

AMICUS

University of Colorado Law School / Spring 2019



Artificial Intelligence and the Law

Is AI a welcome addition or threat to the legal profession? Associate Professor Harry Surden explains.



COLORADO LAW
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO **BOULDER**



Professor Derek Kiernan-Johnson's Legal Writing class takes in the sunshine outside the Wolf Law Building.



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Electronic copies available at colorado.edu/law/alumni.

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PRINTING / Frederic Printing

COVER / Associate Professor Harry Surden joins Sawyer, one of the robots in the Collaborative AI and Robotics Lab at the University of Colorado Boulder.

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On the Cutting Edge

Dean S. James Anaya

Throughout the pages of this issue of *Amicus* you'll find examples of ways Colorado Law faculty, students, staff, alumni, and donors are advancing knowledge about the law and making a difference. I start with our cover story, which features the path-breaking work of Associate Professor **Harry Surden**, whose unique scholarship in technology and intellectual property law spans artificial intelligence and law, legal automation, and issues concerning self-driving/autonomous vehicles.

As artificial intelligence (AI) becomes more ubiquitous and an increasing number of significant decisions are being made by machines, I doubt that I am the first to wonder if robots will one day be performing the jobs of lawyers (among other professionals). Professor Surden pairs his background in software engineering and law to examine how AI can enhance, not replace, the practice of law, and in doing so, he addresses pressing questions of how this technology can be embraced, not feared.

Professor Surden is just one example of the faculty, students, staff, alumni, and supporters who help keep Colorado Law at the cutting edge of research, scholarship, and serving the public good. Last fall, we became the first law school to host the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights for a period of sessions. Along with hosting 35+ public hearings on alleged human rights violations from across the Western Hemisphere, students had the opportunity to witness human rights advocacy in action, glean a deeper understanding of the complex issues affecting humanity today, and learn how inter-governmental

organizations work to address these issues. Apropos of this milestone, in this issue we share stories about Colorado Law alumni who are advancing the field of human rights. From advocating for immigrant communities to protecting Native American water rights, our alumni are making a difference throughout the world.

Our research centers, too, blaze trails, sharing knowledge across environmental, technology, and public service law. Thanks to a generous matching gift by David Bonderman, the Getches-Wilkinson Center will launch a robust Fellows Program, bringing talented lawyers to Boulder to work on natural resources law and policy reform. As the first law school program of its kind, the GWC's Fellows Program is uniquely situated to develop the next generation of environmental stewards.

As you'll see throughout this issue, our success is made possible only with the collective support of this community—our passionate and creative students, dedicated and visionary faculty, and accomplished and generous alumni and donors. With each of our successes, we are moving the profession forward and making a difference. Thank you for helping to make Colorado Law a place where ideas and knowledge thrive.

News



Guzman to Head Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Efforts

Fernando Guzman III joined Colorado Law in December 2018 as the school's assistant dean for diversity, equity, and inclusive excellence. In this role, Guzman will work closely with senior staff and key partners on and off campus to advance diversity and inclusion efforts for Colorado Law students, faculty, and staff. Guzman most recently served as director of diverse faculty and staff recruitment and retention at the University of Rhode Island. He has served in leadership roles focused on diversity, inclusion, and recruitment at the Colorado School of Mines, University of Denver, and Vermont's Champlain University. He holds a doctoral degree in counseling psychology from the University of Denver; a master's degree in counseling from California State University, Sacramento; and a bachelor's degree in sociology from Santa Clara University. He is excited to work in collaboration with staff and partners across campus to increase the diverse composition of our students and staff while fostering a welcoming, safe, and inclusive community.



