by Forgetting the Past,” in the *Ohio State Law Journal*, and spoken on “Back-End Advocacy: Second Chances and Second Looks” at the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers Presidential Summit & Sentencing Symposium, in conjunction with Georgetown University Law Center. There are guilty people in prisons, Professor Singleton acknowledges. But some of them have shown that they deserve a second chance, he tells all who will listen.

**About Professor Singleton**

At Chase, Professor Singleton has taught Criminal Law, Criminal Procedure, Complex Problem Solving and Voir Dire Strategies. He is director of the Constitutional Litigation Clinic, in which students represent incarcerated and former offenders in claims of civil rights violations. His recent research and scholarship includes *Restoring Humanity by Forgetting the Past*, 81 Ohio St. L.J. 1011 (2020) and *To Love or Not to Love: The Possibility, Promise and Peril of Mutually Transformative Attorney-Client Friendships*, 46 Seton Hall L. Rev. 743 (2016). He spoke on “Back-End Advocacy: Second Chances and Second Looks” at the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers Presidential Summit & Sentencing Symposium, in conjunction with Georgetown University Law Center, in October 2020. Professionally, he is executive director of the Ohio Justice & Policy Center, a non-profit law office that focuses on criminal justice and prison reform through representation or litigation of individuals’ cases. The Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber recognized him in 2020 in its “We Are Making Black History” campaign that spotlighted African American residents of the area and their accomplishments.
Professor Michael Mannheimer is a busy man at Salmon P. Chase College of Law: He teaches, he supervises a clinic-style program, he speaks at forums, and he writes – a lot.

Along with being the author of more than two dozen law review articles, numerous scholarly papers and commentaries, he is the author of a forthcoming book on how the Fourth Amendment – originally a constraint on the federal government and later applicable to the states through the Fourteenth Amendment – could be applied in a reimagined approach to local policing. The publisher is the University of Michigan Press.

As a man of words, Professor Mannheimer has some words about the book, how he sees the linkage of the Fourth and Fourteenth Amendments to the United States Constitution, how laws and policing might be different under his view, and, of course, the process of writing the book:

In brief, what is The Fourth Amendment: Original Understandings and Modern Policing about?

“It’s about the original understandings of both the Fourth Amendment, which forbids ‘unreasonable searches and seizures,’ and the Fourteenth Amendment, which applies the Fourth Amendment to the states. And it’s about how much Fourth Amendment doctrine has veered from those understandings and what the doctrine and modern policing might look like if the courts had a deeper appreciation of those understandings.”

So what are your conclusions on the original understanding of the Fourth Amendment?

“My research – which has been published in a trilogy of law review articles that form much of the first few chapters of the book – has suggested that the Fourth Amendment was, in large part, understood in 1791 as a federalism provision. The Fourth Amendment preserved each state’s ability to regulate searches and seizures that took place within its borders.

“The primary way in which states regulated searches and seizures was to allow the victims of wrongful searches to sue in tort, usually for trespass or false imprisonment. The Founders wanted to preserve each state’s ability to hold federal officials accountable through its tort law. So, a search or seizure by a federal customs official or tax collector might be tortious – ‘unreasonable’ – in one state but not another.

“Warrants bestowed immunity from suit, so the framers and ratifiers wanted to ensure that the federal government did not set too low a bar for the issuance of warrants, because that would defeat state tort liability for victims of oppressive federal searches and seizures. So, the Fourth Amendment establishes, through the Warrant Clause, a general, nationwide floor for the issuance of warrants, but, through the Reasonableness Clause, leaves everything else up to state law. An ‘unreasonable search or seizure’ in 1791 was essentially one that violated state law.”

Then what does the Fourth Amendment mean when applied to the states?

“That’s the big question. That’s why I decided to write this book now. And that’s why its title includes ‘original understandings,’ plural. It’s about the original understanding of both the Fourth Amendment and the Fourteenth Amendment.”

And, your answer to that question?

“My conclusion is that the framers and ratifiers of the Fourteenth Amendment likely understood that it would apply constraints on searches and seizures against the states, but they also likely did not understand it as applying a uniform, national set of search-and-seizure rules to the states. They really cared about protecting Blacks, loyal whites and Northerners in the former rebel states, but they also wanted to maintain the country’s essential federal structure, even though those two goals are in some tension with each other.

“I contend that the way they reconciled those two goals was that they understood freedom from
arbitrary searches and seizures as a ‘privilege or immunity’ of American citizenship, but they also understood that states would be free to secure that ‘privilege or immunity’ in a variety of different ways, so long as they abided by equal protection and due process principles.

“I suggest that that means that state agents, in searching or seizing cannot discriminate, have to follow state law and cannot be given excessive discretion. I call these the principles of nondiscrimination, legality and nondelegation.”

Is this where the “Modern Policing” part of the book title comes into play?

“Exactly. Legislatures make law, executive officials enforce it. Overall, it’s about democratizing policing, leaving most decisions about policing policy to the democratic process at the state and local levels. But there’s an important caveat. Remember what I call the nondelegation principle. If a legislature authorizes police to search and seize, but delegates too much authority to police to decide when and how to do so, it is no better than if the police were to have no legal authorization at all. At that point, police are essentially making law, not just enforcing it.”

What is an example of how current law would be different with your view?

“For one thing, traffic stops and arrests for petty offenses would look a lot different. Under current Fourth Amendment law, a police officer who witnesses even the most minor traffic violation has discretion to decide whether to stop the motorist or let them go on their way. Likewise, an officer who has probable cause to think even a very minor offense – jaywalking, spitting on the sidewalk – has been committed has discretion to decide whether to arrest, issue a ticket or ignore it.

“This gives police enormous power because, unlike more serious crimes, every one of us commits traffic violations and petty offenses on occasion. Current law gives police the unbridled discretion to select from the universe of people who commit these offenses – virtually everyone – whom to stop or arrest.

“On my view, the broad discretion to stop for a traffic violation or arrest for a petty offense is the epitome of lawlessness. Even where such a stop or arrest is permitted by state law, the broad discretion the police have is not much different than having no law at all.”

About Professor Mannheimer

At Chase, Professor Mannheimer has taught Criminal Law, Criminal Procedure, Death Penalty, Evidence and Sentencing. He is the faculty coordinator for the Kentucky Innocence Project.

His research and scholarship includes law review articles and presentations on topics such as the death penalty, coerced confessions and constitutional matters involving establishment of religion, freedom of speech, self-incrimination, confrontation and cruel and unusual punishments. Among his most recent law review articles is Vagueness as Impossibility, 98 Tex. L. Rev. 1049 (2020). He is an elected member of the American Law Institute, the almost 100-year-old organization known for its Restatements of the Law series and publication of influential scholarly articles.

Professionally, he co-chaired the Kentucky Death Penalty Assessment Team for the American Bar Association, and testified on its findings before a Kentucky General Assembly committee.
"I would require that the states, their political subdivisions, or the law enforcement agencies themselves, draw up detailed regulations to strictly limit police discretion.

"For example, legislation or administrative guidelines could either require or forbid arrests for particular minor crimes. Or they could forbid arrests for traffic offenses or minor crimes unless there are reasonable grounds to think the perpetrator will pose an imminent danger to public safety if allowed to proceed unhindered. Or they could forbid traffic stops unless the officer witnesses traffic violations adding up to a certain number of 'points' on a person’s license.

"Whatever method the state chooses to limit police discretion in this context becomes part of the law for purposes of 'due process of law,' so a violation of these 'subconstitutional' rules becomes, in effect, a violation of the Constitution as well."

You said that the state could require arrests for certain minor offenses and that would be okay. It seems counterintuitive that more arrests for minor crimes would be an improvement. Can you explain that?

"The big problem with excessively broad discretion is underenforcement – the discretion police have to ignore infractions by the privileged many and enforce the law only against the unlucky few.

"We can solve that by requiring enforcement against everyone. But there probably won't end up being more arrests because legislators would have to think before they approve such a measure. 'How many of my (white, middle-class) constituents will be arrested for jaywalking or littering before I'm booted out of office?' It's a representation-reinforcing view of the Fourth Amendment: Whatever search-and-seizure rules the majority would impose on the minority, they also have to impose on themselves.

"Instead, what we have today are rules that ostensibly apply to everyone equally but police have so much discretion that we end up with really stark inequalities – racial and otherwise – in policing."

You’ve written a lot of law review articles, but this is your first book. What have you found to be the difference—or the similarity—between writing an article and writing a book?

"A good law review article typically has a three-part structure: This is what the law is, this is what’s wrong with it and this is how to fix it. A book is much more freeform. That is liberating, but it’s also daunting. There is just so much I could write, and so many different ways I could write it, and I have to be very deliberate with my choices."

How have you been going about the "work" of writing the book?

"I had a sabbatical coming up, and I knew that that was the only way I could take a really deep dive into the Fourteenth Amendment, to figure out how, if at all, the Fourth Amendment should be thought to apply to the states.

"The first half to two-thirds of my sabbatical was spent mostly immersing myself in the primary and secondary sources on the Fourteenth Amendment. That includes slogging through much of the Congressional Globe, forerunner to the Congressional Record, for 1866 (then, as now, members of Congress could talk a lot without saying much).

"The last few months were spent mostly trying to put it all together in a coherent way. But it’s like drinking from a fire hose; there’s a lot of information and I have to figure out how to present it, so I have been continually re-thinking how to do it.

"I set deadlines for myself for writing chapters, but I sometimes have had to break them. For example, what I originally thought was going to be chapter seven has now turned into chapters seven, eight and nine! Obviously, I had to set a new deadline when one chapter became three."

Looking ahead, how do you hope that the original understandings that the book will set out will shape future understandings of the Fourth Amendment?

"I’m too much of a realist to think that Fourth Amendment law will change very much because of one scholar’s work. But I do hope that it will cause courts to think more about 1868, when the Fourteenth Amendment was ratified, and less about 1791, when the Bill of Rights was ratified, when they are applying the Fourth Amendment to the states."
Professor Alex Kreit is on the Case

HIS NEW CRIMINAL LAW CASEBOOK, FROM A GLOBAL PUBLISHER, TAKES A MODERN APPROACH TO PUT CASES IN REAL-WORLD CONTEXTS

Every law student has been there: Sitting in class as the professor calls on students to explain a case in the casebook, trying to spot a pattern for when they might hear their name. In this instance, though, the scenario is flipped: Professor Alex Kreit is answering the questions, and he knows exactly what to say. That’s because he wrote the casebook.

Professor Kreit is the author of Criminal Law In Focus, published this past summer by Wolters Kluwer, a global publisher of a wide range of educational and professional books and materials.

So picture this, Professor Kreit is in front of the class, and the questions begin:

What is it about Criminal Law In Focus that makes it stand out from all of the other criminal law casebooks ever published?

PROFESSOR KREIT: “Criminal Law In Focus” goes beyond the traditional core crimes covered in all casebooks, such as homicides and sex offenses, to include more modern offenses, such as drug possession, that can be the bread-and-butter of criminal law practices today.

“The book also starts off a little differently from what has been a traditional approach. Instead of beginning with an emphasis on the elements of crime, such as mens rea and causation, in the abstract, it introduces those concepts in the context of particular crimes.

“The ‘Real Life Applications’ feature of the book is just that: real-life issues related to crimes that lawyers have to consider, such plea bargaining and prosecutorial discretion.”

What is the sequential development of the book? For example, how do you lay a foundation for students with little knowledge of criminal law and build on it?

“The book mostly follows the organization of most criminal law casebooks, with a few differences. It begins with introductory material on the purposes of punishment and on the sources and components of criminal law. From there, it turns to coverage of individual criminal offenses. In contrast to most casebooks, which begin coverage of individual offenses with homicides, my book begins with property offenses and drug offenses before homicide offenses. This approach allows students to become familiar with the bread-and-butter offenses that make up a significant chunk of criminal court dockets before wading into the law of homicide offenses.”

Is there anything different in the approach of contemporary casebooks to what lawyers who graduated, say, 10 to 20 years ago remember?

“Most casebooks today continue to use the same approach that books used 10, 20 or even 30 or 40 years ago. One of the things that makes Criminal Law In Focus different is that, as part of the Wolters Kluwer new Focus Casebook Series, it takes a more modern approach, by including lots of explanatory text, practice-oriented problems and context for the cases in the book.”

The book was just published, but do you know of any law schools using it?

“I used it in my class fall semester. But because it was released over the summer, the soonest anyone else would be able to use it in a class, as a practical matter, is the spring 2022 semester. The publisher has told me it has had interest from some professors in using the book in their classes.”

Want to see how Criminal Law In Focus compares to casebooks you remember as a student? You can find chapter summaries at books.google.com by typing Criminal Law In Focus in the search bar.

More Books by Chase Faculty

Dean and Professor Judith Daar is the author of Reproductive Technologies and the Law, published in 2006 as the first, and to date only, casebook in the field of assisted reproductive technologies, followed by a second edition in 2013. A third edition, with three co-authors – I. Glenn Cohen of Harvard Law School, Seema Mohapatra of Southern Methodist University Dedman School of Law and Sonia Suter of George Washington University Law School – is being published in 2022 by Carolina Academic Press. The book introduces students to established and developing issues and principles in the science, medicine, law and ethics of reproductive technologies.

Dean Daar is also the author of The New Eugenics: Selective Breeding in an Era of Reproductive Technologies, published in 2017 by Yale University Press. It explores how institutional barriers of class, race and marital status can deny access to reproductive technologies and perpetuate abuses of the eugenics movement of the late 1800s early 1900s that promoted policies such as marriage restrictions and screenings to eliminate what proponents considered to be unwanted human traits.


As pro bono program coordinator at Salmon P. Chase College of Law, Kathy Kelly is where pro bono work by students begins. As a Chase graduate, Jennifer Overmann is among alumni for whom pro bono work never ends.

And in between are some 1,900 current and former students who are contributing or have contributed 30 or 50 hours of pro bono work (depending on graduation year) to individuals and organizations in a graduation requirement that carries the same weight as passing Torts or Criminal Law, and professors who give pro bono time to individuals or causes in courtrooms or in appellate briefs.

Among students, the work includes Alan Bailey at the Kentucky Department of Public Advocacy, Jasmye Shaw at Hamilton County (Ohio) Juvenile Court, Ryan Helfrich on immigrant asylum cases, Taylor Cochran in family law matters, Linda Ahting leading sessions on legal issues for youths in a juvenile diversion program and Mariah Woeste working on military veterans’ benefits eligibility.
For professors, it includes Jennifer Kinsley, with an array of cases that encompass free speech, social justice and a criminal case that concluded in clemency; David Singleton and the release of a woman imprisoned 22 years for a crime as a teenager she did not commit and his ongoing initiative in prisoner rehabilitation; Michael Mannheimer filing amicus curiae briefs to the Supreme Court of the United States in such complex matters as imposition of a federal death penalty in a non-death-penalty state and on double jeopardy involving dual sovereignty; Jennifer Kreder focusing heavily on unresolved legal issues rooted in looted artwork during World War II and Steve Stephens defending a man he believed had been improperly indicted on the basis of defective search warrants.

Among alumni, there are thousands of others like Ms. Overmann, who handles at least two pro bono cases at a time in her family law practice. Among them are Jim Kruer, president of the Legal Aid of the Bluegrass board of directors who mediates cases from the agency and a not-for-profit law firm, and Tory Finley, who has handled expungement and eviction matters.

For Ms. Kelly, who graduated from Chase in 2013, the path to guiding students along the path of pro bono service began as a student.

“My experience with the pro bono program at Chase while a student was working in a wills and trusts clinic at Legal Aid in Cincinnati. The clients I met were so appreciative of the service we were providing. Years later I had a client from the clinic call me because he wanted to update his documents. It was an incredibly rewarding experience,” she says.

Among the nation’s 199 American Bar Association-approved law schools, Chase is one of only about 39 that require students to provide pro bono service as a requisite for graduation. While others often encourage the work, a graduation requirement makes it part of a culture that, as at Chase, can extend beyond students.

The Chase program was initiated by Professor Dennis Honabach early in his tenure as dean, from 2006 to 2013, and has continued through two successors, including current dean Judith Daar, the Ambassador Patricia L. Herbold Dean of Chase College of Law.

“Holding a license to practice law is a privilege that enables its owner to serve others through pro bono legal assistance,” Dean Daar says. “The culture of pro bono service finds its roots at the law school level and attaches throughout an attorney’s professional career. At Chase, we are proud to be one of a select number of schools that link volunteer service with graduation, giving our students the opportunity to embrace service at the earliest stages of their career path.”

That path, as in her own pro bono work, can touch individuals and contribute to a culture of service. “Throughout my career I have served as an adviser to health care organizations, counseling providers, drafting policies and helping patients understand their legal rights. Most recently, I chaired the Ethics Committee for the American Society for Reproductive Medicine, an organization that supports family formation through medical assistance. In our region, I have been invited to assist the St. Elizabeth Healthcare Ethics Committee, a body that helps patients and health care teams navigate dilemmas in the hospital setting.”

For students, beginning the pro bono journey can also be something of the proverbial two-way street – an opportunity to help others while also helping themselves.

“The pro bono program at Chase is important because it provides students with a way to gain legal skills in a controlled environment,” Ms. Kelly says. “They are exposed to substantive areas of law that they may not have thought about prior to entering law school. We have had several students change their career plans after completing their pro bono work and finding a passion for helping others in a way they had not previously considered.”

Kathy Kelly, pro bono program coordinator
Beginning with students and advancing through faculty and alumni, these are some of the waypoints of the Chase pro bono journey:

Kentucky Department of Public Advocacy
Student Alan Bailey

“One case I reviewed had a clear suppression issue. My supervising attorney allowed me to write the motion to suppress, and I poured my extra time into it. We filed my motion and the prosecutor reduced the plea offer to 1 year from 1½ years, a victory within the ranks that the client took.

“I was allowed to go into jail and interview clients for the attorneys. What an experience, almost beyond words. The inmates were in the most humble of circumstances one can imagine – in jail clothes, which often did not fit, thin from overuse; they wore shower shoes. Yet many of them had a sense of self and poise not often seen. They knew why they were there, and had a very good understanding of what was going on and the likely outcome. Looking into their eyes taught me about what can be important in my own life.”

Hamilton County Juvenile Court
Student Jasmyne Shaw

“While at Hamilton County Juvenile Court I researched and analyzed case law regarding a variety of juvenile court matters, collaborated with the judge to draft decisions, drafted legal memoranda and observed various legal proceedings, including hearings.

“I believe that the drafting and research I did benefitted those working in the judge’s office by helping reduce the workload. My work also contributed to my understanding of the role of lawyers in society because I was able to observe how judges, prosecutors and defense attorneys work alone and in tandem.”

Immigrant asylum cases
Student Ryan Helfrich

“At Lopez Law Associates, in Cincinnati, I wrote a couple of briefs for asylum applicants and identified their ‘particular social groups.’ If an individual is persecuted and fits into a particular social group they are candidates for asylum applications. Reading clients’ background information and making arguments for their asylum applications was the most meaningful work I did.

“The legal arguments I helped to formulate helped people escape persecution, whether from gang violence or oppressive governments, thus giving them the opportunity to pursue a better life in the United States. I also did legal research. A recent Supreme Court opinion regarding how immigrants are served a notice to appear was published, and I researched how the circuit courts were reacting to it.”

Family law
Student Taylor Cochran

“During my time at the law office of Kellie Wilson [a 1998 Chase graduate] in Harlan, Kentucky, I worked on two family law cases, a dissolution of marriage and an adoption the office had as reduced fee. I did the legal research required to draft certain documents, such as the petition for dissolution of marriage, petition for adoption, waiver and affidavit of consent for adoption of a minor.

“I feel I made a difference for the clients because of the constant communication I provided. Even when there was not an update to give, I would call the clients to let them know we were working on their cases. I could tell by the time the phone calls ended that the clients were more confident in their cases and were very grateful to hear from the law office.

“I realized that the interaction between lawyers and clients is not as transactional as I had thought. Understanding the clients, their concerns, personalities and talking as a person to them, instead of as a problem-solver, helps a lawyer obtain the answers needed to reach a favorable solution for the client.”
Street Law juvenile diversion program
Student Mariah Woeste

“This educational outreach program pairs Chase students with juvenile offenders to teach them about the legal system and their rights and responsibilities within it. Some of the topics involved are the juvenile justice system, traffic law, anger management and cyberbullying. The goal is to help the juveniles understand the potential repercussions of their actions, so they can make better choices going forward. I was paired with another law student, and together we led eight hours of instruction over a four-week period for participants who were 12 to 17 years old; most had committed assault or theft.

“It was particularly satisfying seeing a participant have a ‘lightbulb moment,’ when they reflected on their past actions and recognized the serious impact upon themselves and upon society in general. I believe that, for at least some, this diversion program will be a lasting, positive influence in guiding their future decision-making.”

Veterans benefits
Student Linda Ahting

The months-old Veterans Discharge Upgrade Review Clinic at Chase is a partnership with the Cincinnati Veterans Administration Medical Center, the Northern Kentucky Bar Association and Legal Aid of the Bluegrass to help veterans navigate the administrative procedures for reviews of potentially multi-layered and sometimes nuanced discharge statuses that can negatively affect access to veterans benefits.

The work can include identifying forms to request a review and figuring out what to say on those forms in the first place. That was a case for Ms. Woeste. “I primarily helped my client develop an explanatory narrative for the upgrade process,” she says. Even with the short existence so far for the clinic and the long timeline for government reviews, there can be immediate results: “Through my experience with the discharge clinic, it provided clients with hope,” Ms. Woeste says.

For students, the complexity of pro bono work has to match their level of legal education, progressing as they do through three or four years of law school. For faculty members, the extent of their pro bono work ranges from the immediacy of legal needs spawned by current events to applications of complex constitutional theories to unraveling historical and international entanglements. Among them are:

A grant of clemency, defense of free speech and social justice advocacy
Associate Dean and Professor Jennifer Kinsley

Among her most personally fulfilling pro bono cases was a six-year pursuit of freedom for a woman sentenced to 22 years to life in prison in a murder related to having been trafficked as a teenager and who, Professor Kinsley argued, would not have been tried as an adult had a state law to protect youths in crimes related to being trafficking victims been applied. The conclusion: A gubernatorial grant of clemency in spring 2020.

“I found out – actually while in the grocery store – that my client, Alexis Martin, would receive a full commutation of her life sentence from [Ohio] Governor Mike DeWine, and would be released from prison. This was truly the best day of my professional career,” Professor Kinsley recalls.

She had pursued review by the Supreme Court of Ohio and argued the case to the Ohio Parole Board. “Alexis was the victim of horrifying and prolonged human trafficking, beginning at the age of 14 and, at age 15, was tried as an adult for the robbery and murder of her trafficker and for the attempted murder of his brother. Alexis was not the shooter,” Professor Kinsley says. “Although the signs of her trafficking were everywhere, neither the court nor her attorney took her victimization into account in the disposition of the case.”

Among other pro bono cases Professor Kinsley has pursued are successful defenses of individuals arrested during protests calling for justice in the treatment of Black individuals by police and within the criminal justice system, successful representation of parents in a free speech case involving a board of education, and a continuing case to block a police officer’s attempt to thwart through litigation the free speech of her client.

“My pro bono work focuses on the intersection of the right of free speech and the criminal justice system. Over the past two years, I have represented hundreds of people who have been arrested and charged with crime as a result of their expression. I have also defended individuals in civil cases who have been sued for things they have said.

“In addition, I often take on pro bono defense of individuals who have been arrested in racially-charged cases involving police misconduct or whose cases call attention to the need for particular areas of legal reform, like juvenile human trafficking victimization,” Professor Kinsley says. “I decide to take on a case when I feel a personal connection to the client’s story or situation. I follow my heart. I want to use the law to make a difference.”
The release of a woman wrongfully imprisoned and a pursuit of prisoner rehabilitation

Professor and Constitutional Litigation Clinic Director David Singleton

Professor Singleton calls it the case of a lifetime: For five years he had sought exoneration for Tyra Patterson, who, when the Ohio Parole Board ordered her release in 2017, had been imprisoned 22 years for a murder in which she insisted she had no part as a teenager. Along the way there were disclosures that the recording of a 911 call she had made had not been played at her trial and that the female victim’s sister, who was present when she was shot during an argument among young people in Dayton, Ohio, had become convinced that Ms. Patterson was innocent. By some accounts, it was unclear if she was present at the shooting.

As Professor Singleton argued to the parole board for Ms. Patterson’s release, the British newspaper The Guardian focused on the case in a three-part series on shortcomings in the United States criminal justice system. “I’m convinced that were it not for our five-year effort Tyra would still be locked up some years from now, and that’s not right. There are many other people out there who are innocent but don’t have the resources to press their case,” he told the newspaper.

For Professor Singleton, the case strengthened his faith in the value of individuals and redemption, and led to his newest pro bono work: Beyond Guilt, a program in which he unites prosecutors and victims’ family members to join him in seeking early release for prisoners who have served significant portions of their sentences and have met his requirements of legally confessing guilt and showing evidence of rehabilitation. So far, the project has freed more than 37 individuals since he launched it through the Ohio Justice & Policy Center, where he is executive director.

Complex issues before the Supreme Court of the United States

Professor Michael Mannheimer

Professor Mannheimer has a national reputation for his research and theories on the relationships of state laws and the historically presumed understandings of those relationships to the Constitution of the United States in the nation’s early years.

Among recent cases involving those issues and others in which he has written or co-written amicus curiae briefs to the Supreme Court of the United States are United States v. Tsarnaev (the Boston Marathon bomber case), Walker v. United States (involving the Armed Career Criminal Act), Gamble v. United States (dealing with double jeopardy in dual sovereignty) and Trump v. Hawaii (involving travel into the United States from Muslim-majority nations).

“My amicus work has tended to be in cases where I can press an argument based on what I perceive to be the relationship between federalism and the Bill of Rights,” Professor Mannheimer says. “So, for example, in United States v. Tsarnaev I filed a brief arguing that the Eighth Amendment bars the federal death penalty for crimes committed in non-death-penalty states. In Gamble v. United States I co-wrote a brief arguing that the Double Jeopardy Clause also is largely about federalism, specifically prohibiting the federal government from bringing a prosecution in a case that a state had already prosecuted. And in Trump v. Hawaii I was motivated by the idea that the Establishment Clause specifically prevents the federal government from interfering with a state’s interest in enhancing religious diversity.”

His criterion for speaking up – or writing: “I’ll write a brief only if I know that no one else is going to say the same thing, if I can bring a unique voice to the conversation. I’m not going to write a brief that simply restates the arguments of the party I’m supporting.”

Unresolved legal issues of looted artwork from World War II

Professor Jennifer Kreder

“I’ve been working on Holocaust issues since I started working at Milbank [known previously as Milbank, Tweed, Hadley & McCloy] in New York City, in 1999. When I entered academia, I knew the art problems arising out of the Nazi-era were never resolved, like so many others were via international executive agreements and settlements of class actions. The art claimants were on their own. I decided to learn and write as much as I could about this issue, which is intensely personal for the families and heirs, especially when the painting at issue is a portrait of a family member,” Professor Kreder says.

Since joining the Chase faculty in 2004 she has written extensively in law reviews, spoken at symposia, consulted and filed amicus curiae briefs on issues related to the return of artwork stolen by Nazi Germany to Holocaust survivors or their heirs.

“I decide when to file an amicus brief based on whether I believe I can have an impact. I am often writing about things no other law professor does – there is no one else to cite. So, I feel like I’m contributing to the historical record about these important cases.”
In addition to work on the past, Professor Kreder works in the present. "For years, I have given pro bono advice to a number of museums. I often advise on tax issues concerning donations of works, which often hinge on delivery dates. Also important is the need for a museum to follow applicable law before de-accessioning anything from its collection, which is a fancy word for removing/selling/donating elsewhere with proper notice."

A defense spurred by suspicion of defective search warrants

Professor Steve Stephens

"In 2017, I, along with co-counsel, undertook to represent the defendant in *U.S. v. John Robert Boone*, the largest outdoor marijuana producer ever apprehended by the FBI. Being interested in issues concerning the legalization of marijuana, I became fascinated with the case of Mr. Boone. A lawyer who had previously represented him and I were on the Kentucky Legislative Ethics Commission. I told my friend that if Mr. Boone were ever captured – at the time he was a fugitive from justice and had been on the lam for eight years – I would be honored to serve on his defense team, pro bono. Interestingly, he was captured 10 days after this conversation, in Canada.

"I became convinced that Mr. Boone had been unjustly charged on the basis of defective search warrants. While the prosecution was looking for a life sentence, due to a ‘third strike,’ the defense ultimately prevailed on the defective search warrants argument, netting Mr. Boone a sentence of 57 months, compared to the life sentence sought by the government. After he was incarcerated, I continue to represent him and secured compassionate release for him from prison."

Among alumni, pro bono service continues, including in:

**Family law**

Jennifer Overmann, Class of 2007, who practices as Overmann Family Law, in Fort Mitchell, Kentucky

"I am a volunteer lawyer for Northern Kentucky Volunteer Lawyers. There is a waiting list for divorce cases to be assigned to volunteers, so I try to help. I try to always have two assigned pro bono cases at all times. Since 2018 I have served as a board member of Northern Kentucky Volunteer Lawyers, and I have been president since 2019. I also have served as a volunteer lawyer in domestic violence cases and pro se divorce clinics.

"I was contacted once by Legal Aid of the Bluegrass about an emergency case that was set for trial in a couple of weeks. I took the case and found out quickly that the mother had not seen her young children for months. I was able to negotiate an equitable agreement to finalize the case and was able to get the mother parenting time within days. The client was grateful.

"When I went into private practice I was lucky to work for a law firm where pro bono work was encouraged and expected. I have had many wonderful mentors, and all have strongly encouraged that I give time and energy to pro bono work. It is imperative that senior attorneys encourage new lawyers they mentor to volunteer their time to pro bono work."
Mediation and leadership

Jim Kruer, Class of 1973, who practices in Chevalier & Kruer, Fort Mitchell, Kentucky, is president of the board of directors of Legal Aid of the Bluegrass and is the recipient of the 1988 and 1995 Northern Kentucky Volunteer Lawyers Pro Bono Attorney of the Year Award and of the 2002 Kentucky Bar Association Donated Legal Services Award.

“I firmly believe that we, as professionals who have pledged an oath to uphold the rule of law, all owe a duty and higher calling to seek justice for all. Pro bono work is a way to achieve that goal, to make a difference in the lives of those less fortunate, and to fulfill that pledge.

“I was blessed to have been the director of Northern Kentucky Legal Aid for nearly 10 years, beginning in the ’70s. We initiated the pro bono panel in 1978, one of the first in the country, which has now combined with Northern Kentucky Volunteer Lawyers to continue to provide annually thousands of hours of pro bono efforts in our community. More recently, I’ve been privileged to serve as board president for the past 19 years of Legal Aid of the Bluegrass, the successor to and expanded version of Northern Kentucky Legal Aid.

“It has also been an honor to serve as mediator in numerous pro bono cases coming from the attorneys at Legal Aid of the Bluegrass and [the not-for-profit] Children’s Law Center in Covington. My greatest joys and most fulfilling moments come in feeling the gratitude and witnessing the smiles where I have interceded to be a peacemaker; lives are changed, and the ideals of our justice system are served.

“Standing out in the memory bank is a case in which a grandmother was seeking to re-establish a relationship with her daughter and her preteen granddaughter after many years of being estranged. After a full airing of their grievances, catharsis and much forgiveness, I witnessed a tearful and joyous moment of endless hugs.”

Second chances through expungements and evictions help

Tory Finley, Class of 2018, litigation associate at Faegre Drinker Biddle & Reath, in Dallas, and previously with Dinsmore & Shohl, in Cincinnati.

“I achieved criminal expungements for more than 15 individuals, and I successfully represented more than 10 clients facing eviction – all of whom were able to maintain their residency. I hope the work made a difference. Helping individuals clear their records has given many of them second chances, which include admission into educational institutions, approval of leasing and housing applications, and offers and acceptances of previously unavailable employment opportunities.

“The work has benefitted me greatly as a person and has given me a greater sense of community. I am a huge advocate of lifting as we climb, and there is no greater joy than being in a position to help those most in need.”

And that type of helping is the purpose of the Chase pro bono program, for the students in it, and the faculty members and alumni who live out the Chase culture of pro bono service.

A related story about Professor Singleton and Beyond Guilt is on Page 4.
A story about Professor Mannheimer and one of his constitutional theories is on Page 6.
A story about the Veterans Discharge Upgrade Review Clinic is on Page 17.

ON THE COVER
Top row, from left, students Alan Bailey, Jasmyne Shaw, Taylor Cochran and Mariah Wooste; middle, from left, professors Jennifer Kinsley, David Singleton, Michael Mannheimer and Jennifer Kreder; bottom, from left, professor Steve Stephens, alumni Jennifer Overmann, Jim Kruer and Tory Finley.
New Pro Bono Clinic Puts Veterans’ Appeals on Students’ Radar

The new Veterans Discharge Upgrade Review Clinic at Salmon P. Chase College of Law is giving students plenty of experience with government administrative appeals and plenty of expert advice in doing it: Faculty Adviser John Bickers and Clinic Director Brad Steffen are former attorneys in the military Judge Advocate General Corps.

The military discharge system is far more complex – or nuanced – than the black-and-white “honorable” or “dishonorable” of common perception. And because of that, the government established a review process to allow veterans to seek reconsiderations of their statuses. But it can be complex and lengthy. Enter the Chase Veterans Discharge Upgrade Review Clinic, and the administrative labyrinth students enter.

Starting at the beginning, and what Professor Bickers has explained to students about the “good” and “not so good” types of military discharges.

“The military separates service members administratively for a wide variety of reasons, for things like retirement, personal hardships that cause the service member to request release, and patterns of misconduct. Most of the reasons people separate result in a characterization of service as ‘honorable,’ but some leave the service member with a discharge characterized as ‘general, under honorable conditions,’ which denies some VA benefits, and a few can result in an ‘other-than-honorable’ discharge, which denies almost all benefits.”

Why he says a less-than-fully-honorable discharge is reviewable for the purpose of VA benefits.

“As with every action by government, sometimes mistakes happen, or people are treated unfairly. And sometimes things change, and people change, and in the interests of justice, they should not be judged by mistakes of long ago. With that understanding, Congress established two separate tribunals that review such discharges, with an eye to fixing mistakes that may have occurred in the past or providing an equitable answer for the future.”

And his explanation for why reviews are occurring nationwide, with the VA supporting initiation of them.

“Partly it is the result of the fact that we know more now. Many discharges arose from repeated small acts of misconduct that were themselves the result of post-traumatic stress disorder. When service members with prior good records had troubles after returning from combat, the military should have taken that into account in characterizing their service. The military didn’t always do that. In late 2020, the Army entered into a settlement in a case brought by students from Yale Law School that required the Army to reconsider discharge cases and grant ‘liberal consideration’ to the PTSD that may have led to the misconduct. [In 2014, then-Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel had directed the Army, Navy and Air Force to fully consider applications for discharge upgrades based on PTSD stemming from military service.] The VA, which has always been an advocate for those who have served the nation, has been trying to help those affected.”

On that foundation of support for the review process, in which claims of misdiagnosed PTSD or legal errors are more likely than others to succeed, Chase is among a number of law schools at which students are helping veterans build cases and students are building practice skills.

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The clinic, for which students receive credit toward a graduation requirement for pro bono service, is a path to the future, says Director Steffen, who graduated from Chase in 2015 and practices in the Northern Kentucky firm of Dressman Benzinger Lavell. “I will be working with the students and clients to help them understand the upgrade process and to develop a course of action based upon the client’s needs. My goal is that the students will be able to develop crucial hands-on client interaction that will carry with them after graduating,” he says. For many students, the review process they help initiate will be so lengthy that they will have graduated before the veteran they helped receives a determination.

Alumni who know of a veteran who might benefit from clinic assistance can tell him or her to call the clinic hotline at 859-572-6918 and leave a message.

A story about Clinic Director Steffen joining Chase is on Page 60.
The Conversation

...with Brigham McCown ’97, recently president of Alyeska Pipeline Service Co., builder and operator of the Trans-Alaska Pipeline, Anchorage, Alaska

No matter where Brigham McCown has ventured in the world – military and humanitarian deployments as a U.S. Navy commander and aviator, executive and legal positions in the U.S. Department of Transportation, law practices in Florida and Texas, and most recently president of the company that built and operates the Trans-Alaska Pipeline – one place is always home: Salmon P. Chase College of Law.

Mr. McCown, who graduated in 1997, completed a two-year change management position as president of Alyeska Pipeline Service Co., in Anchorage, Alaska, from January 2020 to February 2022. It was a long way, both in geography and career path, from his evening division classes on the Northern Kentucky University campus.

Question: Before we get to where you were and how you got there, let’s say something about the Trans-Alaska Pipeline. In the Lower 48, we probably don’t realize the scope of it, or the vastness of Alaska. What makes it more than 800 miles of pipe for moving oil, above and below ground?

BRIGHAM McCOWN: “It’s an amazing engineering marvel, designed and constructed before the age of supercomputers. The pipeline, a full four feet in diameter, stretches south from Alaska’s Arctic Ocean to Prince William Sound [about 1,300 air miles north of Seattle]. In between, it crosses numerous mountain ranges, pristine wildernesses full of wildlife and 370 streams and rivers. One saying from construction times in 1974 to 1977 sums it all up: ‘They didn’t know it couldn’t be done.’

“There are many places across the 800-mile pipeline where no city or county services exist. No power, no telephone, no water, nothing. Alyeska makes and produces everything, from chefs to housekeeping, water and sewer, ambulance, fire, medical, security. It’s what is required to move Alaskan oil to market through uninhabited areas in an extreme climate. The original visionaries assumed there might be 20 years of oil in Alaska. This June is coming up on the 45th anniversary, moving over 18 billion barrels of oil to date.”
Let’s talk about Chase and your career after graduation. How have Chase and your subsequent experiences – private practice, chief legal counsel and acting administrator in divisions of the U.S. Department of Transportation and senior adviser to the Secretary of Transportation – dovetailed?