Korey Wise Innocence Project Taps Anne-Marie Moyes as Its New Director

Anne-Marie Moyes began her role as director of the Korey Wise Innocence Project at Colorado Law in March 2019. After graduating first in her class from Vanderbilt Law School in 2002, Moyes worked as a public defender in Tennessee for more than 12 years, first as a trial lawyer in state court and later doing federal habeas and appellate work for the federal public defender for the Middle District of Tennessee. During that time, she had the privilege of helping to free three wrongfully convicted men from prison. Based on her outstanding work on innocence cases, Vanderbilt Law School invited her to teach two different courses as adjunct faculty: a doctrinal course exploring the topic of wrongful convictions and an experiential course devoted to screening potential innocence cases. Since relocating to Colorado in 2017, she has worked as a contract attorney for the Office of the Alternate Defense Counsel. In her free time, she enjoys being outdoors with her husband and daughter.



Horowitz Joins as Director of Experiential Learning and Public Service Programs

Emily Horowitz joined Colorado Law as the director for experiential learning and public service programs in February 2019. Previously, she served as assistant director of academic affairs and student services and special advisor to the law reviews at the University of Miami School of Law. A testament to her love for working with law students, Horowitz received the 2014 Guillermo Padron Staff Service Award, which recognizes University of Miami School of Law staff whose interactions with the students and community at large exemplify the ideal of service to others and the community. She graduated in 2012 with honors from the University of Miami School of Law, where she served as the editor-in-chief of the *University of Miami Law Review* and was a member of Charles C. Papy Jr. Moot Court Board. In her free time, Horowitz enjoys traveling (she's been to all 50 states) and being outdoors. She is looking forward to taking her dogs, Sonny and Taco, hiking.



Left: During a recent trip to the Ipiranga village of Acre, Brazil, Dean S. James Anaya and members of the CU delegation met with members and leaders of the indigenous Puyanawa tribe.

Below: Jennifer Sullivan, senior assistant dean for administration and program development, sixth from left, with her students in a mediation skills course she co-taught in Rio Branco, Brazil.



In 2018, Senior Assistant Dean for Administration and Program Development **Jennifer Sullivan** co-taught (along with adjunct faculty Nan Waller Burnett and Robin Amadei) two mediation skills courses to judges and public sector lawyers in Rio Branco, the capital of Acre. The course featured several guest lecturers live-streamed from Colorado, including former Chief Justice of the Colorado Supreme Court Nancy Rice.

"It is exciting to help develop a cadre of skilled mediators in Acre who will be able to relieve the state's overburdened courts and improve access to justice," Sullivan said. "Brazil is beginning to embrace mediation, but Acre's remote location makes it difficult to access the training programs available elsewhere in the country. Colorado Law is bringing mediation training to the lawyers and judges of Acre."

The LEEP lab is developing research projects in Acre that explore connections between Acre's state environmental policies and sustainable livelihood development, and intersections between forest conservation strategies and public health.

Colorado Law Plays Key Role in Campus Partnership with Acre, Brazil

Partnership between CU Boulder, state of Acre, Brazil, and Federal University of Acre takes an interdisciplinary approach to real-world problem solving.

They are separated by more than 5,000 miles, but the communities of Acre, Brazil, and Boulder, Colorado, are learning from each other in the areas of environment and forestry, climate, international human rights, sustainable business and food production, and more. The Acre-Colorado Exchange, a partnership between CU Boulder, the state of Acre, and the Federal University of Acre (UFAC), focuses on bi-directional education and exchange to promote learning across cultural, geographical, and disciplinary boundaries. The partnership draws from both expertise across CU's law, engineering, environmental studies, and other academic departments, and colleagues and practitioners in Acre. The partnership was established by the Laboratory for Energy and Environmental Policy (LEEP) innovation program based at CU Boulder, and is supported by an Outreach Award from CU's Office for Outreach and Engagement.

The efforts of this collaboration are already bearing fruit, with Colorado Law playing a pivotal role in developing short courses in law and sustainable community development for local Acre attorneys.

Institute of Future Law Practice Program Expands Legal Training

The practice of law increasingly relies on interdisciplinary skills. This summer, a cohort of Colorado Law students will advance their academic knowledge and real-world business and technology experiences as participants in the Institute for the Future of Law Practice (IFLP) program.