“I had known for some time that I wanted to practice law. My dad, a general practice attorney and later a Court of Common Pleas presiding judge in southern Ohio, really helped steer me. He knew I wanted to go to law school, but he encouraged me to think about it, suggesting that time was on my side if there were other things I really wanted to pursue. My goal was to become a naval officer and naval aviator after college [at Miami University in Ohio], so that’s what I did, in large part because Dad said something like, ‘The law will always be there.’

“That period in the military [which prior to Chase included Operation Desert Storm and Operation Uphold Democracy, after a coup in Haiti, and following Chase the humanitarian Operation Unified Assistance, after an earthquake and tsunami in India] really helped me to mature. My travels across the world also helped define my values, my love of America, the importance of teamwork, how to make decisions and how to deal with ambiguity. It was an amazing experience, and I’m fortunate to have had such an opportunity to develop so many life skills.”

And Chase?

“Much of my success is directly attributable to Chase. We had fantastic faculty, who were both academics and practitioners. They were always available, interested in our futures, and fantastic mentors. We were taught to think, research and synthesize facts to the law and, quite honestly, how to hustle. I also think that having a broad range of career professionals as students in the evening division contributed to a different learning experience. We had first-responders, doctors, business people and so many others who brought their own rich experiences to the classroom.

“Graduating from Chase afforded me the opportunity to practice law in South Florida, where I learned my way around the courtroom quickly. It’s a rough and tumble place, with a lot of attorneys from the Northeast. Why South Florida? Honestly, we thought we would stay in Cincinnati, but I didn’t get a job at any of the top firms, and we had family down there. It was Plan B.

“That civil litigation trial experience really accelerated my legal career and, with the military experience, I was able to move to an international firm, practicing aviation litigation and government regulatory defense, in Washington, D.C., and Dallas. That led to an amazing career as federal agency chief counsel [of the Department of Transportation Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration], then on to be the first head of energy transportation for the country [as acting administrator of the Department of Transportation Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration] before stepping back into private practice. Each step along the way built upon previous experiences and strategy.

“To be fair, there’s a bit of luck and timing in there, also. I think the point is to have a goal in mind, and then plan and work hard to execute that goal. The ability to create an overarching strategy applies in life as much as it applies in the courtroom. Flexibility and humbleness along the way also help a lot.”

In some respects, your resume reads like that of someone who is always up for a challenge. What has motivated you in taking on new ones and then embracing and moving through them?

“Life takes interesting turns. My wife and I assumed we’d be raising our family and settling down in Cincinnati for the rest of our lives. We still think about that, and we miss the area. It is such a wonderful place.

“I suppose we are somewhat defined by our past and our traditions, and that type of grounding is good. But we also know that the only constant in life is change. We must continue to innovate because, whether we like it or not, change is all around us, and the pace of that change only accelerates with each day.”

So, what’s next, after Alaska?

“It’s been a tremendous adventure to be in Alaska and to work with dedicated professionals responsible for such an iconic piece of American infrastructure. I’ll be taking some time off for a well-deserved vacation, hopefully be followed by a fair amount of Reds baseball before deciding on next steps.”

And looking back on your change management assignment?

“I’m really proud of everyone’s accomplishments, which were themselves designed to ensure the company is strategically and operationally well-positioned for future challenges. The journey of continuous improvement is really never over because the business environment itself is never static. The ability to continually adapt to changing market conditions is a culture that has to be learned and reinforced. It is a key component of building an innovative, sustainable and highly effective organization.”

Career Points for Brigham McCown

Graduated from Salmon P. Chase College of Law in 1997, earned a Bachelor of Arts from Miami University (Ohio), a Master of Business Administration from William & Mary and a graduate certificate in engineering innovation and emerging technologies from Stanford University.

Served in the United States Navy in active or reserve duty from 1988 to 2013 as an aviator and held the rank of commander.

Was chief counsel for the United States Department of Transportation Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration and deputy administrator and acting administrator of the Department of Transportation Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, beginning in 2003 to 2007.

Practiced law in Florida and Texas at various times before and after government service, including as co-managing member of Kilgore McCown, as shareholder in Winstead and as senior counsel at Hunton & Williams, all in the Dallas/Fort Worth area.

Was senior managing member of Nouveau, an energy, environmental, infrastructure and transportation consultancy.

Was an adviser to the 2016 presidential transition of President Trump and a senior adviser for one year to then-Secretary of Transportation Elaine Chao.

Was president of Alyeska Pipeline Service Co. from January 2020 to February 2022.

Is a member of the Salmon P. Chase College of Law Board of Visitors, an advisory panel for the dean.
A major anniversary recalls the iconic location of Chase during its history in Cincinnati

For Salmon P. Chase College of Law alumni who graduated before diplomas would read "Northern Kentucky University," 2022 marks the 50th anniversary of the end of an era (just as it marks the beginning for an era for subsequent alumni).

The summer of 1972 was the end of more than 50 years for Chase as an independent law school in the Cincinnati Central Parkway YMCA building, at Elm Street and Central Parkway, just as fall of 1972 was the beginning of a now almost equally long identity as part of Northern Kentucky University (although at the time it was Northern Kentucky State College).

The old YMCA building, since renovated by the YMCA of Greater Cincinnati and on the edge of the now trendy Over-the-Rhine neighborhood, was functional, yet iconic, for the generations of lawyers in Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky who learned there how to apply the but-for test in torts and how to "Shepardize" case citations before computerized research. It was a place that prepared thousands of students to become lawyers … and judges, politicians, corporate officers and community leaders.

While the classrooms that shared a roof with a swimming pool and basketball and handball courts are gone, the memories of what occurred in them and how it shaped graduates’ futures remain. Among those who were there that final year of classes – members of the graduating classes of 1972, ’73, ’74 and ’75 – are Sylvia Sieve Hendon ’75, retired judge of the Ohio First District Court of Appeals at Cincinnati, and Norman Zoller ’74, retired circuit executive of the United States Court of Appeals for the 11th Circuit at Atlanta.
Like virtually all of their classmates then, they had day-and-night identities that defined them and, collectively, Chase as a night law school.

“I’m sure we had ‘traditional’ students in our class, but, frankly, I don’t remember any,” Judge Hendon says. “All of my new friends had full-time jobs, and came to class straight from work. My personal situation was a little different. I worked mornings at my dad’s auto dealership while my daughter either went to pre-school or my mother’s, and then I took care of her and our home in the afternoon until my husband got home. I had dinner on the table as he walked in and I walked out.”

Mr. Zoller also balanced family, work and law school.

“Shortly after leaving the Army [including two tours in Vietnam] and returning to Cincinnati, I was fortunate to become the administrative assistant to Mayor Eugene Ruehlmann, and then was retained by his successor, Willis Gradison Jr. My major duties included drafting research and documents concerning needed or pending city ordinances and state legislation, providing constituent service and support, liaison with the city manager and city departments. That work, together with going to law school Monday, Wednesday and Friday nights, and studying; studying every day was a commitment and robust time-balancing act, to say the least.

“There were times when I was studying in my basement office that I recall honestly thinking, ‘What sheer joy this is to read and study The Law at the YMCA: Torts, Con Law, Real Property, Evidence, et al. So different from the jungles, rice paddies, swelter and emotions and tragedies of Vietnam.’”

While far removed from a Vietnam jungle, the YMCA building that housed Chase beginning about 25 years after its founding in 1893 in the national YMCA night law school movement was woven into the fortunes of a neighborhood that rose and fell and rose.

“Althoagh, in hindsight, facilities at the YMCA were somewhat spartan, they were far above those I experienced in poncho-liners and tents (when we had those) in Vietnam. Classrooms at the Y were not particularly cramped and the law library, though these days far more advanced on the NKU campus, had a full complement of reference materials and was suitable and satisfactory,” Mr. Zoller recalls.

Some of what happened outside the building became the stuff of memories for Judge Hendon. “Probably my two most vivid memories are the nightly race to find a free parking space and the night of the big jail break and subsequent escape of prisoners from the courthouse jail, just three blocks down the street. It added a new level of suspense to walk out of the YMCA building into the night, aware that we were sharing the neighborhood with the escapees.”

But it was what happened inside – and had happened again and again during the decades before – that most deeply impressed her. “I don’t believe any of us gave much thought to the fact that we weren’t in an ivy-covered edifice on a beautifully landscaped campus somewhere. We were committed to getting the degree we set out to get. Everyone signed on to four years of night school, committed to getting a law degree. And we were thankful that a school like Chase existed, to provide a vehicle to continue life while doing so.

“We realized that one thing Chase gave us that set us apart from other schools was that we had the unique privilege of having professors who were also successful practitioners. Real, live lawyers who brought us real-life experiences. Sometimes I’m sure they must have been as tired after working all day as we were, but they never showed it. Having the school physically located in downtown Cincinnati probably helped entice some of those lawyers to become part-time faculty.”

The experiences there for Mr. Zoller and Judge Hendon would help shape what would follow.

“Midway through law school, in 1971-72, while still at the YMCA building,” Mr. Zoller says, “I was appointed the first court administrator for the Hamilton County Court of Common Pleas, and later also combined management duties for the Municipal Court in Hamilton County. Those duties included case-flow and records management, juror management, probation services, official court reporting, space and facilities, and finance. This, too, was full-time work, and the discipline, regimen and rigor of law study at Chase helped enormously.

“Following that work, I became the first clerk of court, then circuit executive, for the United States Court of Appeals for the 11th Circuit, in Atlanta, and served for more than a quarter-century. I also returned to part-time military duty in the National Guard and Reserves, and served 15 more years as an Army lawyer. I cite all this public service in the law because in my mind none of these opportunities and responsibilities would have occurred but for my legal training and development that began at Chase, in the historic YMCA building.”

For Judge Hendon, who after three years in private practice became a Hamilton County Juvenile Court referee, then a Hamilton County Municipal Court judge and later a Juvenile Court judge before she was elected to the court of appeals, the building itself has remained as important as anything she learned inside it. “Every day that I drove to work over my more than 35-year career on the bench in Hamilton County, I made the nostalgic turn at Central Parkway and just smiled at that building, still standing. So many lives were changed there. So many opportunities were realized and so many practitioners were educated there who would go on to make a huge impact on our community.”
Behind the Scenes

The casting call from a British production company for the A&E documentary series “Accused: Guilty or Innocent?” went out to scores of public defender offices across the nation. It wanted felony case preparations and trials to record in real-time. After the trailers faded and the second season appeared on screens this past August, Salmon P. Chase College of Law 2012 graduate Brandis Bradley had the lead role with her defense of a retired Kentucky coal miner accused of fatally shooting his best friend during an argument and struggle.

Here is how the script unfolded for her, the ethics question she considered, how videographers shadowed her and, ultimately, how the uncertainty of the venture weighed on her.

Scene 1
The production company begins its search for active felony cases to follow for “Accused: Guilty or Innocent?”

SETTING
Kentucky Department of Public Advocacy Prestonsburg field office, in Eastern Kentucky.

PRINCIPLE CHARACTER
Prestonsburg staff attorney Brandis Bradley.

DIALOG
Bradley: “I work for the DPA. In September 2020, British production company Brinkworth Productions contacted Public Advocate Damon Preston and advised that it was looking for cases that fit certain criteria. Damon forwarded the email from Brinkworth to all DPA attorneys in the commonwealth. At that time, a case I was working on was set for trial November 30, 2020, and it seemed like a perfect fit. I submitted a summary to Brinkworth, and within a couple days it was reaching out to me via telephone.”

Scene 2
The case

SETTING
Prestonsburg and Martin County, Eastern Kentucky.

PRINCIPLE CHARACTERS
Defendant Woody Six and Bradley.

ACTION
Six is arrested and charged with manslaughter and wanton endanger-ment, later changed to reckless homicide, in the fatal shooting of his friend, Rodney Stepp, during an argument and struggle outside Stepp’s home in Martin County, involving Stepp’s drinking. Trial preparations begin at Bradley’s office in Prestonsburg, in adjacent Floyd County.

DIALOG
Bradley: “Not long after the film crew arrived in October, the Supreme Court of Kentucky issued an order that basically shut down the court system for in-person business early in the Covid-19 pandemic, so Woody’s November trial date was continued on a wait-and-see basis. Because the film crew was here and there was plenty of prep work to do on Woody’s case, we proceeded with filming our preparation for trial. They returned to London in early December, with plans to return to Kentucky to complete filming once a trial date was set.”
Scene 3
Bradley considers what is happening.

SETTING
In and around Prestonsburg, the Floyd County seat; population 3,478; a region steeped in country music.

DIALOG
Bradley: “Agreeing to film wasn’t a tough decision. I was confident in my case, and I knew I had a sympathetic client. I’ve been a public defender for six years, and I’ve yet to represent a client who I found to be completely lacking in redeemable qualities. In the words of Sister Helen Prejean, who is an advocate for eliminating the death penalty, ‘Is not everybody worth more than the worst thing they’ve ever done in their life?’

“Woody was accused of a heinous crime – killing a man. And Woody did, in fact, kill a man. But I spent three years, since 2017, getting to know Woody and his wife, Joann. There was absolutely no part of me that believed that Woody would intentionally hurt another man, especially his best friend. And I was confident that Woody’s actions would, by and large, be perceived as justified to a national audience.

“I had left no stone unturned in my preparation for this case, so I wasn’t worried about any facts coming to light that might harm my client. As I said in the film, I was a firm believer that the truth was our best defense. First and foremost, I hoped that the truth would set Woody free. In the event that Woody were to be convicted of manslaughter and sentenced to 20 years – basically a death sentence for a 70-year-old man – I hoped that maybe the film could spark some public outrage and garner some helpful support, if necessary, on appeal.”

Scene 4
Bradley weighs the ethics issues involved.

DIALOG
Bradley: “The most obvious ethics issue was waiving attorney-client privilege by inviting a film crew into Woody’s and my private conversations. These concerns were alleviated somewhat by the fact that I had spent years talking to Woody, and I had heard everything he had to say on the matter. Woody had given almost two hours of interviews to detectives in the immediate aftermath of the shooting. In the three years prior to trial, I never heard Woody add to or take away from anything he had said to detectives.

“Should the prosecution have tried to subpoena the tapes prior to trial, I was confident they wouldn’t have heard anything they hadn’t already heard on their recorded police interviews. I also spoke with Brinkworth and learned that it had never had an issue with unwelcome subpoenas, but if it did, there was a legal team in place to fight those subpoenas.

“Although Brinkworth made it clear that going to trial was an integral component of the series, it also constantly reiterated that it did not want filming to affect or alter our trial strategy. If Woody was offered a deal he couldn’t refuse, Brinkworth was adamant that we do what’s best for Woody, regardless of how it impacted the film. That, of course, made it a lot easier for us to agree to filming.”

Scene 5
Videoing occurs.

SETTING
The Prestonsburg Department of Public Advocacy office, roads in Floyd County, the Johnson County courthouse and courtroom.

PRINCIPLE CHARACTERS
Bradley, Six, First Assistant Commonwealth’s Attorney Matt Runyon, Circuit Judge John David Preston of the 24th Judicial Circuit for Floyd, Martin and Johnson counties.

DIALOG
Bradley: “Woody and I spent a few days with the film crew, just getting to know each other, before we ever saw the camera. I developed a fast and easy rapport with them, as did Woody and Joann. I was surprised at how quickly we all became comfortable in front of the camera.

“This film falls under the genre of observational documentary, so there was absolutely no scripting and very little direction. The film crew basically showed up every day and asked me what I was working on. Then they would tag along and film. They would sometimes ask me to stop and explain what I was doing or thinking, but we didn’t ‘stage’ or ‘script’ anything, except the scenes where I’m getting in and out of my car or walking into the office.

“We dedicated one day to getting drone footage of me driving. A drone pilot from Chicago came down and I drove up and down the road for a few hours so they could get all the drone shots that you see of my car driving along the road.

“The film was only 42 minutes long, but it was cut from hundreds of hours of footage. Although I am very happy with the final product, I regret that it couldn’t have been longer.”
Scene 6
The professional and personal impact on Bradley.

DIALOG

Bradley: "I had to manage my crippling public defender caseload throughout filming, but the film crew worked around it. Rather than being a distraction, filming was incredibly effective in keeping me focused and on task. "It probably helped that court was 100-percent virtual throughout the filming. Visitation also was restricted at our jails, so I was able to take time I'd typically be spending with other clients in a jail and devote it to preparing for Woody's trial. In that unfortunate sense, I didn't feel I was taking as much time away from my other clients because I wouldn't have been able to spend that time with them anyway.

"Putting aside my concerns for Woody's well-being, my biggest fear was making a fool of myself on national television and ruining my professional reputation. I was confident in my case, and I knew I'd done the work, but you never know what a jury is going to do.

"My whole life, I've been taught that hard work always pays off. However, the only place that maxim has let me down is in a courtroom. It is absolutely possible to give all you've got and do your very best, and still fail in a courtroom.

"Had Woody been convicted of manslaughter and sentenced to 20 years, I knew it would be presented in the film as a gross miscarriage of justice, and rightly so. In that scenario, I would most certainly be to blame. I would've never forgiven myself if that had happened. Even if I could, a judging public would've never let me."

CLOSING VOICEOVER

After five hours of deliberation, a jury found Woody Six guilty July 2, 2021, of reckless homicide. He was sentenced to one year in prison, to be served in the Big Sandy Regional Detention Center. He decided not to appeal. He had previously spent five months in jail after his arrest, prior to being able to post bond. He was released from Big Sandy September 1, 2021. On September 6, 2021, he suffered a heart attack and tested positive for a mild case of breakthrough Covid-19. He had stents placed in his arteries and was discharged from a hospital to recover at home.

The A&E episode is online at https://play.aetv.com/shows/accused-guilty-or-innocent/season-2/episode-1.

Defendant Woody Six
IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF HISTORY

Delayed by a global pandemic, the Chase Alumni Luncheon this March is celebrating the first women to graduate from Salmon P. Chase College of Law — Loraine Cain and Florence Hornback in the Class of 1921 — and presenting awards to:

**Debra K. Crane, Class of 1996**  
**Judge Wende C. Cross, Class of 1992**  
**Susan Cross Lipnickey, Class of 1991**  
**Andrea D. Costa, Class of 2012**

Their stories and the awards they are receiving, March 18 in the Hall of Mirrors of the Hilton Cincinnati Netherland Plaza, begin on Page 26.

A week later, on March 26, the Northern Kentucky University Alumni Association is presenting awards to Chase graduates **Jakki Haussler, Class of 1988**, and **Mac Riley, Class of 1986**. Their stories are on Page 28.
Mrs. Crane developed her legal career with Ohio Casualty Corporation, where she led creation of the corporate legal department, then joined senior management as general counsel, senior vice president and corporate secretary. She is admitted to practice in Ohio and before the Supreme Court of the United States. She retired from Ohio Casualty to pursue an interest in ministry.

In her second career: After leaving Ohio Casualty, Mrs. Crane moved into a pastoral role at Vineyard Eastgate Community Church, in metro Cincinnati, where she managed staff, finances and facilities. She then served as director of cemeteries for the Archdiocese of Cincinnati. She managed day-to-day operations of Gate of Heaven Cemetery and obtained industry certification as a Certified Catholic Cemetery Executive. Most recently, she was ordained as pastor by the RiverTree Vineyard Church, also in metro Cincinnati.

In business and the community: Mrs. Crane has held board positions with the Ohio Insurance Institute, the Ohio Casualty Foundation, the Butler County (Ohio) United Way, the Vineyard Eastgate Community Church and the Vineyard Cincinnati Church.

At Chase: She is a member of the Board of Visitors and the Alumni Council. As council president in 2012 she made the motion during a Chase Alumni Association-sponsored group admission to the Bar of the Supreme Court of the United States for alumni to be admitted to practice before the court.

A memory of Chase: “Because of life circumstances at the time, I would never have been able to pursue a legal education elsewhere for quite some time, if ever. Chase afforded me the opportunity to obtain this wonderful legal education in the night program, from excellent professors. This allowed me to maintain a job with Ohio Casualty, while they waited until I completed my law degree to start their legal department.”

JUDGE WENDE C. CROSS
Class of 1992
Judge of the Hamilton County Court of Common Pleas, Cincinnati

Professional Achievement Award
Presented to a graduate who exhibits the ideals of Chase through professional achievement

Judge Cross was elected to the Hamilton County Court of Common Pleas, General Division in November 2020, where she presides over approximately 500 civil and criminal felony cases per year.

Her career: Judge Cross began her legal career practicing insurance defense litigation at Landrun & Houser in Lexington, Kentucky. She was later recruited by the U.S. Department of Justice to serve as an Assistant United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Kentucky, and later the Southern District of Ohio. After 10 years as a prosecutor, she returned to private practice and, from 2004 to 2012, managed a small law firm focused primarily on civil rights litigation, family law and federal and state criminal defense in Kentucky and Ohio. She subsequently served for eight years as a magistrate in Hamilton County (Ohio) Juvenile Court.

In the community: Judge Cross is involved with the NAACP, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Black Lawyers Association of Cincinnati, Impact 100 of Cincinnati, a community council, church and other organizations.

At Chase: She was a member of the Board of Visitors, a trial team coach, Professionalism Day speaker for first-year students this past August and commencement speaker in 2003.

A memory from Chase: “I will never forget the time then-Dean Steve Stephens stopped me in the hallway to ask how I was doing with my classes. During our discussion, I expressed some concern about opportunities for a corporate law clerkship. Unbeknownst to me, he went to his office and made a few telephone calls on my behalf. I ultimately obtained a summer clerkship in the legal department of Ashland Oil Company. When I thanked him for his efforts on my behalf, he said, ‘We at Chase believe in you.’ Those words were a significant lift to my spirit then, and still to this day.”
Ms. Lipnickey is associate athletics director for student-athlete services/senior woman administrator at Xavier University in Cincinnati, where she oversees all athletics areas that directly impact student-athletes, including academic support, compliance, sports medicine and strength and conditioning training. She is a professor emerita of Miami University, in Oxford, Ohio, where she was a faculty member and administrator.

**Her career:** Ms. Lipnickey was Miami University associate dean in the School of Education, Health and Society, interim chair of the Department of Family Studies and Social Work and faculty athletics representative to the NCAA and Mid-American Conference. Her academic interests focused primarily on the impact of health-related behaviors among college students and the impact of health and well-being among juveniles and families. In 1996, she was named Miami University Effective Educator, and in 2002 the Miami University alumni association recognized her with its A.K. Morris Award.

**As a lawyer:** She was part of a small, general practice focusing on juvenile, family and criminal law, and was actively engaged in community service, including Butler County (Ohio) Parachute (Court-Appointed Special Advocates for Abused, Neglected and Dependent Children).

**In the community:** She led the Butler County Opiate Abuse Task Force and has served on the boards of McCullough-Hyde Memorial Hospital in Butler County and the Butler County Coalitions for a Healthy Community.

**At Chase:** She is a member of the Board of Visitors and the Alumni Council.

**A memory of Chase:** “What I remember about Chase that impacted not only the ‘attorney’ part of my life, but my teaching and my working with others, was the law school experience. It was contrary to everything I had learned about ‘education’ and challenged me every day. Those challenges, in retrospect, made me better in every part of my professional life: teaching, thinking, writing.”

Ms. Costa works with executives, professionals, closely held business owners and families with multigenerational wealth to develop comprehensive financial plans. Prior to joining HORAN, a financial services and advisory firm, she focused her law practice in areas involving financial planning, business succession planning, complex estate tax strategy and dispute resolution.

**In her career:** She also writes a blog and teaches seminars on high net worth estate planning strategies for lawyers, certified public accountants and industry groups. She was a recipient of a 2021 Cincinnati Business Courier Forty under 40 Award, which recognizes individuals under the age of 40 who are making a difference in business and community.

**In the community:** Ms. Costa is nominating chair of the Cincinnati Ballet Board of Trustees (she studied ballet and performed for 22 years), and has served on two campaign committees for ArtsWave, a unified fundraising drive for Cincinnati arts organizations. She has assisted Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center, Cincinnati Ballet and Dan Beard Council of the Boy Scouts of America in developing legacy giving. She is a member of the Cincinnati Estate Planning Counsel Board of Trustees and president of the Cincinnati Gator Club of University of Florida alumni.

**At Chase:** She has been a guest lecturer, mentor to students, speaker at an admissions luncheon and judge of student competitions.

**A memory of Chase:** “Chase has shaped my career at every level, but what stands out to me is the individual attention. The wonderful staff in the career development office helped me set up my first LinkedIn profile, and they encouraged me to meet attorneys for lunch and coffee, even though I was very shy. They knew that I wasn’t a native Cincinnatian, and they took the time to help me set up those meetings. This was so simple, so kind and so critical to my success out in the world.”
Ms. Haussler is chairman of Opus Capital Management. She served as co-founder, chairman and chief executive from 1996 to 2019, providing executive oversight and corporate strategy and directing marketing and client service, with a focus on institutional clients.

Her career: Ms. Haussler is a lawyer and certified public accountant (inactive) with more than 39 years’ experience in public accounting, investment banking, venture capital and asset management. Prior to co-founding Opus Capital, she was managing director of Capvest Venture Fund, partner at Adena Ventures Fund, managing director of an investment banking firm, manager of Blue Chip Venture Company and involved in mergers and acquisitions at Cincinnati Bell.

Corporate boards: She currently serves on the boards of directors of Morgan Stanley Funds, Service Corporation International and the Barnes Group.

In the community: Ms. Haussler was a Cincinnati YWCA Outstanding Career Women of Achievement in 2005 and one of Savoy Magazine’s Most Influential Black Corporate Directors in 2021.

At Chase and NKU: Ms. Haussler is a member of the Board of Visitors and the Center for Law and Entrepreneurship. She received the Chase Alumni Association Professional Achievement Award in 2007 and was commencement speaker in 2017.

How Chase shaped her career: “My educational experience at Chase was truly life-changing and transformative. Given my background as a certified public accountant, the Socratic educational method provided me the opportunity to enhance my critical thinking and logical reasoning skills. These core skills were extremely valuable in my professional positions in mergers and acquisitions, venture capital, investment banking and asset management.

“One invaluable lesson was from the late Professor Gene Krauss. During my first semester, he impressed upon me the importance of learning to ‘think like a lawyer’ and the need to shift my paradigm, leaving my accounting principles at the door. I took those words to heart and will forever be grateful for his wise counsel.”

Mr. Riley is president of BAHR Associates, a Washington, D.C., area based boutique provider of signal intelligence services to the United States intelligence community, and chief executive of United Building Services, a provider of commercial building services.

As a lawyer: He is admitted to practice in Maryland and before the Supreme Court of the United States. Early in his career he specialized in commercial litigation with the Washington, D.C., office of Howrey & Simon. President George H.W. Bush appointed him as special counsel in the Department of the Air Force.

Government service: Mr. Riley was deputy assistant secretary of the Army in the George H.W. Bush administration. For his service as special counsel to the Air Force, he was awarded the Commander’s Public Service Medal; for his service to the Army, the Meritorious Civilian Service Medal.

At Chase and NKU: He is a member of the Chase Board of Visitors and serves on the NKU Foundation Board of Directors. He received the Chase Alumni Association Professional Achievement Award in 2014.

How Chase shaped his career: “The law school taught me how to think in a way that I definitely would not be able to otherwise, taking difficult, complex situations, synthesizing them down to their elements, organizing thought and action in a way that played out in my legal career, in my business career, and also in my personal life and my everyday actions and activities. We had in our class [times of] … humor, we had very poignant moments, we had some personal sharing moments, we had tremendous learning moments that all came together in a chemistry that you just don’t find many places, and it was really extraordinary. The first word that comes to my mind about Chase law school is ‘opportunity.’ It really is about opportunities in life through the educational process.”
College Athletics Rules put Alumni at Center Court

THE INTERSECTION OF NCAA REGULATIONS AND STATE LAWS ARE PLACING A PREMIUM ON A LAW DEGREE FOR ATHLETICS DEPARTMENT ADMINISTRATORS

Student athletics is more than a game for Salmon P. Chase College of Law alumni involved in making sure that university athletics departments and student-athletes hew to the regulations of the NCAA, athletic conferences, universities and state laws.

At Northern Kentucky University, Michael Gray is coordinating the plays as athletics department director of compliance and at Xavier University, Susan Cross Lipnickey is overseeing the rule book as associate athletic director for compliance and student-athlete welfare. For both of them, the game has change significantly since the NCAA adopted regulations that allow student-athletes to profit from their notoriety by being compensated for commercial usages of their name, image and likeness, or what has come to be known by the shorthand, NIL.

For top-name student-athletes – think Heisman Trophy candidate or national championship team – the return on being able to trade on a name, image and likeness is up in pro territory. For others, it might be stopping by a restaurant opening near campus or selling T-shirts with their face and signature on them.

For athletics department administrators sent into this new game, having a law degree typically is not part of a job description, but it ups the game. “Being a lawyer certainly helps with the new name, image and likeness changes,” says Mr. Gray, who graduated in 2015. “This was particularly true when the NCAA guidance was just to follow your state laws, so this had gone outside of the traditional NCAA compliance manual. We have worked closely with general counsel here at NKU as we have developed policies related to NIL.”

The view is similar for Ms. Lipnickey, who graduated in 1991. “NIL is fraught with legal issues, from the number of states that have adopted their own legislation, to the other NCAA by-laws that intersect NIL but are not specifically addressed in state legislation. In addition, there are the increased demands on education [of student-athletes], tracking and monitoring, as well as the increased questions as NIL takes front and center on social media, which spawns more questions than answers.”

While NIL has been a game-changer, other monitoring and compliance operations have continued, something like the emphasis coaches put on paying attention to the fundamentals of a sport.

“The breadth and depth of knowledge required to work in the area of compliance in college athletics continues to expand,” says Ms. Lipnickey. “My perspective is that being an attorney provides a perspective in how to read legislation, how to interpret it and how it applies every day. In addition, with the increasing number of rules/regulations (NCAA, institutional, conference, federal/state/local governments), it is imperative to have the legal writing skills when it comes to securing waivers, reporting violations and understanding the intersections of all areas of ‘the law.’”

And those are some of the skills that come into play for Mr. Gray. “Many of the analytical skills that are taught and developed at Chase help to ease the learning curve of working in NCAA compliance. The NCAA bylaws are written in a way that may not always be intuitive to everyone who reads them, so it is important to be able to cut down some of those barriers for the different groups that I have to educate on the rules.”

“Ongoing education is one of the biggest responsibilities in the NCAA compliance office. It is our belief that education leads to fewer mistakes on the backend, so we try to get out ahead of as much as possible. We provide ongoing rules education with our coaches and staff on a monthly basis and regularly through email reminders. With student-athletes, we meet in person with them at the beginning and end of the school year, and periodically throughout the year as needed.”

With the game in new territory, Mr. Gray foresees new issues. “Two of the biggest issues that I think are going to be encountered with NIL, from a legal standpoint, are the tax ramifications of entering into these agreements and the use of institutional intellectual property.”

“Student-athletes aren’t going to be getting a W-2 for most of these activities, so they’re going to be responsible for keeping records and following up on all of their tax liabilities, which we are educating our student-athletes on to try to help them. In the realm of IP law, the student-athletes are going to have to make sure that they are following whatever their athletics department policy states about usage of institutional logos, color combinations, etc.”

For student-athletes, the rules on the field or court are about the same as when their games started, but outside the lines, it’s a whole different ballgame – coached at two institutions by Chase alumni.
The Salmon P. Chase College of Law Small Business & Nonprofit Law Clinic has gone to where most of its clients are, and is reaching out to where others might be.

The clinic, in which students handle largely transactional matters for clients with limited resources, this summer moved from the Northern Kentucky University campus, in Highland Heights, to the Collaborative for Economic Development space in downtown Covington. It also launched into its part of a grant to aid economic development in rural areas of Northern Kentucky and began exploration of ways to extend its reach throughout the commonwealth.

The physical move to the Collaborative for Economic Development, a partnership of NKU, the city of Covington and others, puts the clinic under the same roof as other services for entrepreneurs and small business owners needing help in turning their ideas into viable products or services.

“This will benefit the students by allowing them to experience the real-life startup world, working alongside founders, accelerators, investors and other members of the local startup community,” says Christopher Muzzo, clinic director who also teaches technology-related courses. “This community provides us with most of our clients, so being able to participate in their world gives our students a better perspective on what our clients are dealing with as they try to get their businesses off the ground.”

The Collaborative for Economic Development is designed to give small businesses and dreamers a one-stop source for expertise and assistance. And while its office is in downtown Covington, its vision reaches to the rural edges of Northern Kentucky.

Work that students do through the clinic, such as advising and drafting contracts and policies, is some of the expertise NKU is offering under a federal Rural Business Development Enterprise Grant that focuses on four opportunity zones in Carroll, Gallatin, Grant and Owen counties and also on Pendleton County.

“The grant enables the clinic to increase its footprint in Northern Kentucky, allowing us to reach rural areas that are traditionally underserved by the legal industry,” Professor Muzzo says. “Our students benefit by being able to interact with and serve a wider array of small business owners and nonprofit entities, giving them a greater breadth of experience as they prepare for their careers.”

Beyond Northern Kentucky, the clinic is exploring the possibility of a partnership that would extend students’ work throughout the commonwealth, possibly through communications and an information repository.

With students’ work reaching in multiple directions, both geographic and legal, the need for efficient usage of technology to track and expedite it becomes important.

“We are working to improve internal communication through use of communications platforms such as Microsoft Teams and Slack, which are much better than email for keeping things organized. We are also working to build a collection of sample documents on the cloud,” Professor Muzzo says.

“The idea is to have examples and templates of our most commonly requested documents available to the students on demand, so that they can use them as guides in creating custom documents for our clients. As a result of the pandemic, we relied exclusively on video conferencing for client meetings last year. While in-person meetings are happening again, we give the clients the option of meeting remotely, and many prefer to continue doing so.”

Those initial conferences are part of the foundations that clinic students are laying for future law practices of consulting, advising, drafting and implementing.

“The students handle a wide variety of matters for our clients, who include for-profit businesses and nonprofits. They help founders form and register their legal entities and provide them with foundational documents, such as bylaws or operating agreements. They also provide businesses with day-to-day legal needs, such as employment or independent contractor agreements, website terms of service, privacy policies and vendor contracts. This requires the students to apply interviewing skills, research skills and drafting skills, among others,” Professor Muzzo says.

For those students, the road from Chase to the new clinic office is where the roadmap to their futures begins.
Lunsford Academy Scholars Write an Expanded Narrative for Chase

THEIR ACADEMIC BACKGROUNDS AND LIFE EXPERIENCES ENHANCE THE PLOTLINE OF THE ENTIRE STUDENT BODY

Like the individual words that comprise a novel, students in the W. Bruce Lunsford Academy for Law, Business + Technology at Salmon P. Chase College of Law are written into the sentences and paragraphs of the contemporary Chase story.

In many ways, their personal stories are typical of the overall enrollment. In others, they are more atypical. Some bring with them academic backgrounds from the STEM fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics. Others have life experiences that enrich their contributions to classroom discussions and student activities. Among them: a computer programmer analyst, a small business owner making racing car parts, a hospital laboratory technician, a Navy veteran with nuclear submarine service, a paralegal and a bioengineering program graduate.

Since the first Lunsford scholars entered in 2014, the honors program, backed by a $1 million donation from alumnus W. Bruce Lunsford to merge training in aspects of law, business and technology, has enrolled 145 students.

Among the 67 of them this year in the focused program that complements overall coursework are Christopher Grayson, with undergraduate degrees in physics and mathematics and who owns a small engineering company; Tai Edwards, who minored in Chinese language and now finds an academic advantage at Chase in interacting with other Lunsford students; and Jalen Sehlhorst, who worked 2-1/2 years as a paralegal before enrolling at Chase.

In one key word and in their own words, this is how they see the Lunsford Academy helping them, and them helping Chase:

Christopher Grayson
Impact: “Both my fellow Chase students and my professors have significant impact here, and my experience benefits them in return. On a daily basis, I am surrounded by people who have managed wealth, written technical documentation, developed contracts and performed many other notable roles for the world’s most prominent companies. Because of this, you find yourself working immediately at a level that had previously appeared at the top of a long ladder.”

Direction: “One of the biggest benefits of the Lunsford Academy is having an established path to success to follow, having resources keeping you on track and having opportunities seemingly delivered to your doorstep.”

Tai Edwards
Interaction: “I benefit greatly from interacting with and being challenged by some of the best and brightest at Chase. There’s a great sense of community in the academy, where we’re all competing with each other but not strictly against each other. Everyone wants to see their fellow Lunsford members reach their highest potential.”

Endorsement: “Hearing about the program from Lunsford Academy students and alumni, I knew it was the perfect program to help me achieve my corporate law career goals. I had an amazing time participating in the Lunsford Fellowship at the Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky International Airport.

Chase provides an excellent classroom experience, but going outside the classroom and applying what I learned through legal internships has helped solidify my understanding of the material.”

Jalen Sehlhorst
Preparation: “The Lunsford Academy was crucial in my decision to attend Chase because it offers classes and professional expertise that outshine other law schools. The academy is preparing students for the future of the legal profession, and I am fortunate to be a part of it. One benefit is the opportunity to work alongside and learn from practicing attorneys who are in emerging and exciting areas of law. I am looking forward to learning more from these professionals and taking classes focusing on data privacy, artificial intelligence and intellectual property.”

Synergy: “Before law school, I worked as a white-collar criminal defense paralegal for 2-1/2 years. I am able to apply the knowledge and skills of my professional experience directly into the classroom.”

For Dean Judith Daar, Ambassador Patricia L. Herbold Dean of Chase College of Law, the words of Lunsford Academy students are a narrative on what the program provides:

“The Lunsford Academy offers Chase students a unique blend of innovative courses, experiences and networking opportunities that enhance their career paths. A diverse mix of programming in law, business and technology prepares our students for the ever-changing needs of the legal profession. We are incredibly proud of the achievements our Lunsford students have advanced during law school and after graduation.”
Meet the New Normal, (Almost) Like the Old Normal

CHASE HAS IN-PERSON CLASSES AND SOME ACTIVITIES AFTER MORE THAN A YEAR OF COVID-19 ISOLATION, WITH PRECAUTIONS FOR A PANDEMIC STILL IN PLACE

Like the rest of the nation as the Covid-19 pandemic first plateaued, surged and waned, Salmon P. Chase College of Law students and professors had hoped that an anticipated new normal when classes resumed this past autumn would be fairly similar to the old normal.

And as with the rest of the nation, the Chase new normal, after more than a year of remote classes and cancelled activities, in fact, was something like the old. Classes for the academic year began in-person and remained that way. Professors held in-person office hours. And some student organizations scheduled in-person meetings.

But the new was not quite the old. Facial coverings were required in classrooms and throughout Nunn Hall, and were recommended for outdoors. Some student externships and pro bono activities continued online while some were in-person. Plexiglas shields remained in place. And the traditional Chase Alumni Luncheon that was cancelled for 2020 and rescheduled to October 2021 was rescheduled again, to spring 2022.

Getting back to any level of normal for the 2021-2022 academic year required planning beyond what would have been previously normal, a degree of optimism that everything would work out – even as the delta variant surged and the omicron variant forced a one-week delay to the beginning of spring semester – and a readiness to adapt if things would not be what had been hoped for. For example:

for Classes

“Over the summer, we were constantly monitoring both national and local trends with respect to Covid,” Professor Lawrence Rosenthal, associate dean for academics, says. “As soon as the decision to return to our pre-Covid method of instruction was made, Dean Judith Daar communicated that information to students, staff and faculty. It was important to give everyone as much notice as possible so that everyone would be able to take the necessary steps for the return to in-person learning.

“Faculty members have been extremely accommodating to students who believe they might have been exposed to Covid. Using a combination of recorded lecture-capture and Zoom attendance for exposed students, faculty members have made sure that students personally affected by Covid were in no way disadvantaged because of the pandemic.

“We certainly hoped we would not have to pivot back to remote instruction, but we were ready to do so, if a pivot would have been necessary. We, like most law schools, learned a lot during March of 2020 (when we made a quick pivot), and throughout 2020-2021, and we will take those lessons and be able to pivot again should we need to do so.”

for the Law Library

“In August 2020, we removed approximately half of the library’s seating to conform to social distancing requirements, and Plexiglas shields were put up at the front desk. Cleaning spray was available for anyone who wanted to sanitize a study space,” says Carol Bredemeyer, law library director and professor of law library services. “When students returned in force this fall, we established seating according to university guidelines. Masks are required in the library, and we make occasional patrols to reinforce the policy. We still have cleaning spray available for anyone who wants to use it and the Plexiglas shields remain.”

for Student Externships

“The externship program had been operating flexibly throughout the pandemic to allow students to continue gaining practical experience as safely as possible,” says Professor Jennifer Kinsley, associate dean for professional development and director of field placement. “Because lawyers are essential workers who provide essential services to clients, students in the externship program have been witnessing in real time what it means to continue working through the pandemic. Legal externs are learning through hands-on experience how to carry on with the practice of law, both in-person and remotely.”

for Student Pro Bono Requirements

“Each pro bono placement is handled individually and in partnership with the pro bono partner,” says Kathy Kelly, pro bono program coordinator. “We follow whatever protocols our partners have in place, as well as protocols NKU has in place. Many of our pro bono partners were still working remotely, and in these situations our students were also working remotely.

“Street Law, a partnership with the Kentucky juvenile court system in which Chase students teach legal life skills to at-risk youth in a diversion program, continued online fall semester. This has actually been an opportunity for more of our part-time students to participate virtually than when Street Law classes were in-person.”

for Student Competition Teams

“The Chase National Trial Competition Team participated in competitions throughout the 2020-2021 academic year. However, all of the competitions were virtual,” says Professor Jack Harrison, director of the Chase Center for Excellence in Advocacy and trial team coordinator. “As we began to prepare for the 2021-2022 academic year in the spring and summer of 2021, the members of the team and I were hopeful that we would be able to compete in some competitions in-person. However, the surge in Covid cases over the summer, due to the delta variant and a low rate of vaccination, shattered that hope. By mid-summer, we were again planning for virtual tryouts for new members of the team and another year of virtual competitions.”
“While we did some of our team practices in-person and masked fall semester, we remained ready to shift our preparation online again, should the situation have demanded it. Having participated in virtual competitions all last academic year, we learned a lot about doing a virtual trial. Specifically, we learned how to frame the most compelling shots for our advocates, so as not to diminish their presentations.”

for Career Opportunities

“While the Career Development Office staff worked on campus during spring and summer, appointments with students were conducted via a mixture of in-person, phone calls and Zoom meetings. We were excited to have fully transitioned back to in-person appointments during the fall semester,” says Lisa Moore, director of career development.

“While most interviewers in the fall on-campus interview program scheduled themselves to be in-person in early August, those plans changed as a result of a rapid increase in Covid cases in the week leading up to the start of interviews. The Career Development Office worked with employers and students to quickly pivot from an in-person format to a virtual format, and even with those last-minute changes the interviews yielded successful results for a number of students.

“We are planning to offer in-person, on-campus interviews during the spring 2022 semester, and we have been working with employers to finalize those plans.”

for Student Organizations

“The 2020 Covid year was especially challenging for student organizations, as their ability to meet and share was limited to virtual options,” says Ashley Siemer, director of student affairs and enrollment management. “After spending hours in a virtual classroom, many students were too fatigued to join another virtual meeting.

“For the 2021-2022 academic year, we are pleased to offer student organizations an opportunity to resume in-person meetings. One major change to these meetings [many held at mealtimes] is that we are not permitting eating during meetings. Instead, student groups can request ‘grab and go’ meal options to offer attendees at the conclusion of the meeting.”

for Going Forward

“One thing I have kept from online classes is videos I created or found for students to view outside of class time,” says Professor Jennifer Kreder. “Online, class conversations take a little longer because there is naturally a little lag time between one person speaking and the next person piping up. So, I put more basic content in video format for students to review before we all got together so that we could spend the class time as we really needed, to discuss the materials together.”

Now, with a new normal settling in as the current normal at Chase, spring semester and the academic year that will follow again offer the hope that an old normal will be back.

Masks continued to be required in Nunn Hall and all other Northern Kentucky University buildings during the ongoing Covid-19 global pandemic. The omicron variant surge delayed the start of spring semester by one week, and when classes began, professors had options the first few weeks for teaching in-person or online.
Hard work, it has been said, can make anything look easy.

When the Northern Kentucky Law Review, along with the Salmon P. Chase College of Law Center on Addiction Law & Policy, presented the symposium “The Future of Drug Policy: Is Decriminalization a Solution for Addiction and Policing?” this past spring, it looked easy. The hard work is why.

Planning had begun almost a year in advance. Speakers had been contacted. Deadlines had been set. There had been great expectations and some disappointments. Emails had followed emails. Edits and revisions had been made. Online technology had been arranged. Student law review notes had been researched and written. Moderators had been lined up.

And, finally, March 26, 2021, arrived. And it looked easy.

For the students involved, it was both a substantive exploration and an organizational conquest. The symposium topic – drug policy and decriminalization – arose from discussions among Dean Judith Daar and law review editors. From there, the work to make the symposium look easy belonged largely to the student editors.

“We discussed what kind of article submissions would be best, whether we were taking a specific stance or if we wanted to remain neutral,” recalls Eli Williams, the law review symposium editor who graduated seven weeks after the event. “While we initially wanted to at least appear neutral, as we moved forward we decided to present a symposium arguing in favor of drug decriminalization and highlighting different ways to achieve that goal.”

To do it, the editors organized a symposium of 14 panelists and moderators, and presentations by two Chase students – Katie Jaggers and Bennett Weaver – of law review notes they had written.

Working to arrange those appearances of panelists and presenters was Mr. Williams. “I was responsible for reaching out to potential speakers and authors, coordinating expectations and deadlines with authors and figuring out the best lineup for the day of the symposium itself,” he says. “It involved hundreds of emails, lots of rejections and tons of silence. I was also heavily involved with editing, revising and perfecting submissions we received, and communicating those revisions to the authors. Finally, I had to find and line up moderators for each of the panels.”

The idea of a symposium arose early enough in the Covid-19 pandemic that there was a hope that the pandemic would subside and that the symposium could be in-person. It soon became apparent that neither would happen.

“Had we been in-person, we would have been more focused on local leaders and academics as speakers. Doing it virtually allowed us to approach a much wider group. We had one speaker from England, a number from the West Coast and a few from Washington, D.C.,” Mr. Williams says.

One “local” who was there – virtually, of course – was student Katie Jaggers, to present her law review note, “Kentucky Expungement Policy,” for the forthcoming Northern Kentucky Law Review issue on the symposium.

“The symposium was a great opportunity for me to gain experience in researching, writing, editing and speaking on a topic in which I am interested. I gained confidence in those areas in ways that will be helpful to me when I start my career as a lawyer,” she says. “My research and writing classes prepared me well for my symposium experience.”

For Mr. Williams, the experience rounded out his Chase education with lessons not typically taught in a classroom. “The symposium forced me to reach out to countless people who had no clue who I was, and ask them for something. Then I had to communicate with some of the professors and tell them, essentially, ‘This needs to be better.’ It often felt like the height of hubris, but doing it taught me that I can edit work from people who have been attorneys sometimes longer than I have been alive, and not feel bad about helping them be better. More than anything else, the symposium gave me confidence in my own abilities.”

While the symposium is history, the experience of hard work making something look easy continues. Mr. Williams is beginning his career at the Cincinnati firm of Keating, Meuthing & Klekamp and Ms. Jaggers will graduate this academic year.

As part of the 14th annual Northern Kentucky University Cybersecurity Symposium to help lawyers and information technology professionals navigate and minimize risks, two Salmon P. Chase College of Law alumni provided their guidance in the online conference. (And, yes, enough risks and strategies to combat them emerge or linger every year to fill 14 annual programs.)

Offering their perspectives and advice this past October 15 were alumni Dennis Kennedy and Zach Briggs. Mr. Kennedy is a partner in the Northern Kentucky firm of Dressman Benzinger LaVelle who represents hospitals, physicians and other providers in a variety of health care matters, including their digital wellbeing. Mr. Briggs is data protection officer, privacy officer and compliance counsel for Paycor, a Cincinnati cloud-based human capital management software company, and special adviser to the Chase Law + Informatics Institute and an adjunct professor of law.

For Mr. Kennedy, any discussion of health care digital security begins with the federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act, commonly referred to as HIPPA. “HIPPA, of course, isn’t just one regulation; it’s a series of regulations, including implementing standards for administrative simplification. … The Department of Health and Human Services determined it would be necessary to implement a series of privacy and security standards to protect the privacy and security of protected health information. So that’s really why the privacy regulations were implemented,” he explained of the law that, among other things, safeguards patient privacy.

But what is good for patients is also good for cyber-crooks when virtually all medical records are stored digitally. “The health care industry provides the highest cost, or slash value, per stolen record than any other industry,” Mr. Kennedy said. “Individual health care records are much more [desirable] than Social Security numbers or credit card numbers because the health information can be used to perpetrate fraud against Medicare and other insurers, substantially greater than can be achieved with the mere credit card,” Mr. Kennedy said. “Health care records are generally worth around $250 per record on the dark web, while credit cards are worth around $5 and Social Security numbers are worth about $1.”

Defending against the global army of digital thieves — whether hunting high-value medical records or bargain hunting Social Security numbers — requires teamwork by lawyers and digital security professionals, Mr. Briggs pointed out. “But being in the same room doesn’t mean we’re partnering efficiently to meet the organization’s need — we have to be able to communicate with each other effectively,” he noted.

“We want to make sure that we’re meeting the organization’s needs when it comes to business objectives and seeing strategic risks, so that the organization is able to succeed. But as lawyers, we also have a couple other responsibilities. One is, we have an ethical duty. And that ethical duty is to understand the benefits and risks associated with relevant technology.

“This is something that’s evolving and changing over time. So when I read this ethical duty, I don’t read this as an ethical duty of saying, ‘Hey, go to one CLE and then you’re done.’ It’s really, how do I maintain throughout time an understanding of risks?, and I think that requires engaging with folks, on your information security team or on your IT team who understand those types of risks, and having regular conversations with them to make sure that you’re staying up with that responsibility.”

The digital thieves, after all, are trying to stay one step ahead of what will be discussed at the next symposium.
A Course for Its Time – And All Time


If good things sometimes come out of bad, the Remote Representation course at Salmon P. Chase College of Law, developed and taught during a global pandemic, definitely is among them.

As trials, administrative hearings and virtually every aspect of law practice moved to online during the year-long Covid-19 shutdown that began in early spring 2020, Professor Jennifer Kinsley nimbly created and taught a first-of-its-kind course to prepare students with online practice skills that are likely to remain part of law even after the pandemic subsides.

To do it during spring semester of 2021, Professor Jennifer Kinsley turned to her own experience in remote practice through pro bono work, advice of judges from their online hearings, courts’ instructions for lawyers’ remote appearances and her observation of real-time Zoom hearings.

The fully online course was something of a remote practice experience itself: Students created hypothetical firms to handle a hypothetical case (a non-competitive dispute between a hair salon and a stylist), they analyzed and adapted traditional skills – such as client interviewing, motion drafting and hearings – to remote practice, and they networked with lawyers in Northern Kentucky and around the nation on what they were learning.

“There weren’t any lectures in this course,” Professor Kinsley says. “This was a very hands-on experience, where the students spent most of their time learning by doing.”

What Professor Kinsley brought to the course

“I relied heavily on my own experience in remote practice, which predated the pandemic. Since joining the Chase faculty in 2012, I have worked on a number of pro bono legal matters from my remote home office and have learned so much about what works and what doesn’t through real-world trial and error.

“My remote home office where I worked from while teaching the course was my first-hand experience,” Professor Kinsley says. “Since the shutdown began, I’ve had access to multiple Zoom court sessions to observe what lawyers were doing right and what they could do better. I looked at court instructions on how lawyers should prepare for online court. The Second Circuit in New York City has been a real leader in this regard.

“As a member of the Kentucky Department of Public Advocacy Commission, I also had access to lots of data about how courts across the commonwealth were operating, and anecdotal statements about the challenges lawyers were facing in representing clients through computer screens. I also spoke with Chase Professor Bob Furnier, who teaches online legal tech courses.”

What the course reveals about law practice and the future

“The challenges of remote representation are not all that different from the challenges of in-person representation,” Professor Kinsley says. “Regardless of the format, lawyers need to protect client confidentiality, to form trusting relationships with clients, to organize their time wisely and to present a client’s case in an effective and meaningful way.

“The legal profession is structured to do all of this in-person, and, consequently, law schools train lawyers to represent clients in-person. But these skills can easily translate to an online environment, provided that students and lawyers are intentional about what they are doing. Sure, building a relationship with a client through a computer screen or in text messages is tough, but acknowledging that gap and addressing it early on can go a long way in establishing trust.

“In many ways, presenting clients in an online hearing is somewhat easier than standing up in court, because documents and information are literally at your fingertips.”

How the course fits a Chase tradition of practice-ready graduates

“In their final self-evaluations, many students in the class reported that they feel ready to take on clients on day one while working from home. Several students indicated that they now see what is possible in terms of the flexibility and economic efficiency offered by remote practice,” Professor Kinsley says.

While the pandemic that jump-started the course is subsiding, the course is continuing. As fitting for a course on remote representation, it is being taught very remotely spring semester, by an adjunct professor in the San Francisco Bay area.
The Finish Line Fund at Salmon P. Chase College of Law is doing exactly what it was designed to do: Help more graduating students pass bar exams by helping them overcome financial obstacles to success, such as not being able to afford a review course or not having concentrated time to study.

Students assisted by the donor-supported Finish Line Fund have performed exceptionally well on the bar exam. Since 2019, the fund has assisted four cohorts of students (measured by bar exam administration date). The first three cohorts have a 100 percent pass rate on the bar; overall the entire group has passed the bar at a nearly 90 percent rate. At each administration of the bar exam, the Finish Line Fund students have outperformed the general population of Chase students sitting for the same exam. The higher pass rate of all Finish Line Fund recipients suggests that financial support for exam-takers levels out what might be an otherwise uneven playing field.

The Finish Line Fund provides graduating students with commercial bar review courses or monetary help to overcome financial obstacles to being able to concentrate on preparing for an exam. That includes such assistance as offsetting lost income to make it possible to take time off from work to study and providing childcare to allow for undistracted study time.

“The fund grew from our learning that a good number of graduates did not enroll in a commercial bar exam course because they lacked the resources to access this vital tool,” says Dean Judith Daar, the Ambassador Patricia L. Herbold Dean of Chase, who envisioned the fund. “Since studying for the bar exam with a commercial company is highly correlated with success on the exam, we started the Finish Line Fund to make sure each of our students had the opportunity for success.”

That success shows in the numbers. “The overall pass rates and first-time pass rates are an astonishing result,” Dean Daar says, “and we believe these results are tied to two factors: the requirement that awardees sign a pledge to complete at least 85 percent of a commercial bar exam course (or the award converts to a loan) and the sense of commitment that Chase makes to these students through the award, and its boost of confidence, gratitude and a determination to succeed.”

For recent graduate Holly McCabe, confidence and determination were never a concern. What was a concern was she would have to take the remote Kentucky bar exam at home with three young sons with her. To smooth out the potentially distracting bump in the road of worrying about what might be happening in a room next to her while she was trying to concentrate on multiple-choice and essay questions, the Finish Line Fund provided her with the peace and quiet of a hotel room in which to take the exam. Her result: She passed and is now practicing in Northern Kentucky.

For Lashae Richie, the assistance smoothed her transition from student to staff attorney with the Jefferson County (Louisville, Kentucky) Commonwealth’s Attorney. “The Finish Line Fund allowed me to take necessary time off from work so that I could focus on the bar exam. I went into the exam knowing that I had given it my all during the study period.”

While the fund helps boost new graduates – it has made 60 awards, including 26 for the July 2021 and February 2022 exams, of $60,000 in stipends and 12 commercial review courses – it also unites them with previous alumni in a shared goal of bar exam success for Chase graduates overall.

“I remember well how important a good bar review course was for me and my classmates,” says alumnus Timothy Timmel, who contributes to the fund. “I can’t imagine having to risk taking the bar exam without a review course – after three or four years of law school – because of finances. The Finish Line Fund has a significant and immediate impact on deserving graduates.”
Jurist-in-Residence John Nalbandian briefly students on their paths ahead

FROM HIS PERSPECTIVE ON THE U.S. COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE SIXTH CIRCUIT, DECISIONS IN LAW SCHOOL WILL RETURN REWARDS IN PRACTICE

As Salmon P. Chase College of Law jurist-in-residence, Judge John Nalbandian of the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit has some advice for students: Make friends in law school – because they can be invaluable as lawyers – and select classes carefully – because the time in law school is shorter than students might think. (And – somewhere between seriously and jokingly – take the United States Supreme Court Seminar course he teaches spring semesters at Chase.)

Judge Nalbandian joined Dean Judith Daar, the Ambassador Patricia L. Herbold dean of Chase, in late October for an auditorium conversation geared toward connecting an audience of largely first- and second-year students to his life and professional journey and where their journeys have brought them so far, and could lead.

For Judge Nalbandian, the journey from law school to the court of appeals includes having been a law clerk in the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit; appellate practice with Jones Day, in Washington, D.C., and Taft, Stettinius & Hollister, in Cincinnati; a board member of the Greater Cincinnati Minority Counsel Program and of the Asian American Bar Association of Southwest Ohio; president of the Cincinnati Lawyers Chapter of the Federalist Society; general counsel for the Republican Party in Kentucky; appointment to the State Justice Institute by President Barack Obama and, in 2018, appointment by President Donald Trump to the Sixth Circuit, and confirmation by the Senate.

Tune in now to some of the Chase and law school centered points of Dean Daar and Judge Nalbandian, seated for casual conversation on a small stage in the Otto M. Budig Theater of the University Center building at Northern Kentucky University.

DEAN DAAR: “Tell us about your background, where you were born, where you grew up and where you went to school.”

JUDGE NALBANDIAN: “I was born in California, and my parents had both grown up in California. My father got his Ph.D. in public administration, and we moved to Lawrence, Kansas. His first and only faculty position was at the University of Kansas. I graduated from Lawrence High School, which also, by the way, is the alma mater of Chief Judge Srinivasan on the D.C. Circuit. ‘Sri’ was two years ahead of me. After that, I went to Penn, undergrad, and then I went to [the University of] Virginia for law school.”

DEAN DAAR: “Why did you decide to go to law school?”

JUDGE NALBANDIAN: “I was actually undecided pretty late in the game. I went to Wharton [at the University of Pennsylvania]. This was the late ’80s, early ’90s. A lot of my friends went to New York, and that was what I was going to do. Around my junior year I took a lot of political science. I took a legal theory class that was really good. I started to think about whether I was done with school or not, and I wasn’t, really. I wanted to do a bit more, and maybe go into a profession that required thinking on a continuing basis. It turned out to be a pretty good decision.”

DEAN DAAR: “Did you ever think when you were a student you would be a judge?”

JUDGE NALBANDIAN: “No, no. That was not on the radar.”

DEAN DAAR: “What advice do you have for our students?”

JUDGE NALBANDIAN: “A lot of it has to do with interacting with your peers and your faculty. I think your peers are so important, not just while you are in school, but moving forward in your career. Taking the right classes, being attentive is important. Pick courses carefully. It seems like a long time, three years, but you run out of choices your third year, and you kind of regret, maybe, that you should have taken a course or two. The thing I like about this law school is that there are a lot of clinical opportunities. I would urge students to do that.”

For Judge Nalbandian, the journey from law school to court of appeals judge includes jurist-in-residence at Chase, and experiences and knowledge to share in a conversation and in a seminar class.
Bob Goering saw a lot of changes during the 45 years he taught bankruptcy law as an adjunct professor at Salmon P. Chase College of Law: The makeup of the students he taught changed and the law he taught changed.

The unchangeable foundation for his teaching, from 1974 to 2019, though, was having been a Chase student himself in the late 1950s and early 1960s and decades of experience in bankruptcy law.

After graduation in 1962, he co-founded in 1964 with Wayne Wilke, another Chase alumnus, the Cincinnati firm of Wilke & Goering that would become Goering & Goering, and focused his practice in debtor representation. His professional success and friendship with Professor C. Maxwell Dieffenbach led to his first presentations in a classroom.

“Max asked me to address his classes every year on Secured Transactions and Bankruptcy. This was when Chase was still at the YMCA building, downtown. In 1974, Max asked me if I would take over the Bankruptcy course, which I did.”

By 1974, Chase had merged, in 1972, with what is now Northern Kentucky University and had moved to a hilltop above the Dixie Highway, on the Covington side of the municipal boundary with Park Hills. At that time, some things were still not much different from when Mr. Goering was a student. But change was at hand.

“When I was in law school, there were only two women in the entire school. [The number immediately following the merger was not much more.] I noticed as the years went by how more and more of the students were women. Law ceased to be the realm of men, which was a healthy change. Now, about half of the classes are women.”

In January 1982, Chase moved to the NKU campus in Highland Heights. And Mr. Goering moved with it and encountered more changes.

“For several years, law schools were encouraged to present business classes, so the bankruptcy class was converted from a general course, teaching the numerous chapters of bankruptcy law, to a course devoted entirely to Chapter 11 business reorganization. This was interesting, but not very practical for the students, so we reverted to teaching the more general course of Chapter 7 liquidation, Chapter 9 municipal reorganization, Chapter 11 business reorganization, Chapter 12 small farmer reorganization and Chapter 13 wage earner reorganization,” he recalls.

Along with changes in the composition of the classroom and the course outline, the law Mr. Goering taught also changed.

“Like all statutory law, the changes made by Congress kept coming, and there were several notable revisions. At first, student loans were dischargeable in full, and then only after five years had passed, then seven years, and now only if the debtor can show undue hardship, which case law has made difficult to show.”

But no matter what else changed for Mr. Goering, two things remained constant: His satisfaction in practicing law and in teaching about it.

“Teaching is always a challenge and a pleasure. As a practitioner, I tried to teach not only the material, but also how to be a lawyer, and the necessity of keeping good communications with other attorneys and the court. In bankruptcy, today’s adversary is tomorrow’s ally, so it is of utmost importance to keep controversies professional and not personal.”

His years of teaching set the trajectories for hundreds of careers and left indelible memories.

“Bob Goering inspired me to become a bankruptcy lawyer. Bankruptcy was my favorite class at Chase,” says Judge Alan C. Stout, chief judge of United States Bankruptcy Court for the Western District of Kentucky, who graduated in 1981. “A few years ago, Bob asked me to speak to his class, as a U.S. bankruptcy judge. I told the class, ‘Over 30 years ago I was sitting as a student in this class, and Bob Goering was telling the same corny jokes that he is still telling today.’

Even as change rippled through 45 years of teaching, two things didn’t change: The jokes and a commitment to Chase.
Giving

The Robert G. Miller Jr. Family Endows a Scholarship in His Memory

Robert G. Miller Jr. was a Northern Kentuckian by birth, an Eastern Kentuckian by marriage and a lawyer by Salmon P. Chase College of Law training.

After Mr. Miller passed away in January 2021, his wife, Kimberly Miller, and the couple’s adult sons, Taylor and Tanner Miller, endowed the Robert G. Miller Jr. Memorial Endowed Scholarship Fund to recognize his work as a lawyer and his affection for Chase.

Mr. Miller grew up in Alexandria, graduated from Georgetown College and returned to Northern Kentucky to attend Chase and to graduate in 1992. That is when his practice in Eastern Kentucky began.

“Rob and I moved to Eastern Kentucky after he graduated and passed the bar,” Mrs. Miller says. “I am from Paintsville, in Eastern Kentucky, but we met at Georgetown College. After looking at several law firms, he decided to begin his practice with Perry and Preston, in Paintsville. He was impressed with the partners and their visions for the law, so it was an easy decision to move to Paintsville. He always said that this was home and the people here were family,” Mrs. Miller says.

Chase was also family to Mr. Miller. “Rob was proud of his education and donated to Chase every year. He spoke often about students who were married with children, working and going to law school full-time. That touched his heart, and he always talked about helping people who need a little support to complete their education.”

The Robert G. Miller Jr. Memorial Endowed Scholarship Fund will assist students from Johnson County, Kentucky, where Paintsville is the seat, from surrounding counties, or from Campbell County, where Alexandria is the seat. “My husband was thankful for the opportunity to practice in Eastern Kentucky. We received so much kindness from the people here that we wanted to give back to the area,” says Mrs. Miller, who teaches at Paintsville Elementary School.

After beginning his career with Perry and Preston and becoming a partner, Mr. Miller opened his own law office, the Robert G. Miller Jr. Law Firm.

Marty Huelsmann Supports Chase with Major Gift

Professor Emeritus Marty Huelsmann has seen how Salmon P. Chase College of Law has grown through the decades, beginning as a student in the late 1960s and continuing beyond his retirement in 2004. Now, through an undesignated gift to the college, he wants to help the college continue to develop.

Professor Huelsmann has seen Chase grow from classrooms in the Cincinnati Central Parkway YMCA building, where he was a student from 1966 to 1970 and became assistant dean in 1971, to the college becoming part of what was then Northern Kentucky State College to having its home in Nunn Hall on the Northern Kentucky University campus.

His hope for his gift is simple: “It is for whatever the dean would like to do with it, for whatever is in the best interest of the law school,” he says.

Professor Huelsmann’s interest in Chase has never waned, starting with his intense focus as a student.

“I did a lot of research work as a student for Dean Jack Grosse. He liked my work and asked me to be assistant dean,” Professor Huelsmann later became associate dean, and as a professor taught Torts, Criminal Law, Ethics and Uniform Commercial Code.

From Cincinnati, he accompanied the college to Northern Kentucky. “The move provided all kinds of important and interesting things for the law school. The building in Park Hills was very large and held students better than the old YMCA,” he says.

Then there was the move to the NKU Highland Heights campus, in which he was involved in the daunting task of moving an entire law library. “We had to label the books and where they would go, so that people could find them. The library had to be on the first and second floors of Nunn Hall because of the weight of the books,” he recalls.

After retirement, he was chair of the Kentucky Public Service Commission until July 1, 2004.
Paulson Endowed Scholarship Promotes Diversity, Academic Improvement

Wyn Paulson did not know after his 1978 graduation from Salmon P. Chase College of Law that he wanted to practice bankruptcy law: It was an unexpected encounter that launched his practice representing creditors.

“The first time I went to bankruptcy court, there were no attorneys there for the creditors; everybody was there for the debtors. A fellow next to me – he was a creditor – asked if I were a lawyer, and I said, ‘yes.’ He said, ‘will you represent my company?’ and I said, ‘yes.’ That started my representation of creditors in bankruptcy court.”

From there, Mr. Paulson practiced in United States Bankruptcy Court throughout the Eastern District of Kentucky, representing banks and commercial finance companies until he retired in 2010. And even though he has retired from his solo practice, he has not retired from his commitment to Chase.

Mr. Paulson and his wife, Jean Ellen Paulson, who live in Lexington, Kentucky, have created the Paulson Endowed Scholarship for a full-time, second- or third-year student who enhances the diversity of the student body and who has demonstrated significant academic improvement.

The scholarship, Mr. Paulson says, is an opportunity to give someone else the same chance in life that Chase gave him.

“Chase gave me an opportunity to start my profession. There will be others going to Chase in subsequent generations, and this scholarship is going to give them an opportunity that maybe they wouldn’t have received elsewhere. I want to be a part of that opportunity,” Mr. Paulson says.

Mr. and Mrs. Paulson are both involved in the life of Lexington. He was president of the 400-member Lexington Rotary Club, chairman of the board of directors of Sayre School, and an elder at First Presbyterian Church. Jean Ellen worked as an independent property and casualty insurance agent, co-owned a gift shop, served as an elder at First Presbyterian Church, spent many years volunteering at their daughter’s school and is a sustaining member of the Junior League of Lexington.

Jack and Peg Wyant Make Donation for Entrepreneurship at Chase

As the founder of a venture capital and private equity firm, Jack Wyant has invested in scores of businesses. As a Salmon P. Chase College of Law alumnus, he is making an investment in entrepreneurial education programs at the college through a directed gift.

Mr. Wyant, who graduated in 1977, founded Blue Chip Venture Company in 1990, eventually investing in and helping to build more than 150 companies. Three years ago he added Director of the Chase Center for Law and Entrepreneurship to his portfolio of activities.

“Our family is energized and proud to be expanding young minds and career horizons by connecting students with entrepreneurial executives, their lawyers and advisers,” Mr. Wyant said of the gift from him and his wife, Peg Wyant.

The Center for Law and Entrepreneurship is a nucleus for programs to help prepare students either for law practices with business and entrepreneurial clients or for applying their training as founders or managers of start-up companies.

As a student in the Chase evening division, Mr. Wyant worked first in brand management at Procter & Gamble and then in marketing at Kings Island amusement park. He went on to become chief executive of two venture-backed start-up companies, Home Entertainment Network and Nutrition Technology Corporation, and to found Blue Chip Venture Company. He is a director of CBank, in which he was a founding investor in 2007.

With his wife and their four children, he is an owner of Grandin Properties, a real estate development and management firm that renovates and manages historic buildings. In 2021, Peg Wyant published One Red Shoe, a memoir of being the first female brand manager at Procter & Gamble and venturing into real estate development.

In addition to business enterprises, Mr. Wyant co-founded and built the Cincinnati Squash Academy, which teaches the sport and encourages post-secondary education for underserved children living primarily in or near the Over-the-Rhine neighborhood where Mr. and Mrs. Wyant have their offices.
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Chase had a lot to celebrate when pandemic restrictions eased enough to allow a return to an in-person ceremony, after a missed year.

Commencement came in pairs at Salmon P. Chase College of Law this past spring. The first ceremony in two years, after a pandemic forced the preceding annual event into an online recognition, was socially distanced pomp-and-circumstance for the graduating Class of 2021 and the graduated Class of 2020.

In a single ceremony, two years’ of student awards were presented and two years’ of professors’ remarks were delivered. One hundred and one Juris Doctor degrees and 10 Master of Legal Studies degrees were conferred on the Class of 2021 and 121 total degrees were recognized in the Class of 2020. And in a year that for the first time two Chase alumni serve together on the Supreme Court of Kentucky, both justices offered comments.

These are some of the scenes and words of the day, May 7, 2021, in the BB&T Arena on the Northern Kentucky University campus.
Professor John Bickers
Class of 2020 Professor of the Year

“You did not have the end to your law school career that you expected, that you deserved. A global pandemic took that away from you. Sometimes, looking back, you will be angry that this happened to you. [When that occurs,] look at yourself, and see the strong and talented lawyer that we at Chase know you to be. Appreciate all that you have already accomplished, and then go accomplish some more.”

Professor Jennifer Kinsley
Class of 2021 Professor of the Year

“As you move forward in your careers … there will be amazing days filled with excitement: big cases won, goals achieved … But there will also be darks days, when, despite your best efforts, you cannot ease your client’s suffering, when justice seems elusive. On all of these days, I encourage you to find your sanctuary. Find what you love. Be what you love.”

President Ashish Vaidya
Northern Kentucky University

“Earning a law degree is quite a feat, no matter what the circumstances and obstacles may be. But reaching this goal amid the turmoil of the past 15 months is truly remarkable. Given that, I hope your time at Chase has empowered you with opportunities to gain new knowledge and learn new skills. … So, as you head out into the world to accomplish new and exciting things, I ask that you please never forget your obligation to the public good.”

Salmon P. Chase Award
Presented to a graduating student who represents the spirit of advocacy on behalf of others that Salmon P. Chase displayed as a Cincinnati lawyer prior to the Civil War

Class of 2020
Megan Smiddle, whose advocacy included pro bono work through the Chase Constitutional Litigation Clinic, the Ohio Justice & Policy Center and an international human rights law program in Costa Rica.

Class of 2021
Holly McCabe, whose pro bono advocacy involved the Chase Children’s Law Center Clinic, the Kentucky Innocence Project, the Ohio Justice & Policy Center and research for an amicus curiae brief to the Supreme Court of the United States.
Newest Chase Alumni

▶ Kentucky Supreme Court Justice
Robert Conley
Chase Class of 1984

“Through your hard work you have earned your degree … you have been tested and you have proved yourself worthy. What you have been given is an opportunity, but what you do with that opportunity is entirely up to you. My advice is, not to sell yourself short; dream big. You can do whatever you set your mind to and whatever you are willing to put forth the effort to achieve.”

▶ Dean Judith Daar
Ambassador Patricia L. Herbold Dean of Chase College of Law

“As you cross the podium today to receive your Juris Doctorate, know you have acquired the skills that are necessary to build the future, to shape the world in a way that better prepares us for transitions that are surely to come. … “The power of the law is profound, and I urge you to wield that power with forethought, pausing, whenever possible, to ask yourself, am I doing the right thing, is what I am about to embark upon going to harm anyone? … Think very carefully about the decisions you make in your professional life, from the mundane to the monumental.”

▶ Kentucky Supreme Court Justice
Michelle Keller
Chase Class of 1990

“The law is the noblest of professions. We need new attorneys. We need your enthusiasm, your ideas, your willingness to serve. Our commonwealth and our nation have both been experiencing great challenges, strife and division, the likes of which we have not seen in decades. The education you have received here at Chase has provided you the tools to help construct a better future.”
Susanne Cetrulo Appointed to Kentucky Court of Appeals

Susanne Cetrulo, who graduated from Salmon P. Chase College of Law in 1984, has joined three other alumni currently serving on the Kentucky Court of Appeals.

Judge Cetrulo was sworn-in November 4, 2021, following a gubernatorial appointment, to succeed Judge Joy Kramer, a 1996 Chase graduate who retired this past September after serving since 2007. Also on the 14-member court, which sits commonwealth-wide in three-judge panels, are Chase alumni Judge James Lambert ’76, Judge Larry Thompson ’87 and Judge J. Christopher McNeill ’97.

For Judge Cetrulo, the appointment places her in a historical lineage of female Chase graduates who have served on the court from the election district of the 21 northernmost Kentucky counties (Court of Appeals judges and Supreme Court justices in Kentucky are elected by districts and serve commonwealth-wide). The lineage began in 1987, when Judge Judy West, a 1977 graduate, became the first woman to serve on the entire court, until her death in 1991, and grew to include now-Supreme Court Justice Michelle Keller, a 1990 graduate who served from 2006 until her appointment to the Supreme Court in 2013, Judge Kramer and now Judge Cetrulo.

For Judge Cetrulo, the connections of Chase and the Court of Appeals are more than historical; they are also personal. “My mentors and predecessors on the court attended Chase. My staff attorneys are Chase graduates. I met my future husband (and former law partner, Bob Cetrulo) at Chase. I can’t emphasize enough how much I value the education I received from Chase and the respect I have for all who continue to serve our profession as staff and faculty there.” Her Chase-and-judiciary connection includes being sworn-in to the court by Justice Keller, in a ceremony at the Boone County Justice Center, in Northern Kentucky.

Judge Cetrulo, who is seeking election this year in the sixth election district, began her legal career as a Court of Appeals staff attorney, first for Chief Judge Charles Lester and then for Judge West. She later practiced in Kohnen, Patton & Hunt, in Cincinnati, subsequently became a partner in Ware, Bryson, West & Kummer, in Edgewood, Kentucky, and in 2000 with Bob Cetrulo founded Cetrulo, Mowery & Hicks, in Edgewood.

With Judge Cetrulo, Chase alumni on the court span the commonwealth in election districts from north to south and east to west.

In the south-central third district, Judge Lambert has served on the court since he was first elected in November 2006. His path to the court began in private practice with Lambert & Lambert, in Mount Vernon, and includes election to three terms as Rockcastle County Attorney and service as an administrative law judge for the Kentucky State Department of Corrections.

In the eastern seventh district, Judge Thompson has served on the court since he was elected in November 2018. His judicial career began when he was appointed Pike County District Court judge in 1995, and was later elected. He was first elected to Pike County Circuit Court in 1999, and was Family Court judge and, for a period of time, chief circuit judge, until his election to the Court of Appeals. He was president of the Kentucky Circuit Judges Association for two years.

In the southwest first district, Judge McNeill was elected to the court in November 2020. He previously practiced for more than 20 years, was a staff attorney for the Kentucky Court of Appeals and directing attorney for the McCracken County Public Defender’s Office. He is a past president of the McCracken County Bar Association, and was a member of the McCracken County Specialty Court Board (formerly Drug Court) from its inception in 2005 until his election in 2020.

Like her Chase colleagues on the court, Judge Cetrulo has been involved in the legal community. She serves on the Northern Kentucky Bar Association Women Lawyers Section committee that oversees the annual award of the Judge Judy M. West Scholarship to a female Chase student, and in 2021 she received the Northern Kentucky Bar Association Distinguished Lawyer of the Year Award.
1971

Tim H. Warren was recognized by The Florida Bar at its 50-Year Member and Senior Counselor Recognition Luncheon, at Orlando, Florida.

1979

Daniel R. Braun was appointed city attorney for the City of Park Hills, Kentucky. He continues as city attorney for Newport, Kentucky, and maintains a limited solo practice in Covington, Kentucky.

1980

Robert Hoffer, managing partner of Benzinger LaVelle, Crestview Hills, Kentucky, received an Executive Committee Award of the Kentucky Defense Counsel. He is a past president of the organization.

1981

Joseph P. Gutmann received the Nathaniel R. Harper Award of the Kentucky Bar Association Young Lawyers Division for his work to promote full and equal participation in the legal profession through encouragement and inclusion. He is a teacher and director of the Law and Government Magnet Program at Central High School, Louisville, Kentucky, and an adjunct faculty member at the University of Louisville. He was an assistant Commonwealth’s Attorney for Jefferson County (Louisville) Kentucky for almost 20 years.

1982

Richard A. Woeste plans to retire as judge of Campbell County (Kentucky) Family Court at the end of his term in 2022, after 11 years as judge.

1983

Paul Whalen has written Profiles of Kentucky’s United States Senators, 1792-Present, a collection of biographical essays and portraits of the 66 men who have represented Kentucky in the United States Senate.

1984

N. Jeffrey Blankenship joined Ziegler & Schneider, Crescent Springs, Kentucky, in the Litigation and Family Law Practice Group. His focus is criminal defense, personal injury, domestic relations/family law, employment law, small business and nonprofit representation and commercial litigation.

1986

David Fessler, a partner in Fessler, Schneider & Grime, Fort Thomas, Kentucky, was named a Super Lawyer in the area of personal injury for 2021.

1987

W. Ron Adams has written Coal Mine to Courtroom / A Quadriplegic’s Memoir of Relentless Faith, Courage and Eternal Success, a memoir of his life and career after a paralyzing coal mine accident when he was 19 years old.

1990

Bill Price was promoted to executive vice president and general counsel of Ohio National Financial Services in Cincinnati, where he is responsible for corporate legal, compliance and audit functions. He joined Ohio National in 2002 as vice president and counsel and most recently was senior vice president and general counsel.

1992

Kevin Bishop was appointed judge of Graves County (Kentucky) Circuit Court. He previously maintained a private practice, and had been an assistant public advocate with the Kentucky Department of Public Advocacy.

1994

Jay Fossett was appointed city administrator of Dayton, Kentucky. He previously was a city manager and city solicitor in Covington, Kentucky, and a Fort Thomas, Kentucky, City Council member.

1999

Robert Hoffer was appointed judge of the Kentucky Court of Appeals for Division Two of the Sixth Appellate District, which includes Northern Kentucky. (A story about her appointment is on Page 49)
Katrina Farley

Katrina Farley joined Dinsmore & Shohl, Cincinnati, in the Family Wealth Planning Group. She is certified by the Ohio State Bar Association as a specialist in estate planning, trust and probate law.

James Whalen

James Whalen planned to retire as University of Cincinnati Director of Public Safety and Chief of Police in early 2022. He previously was an assistant chief of police and SWAT commander for the City of Cincinnati.

Jeffrey Baldwin

Jeffrey Baldwin, a partner in Porter, Banks, Baldwin & Shaw, Paintsville, Kentucky, was elected Kentucky Defense Counsel Director of District Seven.

Brent Eisele

Brent Eisele joined Dentons Bingham Greenebaum, Lexington, Kentucky, as of counsel. His focus is real estate transactions, title matters and litigation involving real estate.

Joy A. Kramer

Joy A. Kramer retired as a judge of the Kentucky Court of Appeals, after 15 years of service. She was first elected in 2006 in Division Two of the Sixth Appellate District, which includes Northern Kentucky, and re-elected in 2014. Other judges elected her in 2016 to a two-year term as chief judge, responsible for administrative oversight. Also in 2016, she received the Chase Alumni Association Distinguished Service Award.

Emily Janoski-Haehlen

Emily Janoski-Haehlen was named dean of the University of Akron School of Law. Following graduation from Chase, she was Salmon P. Chase College of Law Associate Director for Law Library Services and Assistant Professor of Law Library Services from 2007 to 2011. From 2012 to 2017, she was Valparaiso University Law School Associate Dean for Law Library Services and Assistant Professor of Law.

She joined the University of Akron School of Law faculty in 2017, teaching Technology in Law, Social Media Law, Legal Drafting and Legal Research. Prior to her appointment as dean, she was associate dean of academic affairs and law technology, and law library director.

In addition to a Juris Doctor from Chase, she holds a Bachelor of Science in History and a Master of Science in Library Science from the University of Kentucky. Her academic research explores social media law, internet privacy, legal research instruction strategies and technology in the practice of law.

Tina Donnelly

Tina Donnelly was named managing partner of Aronoff Rosen & Hunt, Cincinnati. She has been recognized since 2019 as a Best Lawyers for Real Estate Law.

D. Brock Denton

D. Brock Denton joined Cintas, Cincinnati-based supplier of work uniforms and maintenance supplies and equipment, as senior vice president, general counsel and secretary. He had been outside counsel to the firm and had led the Business Representation and Transaction Group of Keating, Muething & Klekamp, Cincinnati, and had been general counsel for several privately held companies and FC Cincinnati of Major League Soccer.

Jason Darnall

Jason Darnall, Marshall County (Kentucky) Attorney, received the Kentucky County Attorney of the Year Award for public service to the community.

Joseph C. White

Joseph C. White, Clay County (Kentucky) Attorney, is serving on the Prosecutors Advisory Council of the Kentucky County Attorneys Association.

Michael DeFilippo

Michael DeFilippo joined Ferreri Partners, Louisville, Kentucky, where his focus is civil defense litigation.

Matt Irby

Matt Irby was appointed state tax commissioner for West Virginia. He had been acting tax commissioner. Prior to that role, he had been deputy tax commissioner, director of the tax account administration division, supervisor of the legal division technical unit, an administrative law judge at the West Virginia Office of Tax Appeals and a lawyer for the state tax department. He has also worked for the Kentucky Department of Public Advocacy and Legal Aid of West Virginia.

Timothy Spille

Timothy Spille, attorney with Reminger, Cincinnati, was recognized as a 2022 Best Lawyers in America for Construction Law. His practice focus is litigation, insurance, construction and small business.

Acena Beck

Acena Beck was appointed judge of Kenton County (Kentucky) Family Court. She had been executive director of the nonprofit Children’s Law Center, where Chase conducts an affiliated student clinic. She is an adjunct professor at Chase, teaching juvenile law.
2008

Paul J. Linden joined Ulmer & Berne, Cincinnati. He is a registered patent attorney and is vice chair of the Cincinnati Bar Association Intellectual Property Litigation Committee.

Jordan Dallas Turner and Ryan Turner relocated their practice of Dallas & Turner to 30 Shelby Street, Florence, Kentucky, where their focus is personal injury litigation. Ryan Turner was named board chair of Master Provisions, a faith-based nonprofit in Florence.

2009

Sarah Foster was appointed mediation attorney of the Ohio First District Court of Appeals at Cincinnati, and is responsible for developing the court’s new appellate mediation program.

Bryce Rhoades was named a partner in Adams Law, Covington, Kentucky, where he focuses on representing cities, school districts and other government entities.

Katherine C. Morgan was named chief clerk of the Kentucky Court of Appeals. She previously counseled the Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services and a staff attorney for the Kentucky Court of Appeals. At Chase, she was editor-in-chief of the Northern Kentucky Law Review and a member of the arbitration competition team that won a regional championship.

Noah Welte was appointed assistant vice president for university operations of Thomas More University, Crestview Hills, Kentucky. He previously was director of legal and auxiliary services at the university.

Ben Wilson joined Hy-Tek Material Handling, headquartered in Columbus, Ohio, as corporate counsel and secretary.

2010

Kris Brandenburg was elected a partner in Thompson Hine, Cincinnati, where his focus is commercial real estate. He has been an Ohio Super Lawyers Rising Star the past five years.

Christine Gilliam joined Hamlin & Burton Liability Management, Louisville, Kentucky, as a litigation manager. She previously was a partner in Reminger Co., Louisville.

Megan Hall was appointed general counsel of Disabled American Veterans, Erlanger, Kentucky. She previously practiced in Kohnen & Patton, Cincinnati.

Danielle Lewis joined the Salmon P. Chase College of Law faculty as visiting assistant professor and director of trial and appellate advocacy programs. She teaches Basic Legal Skills and Legal Methods. She previously was of counsel with Reminger Co., Louisville, Kentucky. She is included in the 2022 edition of Best Lawyers “Ones to Watch” in the areas of medical malpractice law and professional malpractice law.

Meagan Tate joined Lawrence & Associates, Cincinnati, as an associate. Her focus is plaintiff’s personal injury and worker’s compensation.

2011

Michael Mahon, an attorney with Reminger Co., Cincinnati, is included in the 2022 edition of Best Lawyers “Ones to Watch” for appellate practice. His focus is long-term care, professional liability, trucking/commercial transportation, products liability, appellate advocacy, employment, general casualty and intellectual property.

2012

Jessica Beauchamp was named a shareholder at Strauss Troy, Cincinnati, where her focus is family law, divorce and child custody. She was a Super Lawyers Rising Star for 2017-2021.

Steven Doan was appointed to the Erlanger (Kentucky) City Council. He maintains a private practice in Erlanger.

Joshua McIntosh relocated his office to 713 Scott Street, Covington, Kentucky.

Jessica Roberts Stigall was named a member in Sturgill, Turner, Barker & Moloney, Lexington, Kentucky. She is a Kentucky Super Lawyers Rising Star and is included in Best Lawyers “Ones to Watch” in the areas of education law and labor and employment law-management. She was president of the Lexington Junior League during 2021.

2013

Brittany Born was appointed to Silverton (Ohio) City Council. She practices in the Arnold Law Firm, Cincinnati, and previously was a public affairs director for the Ohio Attorney General and a bailiff in Hamilton County (Ohio) Court of Common Pleas and Hamilton County Municipal Court.

Nathan Lennon, an attorney with Reminger Co., Fort Mitchell, Kentucky, is included in the 2022 edition of Best Lawyers “Ones to Watch” in the areas of appellate practice, commercial litigation and product liability litigation-defendants.

Ian Mitchell, attorney with Reminger Co., Cincinnati, is included in the 2022 edition of Best Lawyers “Ones to Watch” in the areas of commercial litigation and labor and employment law.
2014

Michael Alao was appointed director of internal audit for the Florida Justice Administrative Commission, which serves the offices of Florida state attorneys, public defenders, regional conflict attorneys and the guardian ad litem program.

Christopher Hoskins was named a member in the Jackson Kelly Law Firm, Lexington, Kentucky, where his focus is commercial litigation.

Jake Johnson was promoted to first assistant Commonwealth’s Attorney of the 28th Judicial Circuit of Rockcastle, Pulaski and Lincoln counties, in southeastern Kentucky.

Aaron Monk was named a partner in Kohnen & Patton, Cincinnati, where he is a member of the Business and Transactions Practice Group. His focus includes company formation, mergers and acquisitions, business planning and venture capital financing.

Leigh Ann Tomlinson Roberts was appointed Kentucky Commonwealth’s Attorney for the 15th Judicial Circuit of Carroll, Grant and Owen counties, in north-central Kentucky. She had been first assistant Commonwealth’s Attorney the past six years, and previously was the crime victim advocate for the circuit. She has chaired the multidisciplinary teams on child sex abuse in each of the three counties in the circuit since 2006.

2015

Matt Worth was named a shareholder in Strauss Troy, Cincinnati, where his focus is family law, estate planning and general business. He was a Super Lawyers Rising Star in 2020-2022.

Alethea Teh Busken joined Johnson Trust Co., Cincinnati, as trust counsel. She previously practiced in Kohnen & Patton, Cincinnati, in the Estate Planning Practice Group.

Ashely Barber Sexton relocated Sexton Law to 639 Washington Avenue, Newport, Kentucky.

Brad Steffen joined Dressman Benzinger Lavell, Crestview Hills, Kentucky, where his focus is civil litigation, employment and white collar criminal defense. He has also been appointed director of the Veterans Discharge Upgrade Review Clinic at Chase. He has been an officer in the Air Force Judge Advocate General Corps, as both a prosecutor and a defense attorney.

2016

Augustus Flottman joined Graydon, Head & Ritchey, Cincinnati, in the Litigation Group, where his focus is civil and white-collar criminal litigation.

2017

Joseph Hill joined Adams Law, Covington, Kentucky, as an associate. He previously was an assistant Kentucky Commonwealth’s Attorney in Kenton County.

Kaitlin Walker became managing attorney of the Prince William County (Virginia) office of Legal Services of Northern Virginia. She joined the agency in September 2017 as a staff attorney.

Emily Cooney Couch joined Manley Burke, Cincinnati, as an associate. Her focus is litigation.

2018

Tory Finley joined Faegre Drinker Biddle & Reath, Dallas, as a litigation associate. He previously was an associate with Dykema Gossett, Dallas, and Dinsmore & Shohl, Cincinnati.

Elivia Rabe joined Adams Law, Covington, Kentucky, as an associate in the Business Representation Practice Group. She is District 6 representative of the Kentucky Bar Association Young Lawyers Division.

2020

Michael J. Caligaris joined Reminger Co., Cincinnati, as an associate. His focus is employment practices defense, general liability, retail and hospitality, and employment liability.

Rebecca McDonough joined Dressman Benzinger Lavell, Crestview Hills, Kentucky, as an associate. She practices in the commercial banking, real estate and construction groups.

2021

Holly McCabe was appointed to a Boone County (Kentucky) Family Court Dependency, Neglect and Abuse Panel, and was certified by the Kentucky Administrative Office of the Courts as a guardian ad litem and court-appointed counsel.

Julie Myers joined Beth Silverman & Associates, Cincinnati, as an associate. Her focus is family law.

Alec Ott joined Lawrence & Associates, Cincinnati, as an associate. His focus is personal injury litigation.

Send news about your life or career for publication in CHASE to Judy Brun, law specialist, by email to brunj1@nku.edu or by mail at Chase College of Law, 521 Nunn Hall, 100 Nunn Dr., Highland Heights, KY 41099.


**In Memoriam**

**1950**
**Thomas Albers Smith**

*January 11, 2021*

Mr. Smith owned Kettering Insurance Agency until his retirement in December 2009.

**1958**
**Robert L. Davis**

*November 26, 2021*

Mr. Davis was a partner in Gay, Davis & Kelly, Cincinnati, prior to beginning his own practice in 1972, in which he focused on litigation. At Salmon P. Chase College of Law, he had been a president of the alumni association and an adjunct professor. He had been a president of the Lawyers Club of Cincinnati and a member of the Cincinnati Bar Association executive committee and numerous others. He received the association’s John P. Kiraly Professionalism Award in 2002 and its Lifetime Achievement Award in 2017.

**1962**
**Phil C. Collins**

*February 17, 2021*

Mr. Collings was a member of the Ohio House of Representatives from Cincinnati from 1959 to 1961, and a member of Cincinnati City Council from 1962 to 1967. He practiced with his father and brother in Collins, Collins and Collins.

**1965**
**Judge Norbert A. Nadel**

*July 10, 2021*

Judge Nadel was a judge in Hamilton County, Ohio, for 40 years, during which he served on three courts: Municipal Court; Court of Common Pleas, Domestic Relations Division and Court of Common Pleas, General Division. After he retired from the bench in 2014 he was elected in 2016 as Hamilton County Recorder and served through 2020. Judge Nadel was a Cincinnati assistant city prosecutor and later was First Assistant United States Attorney for the Southern District of Ohio. As a judge, one of his most notable cases occurred in 1989, when he issued a temporary restraining order — which was vacated on appeal — to stop a Major League Baseball investigation into then-alleged gambling by Cincinnati Reds Manager Pete Rose. (Judge Nadel ruled that baseball had unfairly prejudged Rose, who was ultimately banned from baseball.) As a graduate of Salmon P. Chase College of Law during its era as an evening college, Judge Nadel was a staunch supporter of the evening program following the merger in 1972 of Chase with Northern Kentucky University. He served multiple years as chair of the Chase Foundation, an entity independent of NKU that administers and transmits funds designated for the college.

**1966**
**Robert S. Olson**

*June 5, 2020*

Mr. Olson maintained a solo practice in Lebanon, Ohio, for 40 years.

**1967**
**Stanton H. Vollman**

*September 30, 2020*

Mr. Vollman practiced as a member in Cohen, Todd, Kite & Stanford, Cincinnati. He was a board member of Pro Seniors, which provides legal guidance and referrals to seniors in the Cincinnati area.

**1968**
**Judge Ronald Panioto**

*January 20, 2022*

Judge Panioto was a Hamilton County (Ohio) Court of Common Pleas, Domestic Relations Division judge from 1982 to 2006, during which he also served as administrative judge. He was a Hamilton County Municipal Court judge from 1975 to 1982, and a Hamilton County assistant prosecutor from 1968 to 1975. With his retirement from the practice of law, in 2011, friends established in his honor the Judge Ronald A. Panioto Endowed Scholarship at Salmon P. Chase College of Law.

**1968**
**Jerome F. Hagan**

*February 5, 2021*

Mr. Hagan was founder of Hagan Construction Co. and J.G. Stephen Co., also a construction company.

**1970**
**Bruce M. Heyman**

*August 20, 2020*

Mr. Heyman assumed responsibility for his family’s business, Reliable Salon Services, while a student, after his father died.

**1974**
**Douglas R. Murray**

*October 3, 2020*

Mr. Murray was a lawyer with IBM.

**1975**
**William D. Hillmann**

*December 6, 2020*

Mr. Hillmann practiced in the Cincinnati metropolitan area. He was a plaintiff’s lead counsel in class action litigation following the Beverly Hills Supper Club fire in Southgate, Kentucky, in 1977.

**1977**
**Gregory T. Hughes**

*April 13, 2020*

Mr. Hughes practiced in Kentucky and Ohio, and represented injured railroad workers covered by the Federal Employers Liability Act and individuals in Social Security disability claims.

**1978**
**David L. Barth**

*August 5, 2020*

Mr. Barth practiced his entire career with Cors & Bassett, Cincinnati. He was president his final 15 years with the firm, a member more than 30 years, and on the executive committee more than 25 years. He focused his practice in the litigation group in matters involving labor and employment law, construction, trade secrets, non-compete agreements and business litigation. At Salmon P. Chase College of Law, he was a founding member of the Board of Advisers of the Center for Excellence in Advocacy.

**Diane E. Flautt**

*May 10, 2020*

Ms. Flautt was a legal editor with Anderson Publishing Co., Cincinnati.

**1979**
**James S. Ginocchio Sr.**

*September 25, 2020*

Mr. Ginocchio was a lawyer in the city prosecutor’s and city solicitor’s office of the City of Cincinnati and later a lawyer in the civil division of the Hamilton County (Ohio) Prosecuting Attorney. He retired in 2017.

**Ann M. Morgan**

*October 18, 2020*

Ms. Morgan retired from solo practice in Cincinnati.

**Dennis S. Risch**

*February 12, 2021*

Mr. Risch practiced in Godbey Law, Cincinnati, since 2015, and previously in Heis & Wenstrup, Cincinnati, and in solo practice. He was corporate counsel and treasurer for Moriah Media, Cincinnati.
James S. Risch  
February 21, 2021

1980  
Kenneth J. Berling  
September 4, 2020

Mr. Berling maintained a solo practice and was a member of the Kentucky Bar Association.

1981  
Michael D. Bowling  
February 20, 2021

Mr. Bowling was a member of the Kentucky House of Representatives from Bell, Harlan, Whitley and Leslie counties for eight years, and was chair of the Judiciary Committee. He served on the Kentucky Public Advocacy Commission, was Middlesboro (Kentucky) City Attorney, attorney for the Bell County Board of Education, a member of the Kentucky Board of Education and chair of the Pine Mountain Regional Industrial Authority. He received the Arthur Von Briesen Award of the National Legal Aid and Defender Association for his support of indigent legal services.

Dennis J. Lortie  
April 29, 2020

Mr. Lortie volunteered as a lawyer with the Kentucky Department of Public Advocacy.

Andrew M. Stephens  
March 12, 2021

Mr. Stephens practiced in his hometown of Lexington, Kentucky.

1983  
Ricky A. Lamkin  
October 7, 2019

Mr. Lamkin practiced in Murray, Kentucky, until he retired in 2017.

1985  
Mark Wintersheimer  
January 18, 2021

Mr. Wintersheimer was a Kentucky Assistant Attorney General and an Assistant Kenton County (Kentucky) County Attorney. He later maintained a private practice in Northern Kentucky.

1987  
Judge R. Scott Borders  
November 8, 2021

Judge Borders served on the three-member Kentucky Workers’ Compensation Board, which provides initial appellate review of litigated workers’ compensation claims. He had been a Kentucky Labor Cabinet workers’ compensation administrative law judge for 15 years. He concentrated his practice in the Lexington, Kentucky, firm of Morgan, Collins, Yeast & Salyer in the areas of workers’ compensation and insurance defense.

1990  
Thomas E. Heard  
August 1, 2021

Professor Heard was Associate Professor of Law Library Services and Associate Law Library Director at Salmon P. Chase College of Law, where he was a tenured professor and taught legal research courses. He was a member of the Ohio Regional Association of Law Libraries and the American Association of Law Libraries. Mr. Heard joined the law library staff as a cataloger, following completion of a Master of Library Science degree at Indiana University, and shortly thereafter enrolled in the law school as a student. As technology usage became more prevalent, Professor Heard became less involved with cataloging and more involved with technology. He became associate library director for technology, and he was a member of the Northern Kentucky University Information Technology Advisory Council for many years.

1992  
Robert G. Miller Jr.  
January 12, 2021

Mr. Miller began his practice in Paintsville, Kentucky, with the firm of Perry and Preston, and later practiced as the Robert G. Miller Jr. Law Firm, in which he maintained a general practice that included such matters as family law, vehicle accidents and Social Security disability claims. As a memorial to his work as a lawyer and his commitment to Salmon P. Chase College of Law, his wife, Kimberly Miller, and the couple’s adult sons, Taylor Miller and Tanner Miller, established in 2021 the Robert G. Miller Jr. Memorial Endowed Scholarship Fund at Salmon P. Chase College of Law. (A story about Mr. Miller and the scholarship is on Page 40.)

1995  
Roger W. Weseli  
June 21, 2021

Mr. Weseli was president and chief executive of Good Samaritan Hospital, Cincinnati, from 1983 to 1991.

1997  
Srihari Malempati  
April 7, 2021

Dr. Malempati was a general surgeon in Pikeville, Kentucky, prior to enrolling at Salmon P. Chase College of Law. He returned to Pikeville and practiced in the Pam May Law Firm from 1998 to 2002, when he became chief medical officer of the Pikeville Medical Center. He retired from the center in 2005 and moved to Atlanta, where he initiated creation a free medical clinic for elderly citizens of India visiting children and grandchildren in the United States.

1999  
Delbert K. Pruitt  
December 11, 2019

Mr. Pruitt served as administrative law judge for 15 years. He had been a Kentucky Labor Cabinet workers’ compensation claims. He had been a Kentucky Labor Cabinet workers’ compensation administrative law judge for 15 years. He concentrated his practice in the Lexington, Kentucky, firm of Morgan, Collins, Yeast & Salyer in the areas of workers’ compensation and insurance defense.

2000  
Jennifer L. Lambert  
January 28, 2021

Ms. Lambert practiced her entire career in Helmer, Martins, Rice & Popham, Cincinnati, and also contributed to the firm’s False Claims Act publications.

2004  
Judge Brian Crick  
December 11, 2021

Judge Crick was elected in 2010 as District Court judge of the Kentucky 45th Judicial District for McLean and Muhlenberg counties, when he was 32 years old, and re-elected without opposition in 2014 and 2018. His death occurred in a tornado that ravaged parts of Western Kentucky, including the city of Bremen, where he lived with his wife and three children, all of whom survived. Following graduation, he was a public defender with the Kentucky Department of Public Advocacy and later a solo practitioner in Muhlenberg County.

2005  
Judge Christopher J. Pace  
October 14, 2021

Judge Pace had been Clark County (Kentucky) Judge Executive since his election in 2018. He was a member of the Clark County Board of Health, the Clark County Extension District Board of Directors, the City of Winchester/Clark County Joint Committee on Emergency Medical Services Contracts and Administration, the Sanitation Board of Directors and the Winchester/Clark County Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors.

Adjunct Faculty  
Justice Donald C. Wintersheimer  
February 18, 2021

Justice Wintersheimer served on the Supreme Court of Kentucky from 1982 until he retired in 2006. He was elected to the Kentucky Court of Appeals in 1976, and served there until he was elected to the Supreme Court. At Salmon P. Chase College of Law, he taught Kentucky Constitutional Law for more than 20 years and was a member of the Board of Visitors, an advisory panel for the dean. He received an honorary Doctor of Laws from Northern Kentucky University. (His son, Mark Wintersheimer ’85, preceded him in death.)
Faculty Scholarship & Activities

John Bickers  
Professor of Law  
**Publication**  
**Presentation**  
"Refusing To Be Buried: Charles Hamilton Houston and the War Against Jim Crow," Chase College of Law, Black History Month Faculty Series, February 22, 2021.  
**Media**  
Explained procedure for removal of a president under the 25th Amendment to the United States Constitution, WLWT (Channel 5, Cincinnati), January 8, 2021.

Tan Boston  
Visiting Assistant Professor of Law  
**Publication**  
**Presentation**  
"Are NCAA Amateurism Regulations Racist, Not Racist or Anti-Racist? Let’s Explore," Chase College of Law, Black History Month Faculty Series, February 16, 2021.  
“How the NCAA No-Pay Rules Affect Female Athletes,” panelist, City University of New York, Baruch College, Zicklin School of Business, April 14, 2021.  
**Media**  

Carol Bredemeyer  
Professor of Law Library Services and Law Library Director  
**Presentation**  

Anthony Chavez  
Professor of Law  
**Presentation**  
**Cited**  

Judith Daar  
Ambassador Patricia L. Herbold Dean and Professor of Law  
**Publications**  
Commentary on the University of California Triage Guidelines, coauthor with previous colleagues at the University of California, Irvine and University of California, Los Angeles medical centers.  
**Presentations**  
“Supporting Law School Staff During the Pandemic,” panelist, Deans Forum, American Association of Law Schools annual meeting, January 2021.  
Grand Rounds for the Department of Ob/Gyn at two university-based medical centers, the University of Washington in Seattle and the Harvard-affiliated Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston, focused on physician duties to honor patient requests for treatment in the context of federal and state anti-discrimination laws.  
Thomas Jefferson University Hospital Department of Ob/Gyn, Philadelphia, Grand Rounds on physician legal obligations to honor patient requests for treatment.  
**Media**  
**Professional**  
Appointed, Board of Directors, Legal Aid of the Bluegrass.  
**Community**  
Appointed, St. Elizabeth Medical Ethics Committee, which

Sharlene Graham Boltz  
Professor of Law  
**Media**  
Quoted, "Human Trafficking is Every Community’s Problem; Regional Task Force is Educating Public About It," Northern Kentucky Tribune, January 30, 2021.
provides education and consultation to the hospital system on ethical matters that arise in health care.

**Robert Furnier**

*W. Bruce Lansford Academy for Law, Business + Technology Director*

**Presentations**


**Jack Harrison**

*Professor of Law*

**Presentations**


**Jennifer Jolly-Ryan**

*Professor of Legal Writing*

**Publications**


“Great Quotations Using the ICE Method,” Kentucky Bar Association Bench & Bar, March/April 2021.

**Dennis Honabach**

*Professor of Law*

**Publication**


**Kenneth Katkin**

*Professor of Law*

**Media**

Interviewed or quoted:


“Local Free Speech Experts Say Twitter’s Trump Suspension Not a Free Speech Violation,” WKRC-TV (Channel 12, Cincinnati), January 11, 2021.


**Almost every day, for the 11th Circuit, challenging as unconstitutional Alabama regulations that restrict persons who identify as transgender in having their gender designation on a driver license changed.**


“Flag with Profanities Towards Biden Stirs Controversy,” WKRC-TV (Channel 12, Cincinnati) and affiliated stations, March 11, 2021.

“Fake Vaccine Cards: Warning about Fraudulent Activity and Vaccine Rollout,” WKRC-TV (Channel 12, Cincinnati), April 3, 2021.

“As Vaccines Approach Full FDA Approval, Could Employers Require Workers to Get the Shot?,” WCPO (Channel 9, Cincinnati), May 7, 2021.

“Cincinnati Public School Board Kicks Mandatory Vaccination Vote Back to Drawing Board,” WCPO.com, June 28, 2021.

“Refuse the Vaccine, Get Fired, Collect Unemployment?,” WCPO (Channel 9, Cincinnati), August 20, 2021.


“Almost every day, for the 11th Circuit, challenging as unconstitutional Alabama regulations that restrict persons who identify as transgender in having their gender designation on a driver license changed.”

**Amy Halbrook**

*Associate Dean and Professor of Law*

**Presentation**


**Professional**

Instructor, American Bar Association Commission on Domestic and Sexual Violence Trial Skills Institute, December 2020.

**Simone Williams**

*Professor of Law*

**Presentation**


**Professional**

Instructor, American Bar Association Commission on Domestic and Sexual Violence Trial Skills Institute, December 2020.

**Challenges for LGBTQ+ Persons in Leadership in Law Schools,” January 2021.**

Amicus curiae, joined professors at other law schools in support of plaintiffs in Corbitt v. Taylor in the United States Court of Appeals for the 11th Circuit, challenging as unconstitutional Alabama regulations that restrict persons who identify as transgender in having their gender designation on a driver license changed.


“Almost every day, for the 11th Circuit, challenging as unconstitutional Alabama regulations that restrict persons who identify as transgender in having their gender designation on a driver license changed.”

University
Appointed, GEARUP Ambassador, a program to improve student learning by integrating information literacy concepts across curricula.

Legislative
Testified, Colorado House of Representatives Education Committee on legislation to change standard of review when Colorado local school boards deny public charter school applications, remote, May 27, 2021.

Jennifer Kinsley
Associate Dean and Professor of Law

Presentations


“Narrative Theory,” panelist, Ohio Juvenile Defender Leadership Summit, on use of narrative storytelling in representing youths in status-offense matters, August 20, 2021.

“Perspectives on Populism,” panelist, Northern Kentucky University Scripps Howard Center for Civic Engagement Six@Six Lecture Series, September 30, 2021.


Jennifer Kreder
Assistant Professor of Law

Presentations


Voluntary dismissal obtained, with other lawyers for defendants in class action lawsuit alleging property damage following demonstrations in Cincinnati for social justice.

Elected, Board of Directors, Cincinnati/ Northern Kentucky-John W. Peck Chapter of the Federal Bar Association.

Community
Participant, “Hear My Story; Be My Voice,” Summit Country Day School eighth-grade class project.

Alex Kreit
Assistant Professor of Law

Casebook

Publications


Presentations
“What the 2020 Election Means for the Movement to End the War on Drugs,” co-organizer and panelist, American Association of Law Schools annual meeting, January 5, 2021.


“Race and the Drug War,” Chase College of Law, Black History Month Faculty Series, February 26, 2021.


Drug-Induced Homicide Webinar Northeastern University School of Law Health in Justice Action Lab, October 20, 2021.

Media


Professional

Michael Mannheimer Professor of Law
Book

Publications
Fraudulently Induced Confessions, 96 Notre Dame L. Rev. 799 (2020).


“Fugitives from Slavery and the Lost History of the Fourth Amendment,” SSRN

Media


Presentations


Professional
Elected, by invitation into membership in the American Law Institute, known for its Restatement of the Law series and scholarly publications.

Amicus curiae, authored and filed in United States v. Tsarnaev, commonly referred to as the Boston Marathon bombing case, in the Supreme Court of the United States, arguing his long-advocated theory that imposition of a federal death penalty for a crime committed within a state that does not authorize capital punishment for any offense is unconstitutional under the Cruel and Unusual Punishments Clause of the Eighth Amendment to the United States Constitution, August 27, 2021.

Steve Stephens Professor of Law
Professional

David Singleton Professor of Law
Publication
Restoring Humanity by Forgetting the Past, 81 Ohio St. L.J. 1011 (2020).


Presentations

“Justice and Injustice in America,” Northern Kentucky University Scripps Howard Center for Civic Engagement Six@Six series, April 20, 2021.

Professor Mannheimer Elected to American Law Institute Membership

Professor Michael Mannheimer has become the third Salmon P. Chase College of Law current faculty member elected into membership in the American Law Institute, the highly regarded source of scholarly works on clarifying, modernizing and improving the law, and which is widely known for its Restatements of the Law series.

Other elected members at Chase are Dean and Professor Judith Daar, the Ambassador Patricia L. Herbold Dean of Chase College of Law, and Associate Dean and Professor Lawrence Rosenthal.

Professor Mannheimer is the author of more than two dozen law review articles, numerous scholarly papers and commentaries, and the author of The Fourth Amendment: Original Understandings and Modern Policing, a forthcoming book published by the University of Michigan Press on how the amendment to the United States Constitution could be applied in a reimagined approach to local policing.

His scholarship has appeared or is forthcoming in such journals as the Columbia Law Review, Texas Law Review, Notre Dame Law Review, Emory Law Journal, Indiana Law Journal, and Iowa Law Review. His work has been cited by the U.S. Courts of Appeals for the Second, Sixth, Ninth and Tenth Circuits, federal district courts in Massachusetts, Vermont and West Virginia, and the high courts of Connecticut, Montana and Vermont. His work on the use of the premeditation-deliberation formula to distinguish first- and second-degree murder was the winner of the 2010 Association of American Law Schools Criminal Justice Section Junior Scholar Paper Award.

At Chase, he has taught Criminal Law, Criminal Procedure, Death Penalty, Evidence and Sentencing. He is the Chase coordinator of the Kentucky Innocence Project.

Prior to joining the Chase faculty in 2004 he was appellate counsel and senior appellate counsel at the Center for Appellate Litigation in New York City, where he represented indigent criminal defendants in appeals from convictions and in related collateral proceedings. He previously was a litigation associate at Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison in New York City. He holds a Juris Doctor from Columbia Law School.

The American Law Institute, with elected membership selected from among leading voices among judges, lawyers and professors, was founded in 1923. Among its incorporators was Cincinnatian and Chief Justice of the United States and former President William Howard Taft.

A story about Professor Mannheimer and his book is on Page 6.

Chase Makes Three New Appointments

A new law library assistant director, a visiting assistant professor and a clinic director are now part of Salmon P. Chase College of Law. Brian van Pottelsberghoe joined the faculty as law library assistant director for digital services and assistant professor of law library services; Danielle Lewis is visiting professor and director of trial and appellate advocacy programs; Brad Steffen is director of the newly created Veterans Discharge Upgrade Review Clinic.

**Professor van Pottelsberghoe** teaches Basic Legal Skills and other research-related courses, assists students in legal research and oversees digital aspects of the law library. He was previously head of public services, directing day-to-day library operations and staff, at the Tampa campus of the Western Michigan University Cooley Law School.

**Professor Lewis** teaches Basic Legal Skills and oversees the trial and appellate advocacy programs, in coordination with Professor Jack Harrison, director of the Center for Excellence in Advocacy. She previously was an adjunct professor at Chase and a partner in the Louisville, Kentucky, office of Reminger Co., where she concentrated in defense of employers and businesses in employment and professional liability matters.

**Brad Steffen** guides students in pro bono work in the Veterans Discharge Upgrade Review Clinic, a program in conjunction with the Veterans Administration to assist veterans seeking reviews of other-than-honorable discharges (typically involving minor infractions) in order to be eligible for veterans benefits. He was previously a military lawyer in the Air Force Judge Advocate General Corps, and now practices in the Northern Kentucky firm of Dressman Benzinger Lavell. His focus is civil litigation, employment and labor law and white collar criminal defense. He holds a Bachelor of Science in marketing from Northern Kentucky University and a Juris Doctor from Chase.

She earned a Bachelor of Arts at the University of Kentucky and a Juris Doctor at Chase.

A story about the clinic is on Page 17.
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