The program kicks off in May with an intensive three-week boot camp conducted by industry leaders, followed by a paid internship with corporate legal departments, law firms, legal tech companies, and unpaid internships with public service organizations. The program offers 10-week and seven-month internships in Colorado, Silicon Valley, and elsewhere. Colorado Law is a host school for the boot camp this May.

Colorado Law is one of 18 law schools across the U.S., Canada, and Europe selected to partner with IFLP, a nonprofit education organization that provides training for law students in disciplines that complement traditional law school curriculum.



Katja Edelman ('21) and Greg Max ('20) are two of the Colorado Law students selected to participate in the IFLP program this summer. Edelman will intern at Code42's Broomfield, Colorado, office. Max will intern at Cisco Systems in San Jose, California.

Clinics



Technology Law and Policy Clinic Stands Up for Fair Use Exemptions

The Samuelson-Glushko Technology Law and Policy Clinic (TLPC), directed by Associate Clinical Professor **Blake E. Reid**, secured a slew of renewals and modifications to the Digital Millennium Copyright Act (DMCA), as announced in a ruling by the Library of Congress in October. The Librarian of Congress renewed four exemptions that improve the state of fair use for a range of individuals, including security professionals finding vulnerabilities in voting machines, disability services professionals adding captions and descriptions to videos for educational use, authors using video clips in e-books, and the visually impaired accessing audio books.

“These exemptions, and those obtained by other proponents in the proceeding, represent an important step forward in the recognition that copyright law needs to better accommodate fair uses of copyrighted works in a digital environment,” Reid said. “I am incredibly proud of the Colorado Law student attorneys who drafted tens of thousands of words of incredibly high-quality analysis and advocacy on the intersection between copyright law, computer science, and everything from disability policy to the sociology of fan fiction.”

The TLPC has several public interest projects underway. These include: working with disability rights organizations on a proceeding at the Federal Communications Commission that would overhaul Internet Protocol Captioned Telephone Service, relied on by many people with hearing impairments to have phone conversations; helping to articulate legal standards to protect consumers against the disclosure of sensitive mobile location data; and continuing to help university researchers and students develop policies for launching small satellites to conduct important scientific missions while protecting the orbital environment against the buildup of debris.



Sustainable Community Development Clinic Helps Launch Nonprofit

Colorado Law’s Sustainable Community Development Clinic (SCDC) helped launch Dogs Unbroken, a local nonprofit designed to support dogs at greater risk for euthanasia. One of the unique features of the SCDC is its commitment to fostering new entities that commit to principles of collaboration, consensus, and trusting relationships, explained Professor and Director of Clinical Programs **Deborah Cantrell**. Working closely with a group of all-women founders, **Bobby Dishell** ('20) and **Lauren Sakin** ('20) helped Dogs Unbroken create bylaws and other materials imbued with those principles, which include figuring out how its board members can equally share governance duties through a nonhierarchical structure and with consensus-based decision-making.



Civil Practice Clinic Wins Significant Appeal for Client

Under the supervision of Professor **Norm Aaronson**, student attorneys **Jared Daraie** ('20) and **Nicole Greene** ('20) won a significant Social Security disability appeal for a client with a chronic debilitating illness. The client will receive approximately \$25,000 in back benefits and ongoing monthly benefits. Students gathered and developed medical evidence and opinions, submitted a brief, and argued the case before the Hon. Erin Justice, an administrative law judge at the Office of Disability Adjudication and Review.

572

Approximate number of clients and cases served by **132 Colorado Law clinical students** in the 2017–18 academic year.

Seen & Heard

A sampling of voices from around the law school.



“Viewing immigrants as threats to extinguish, rather than community members to embrace, prevents the immigrants who are already living in the United States from properly innovating and adapting to a diverse, global society.”

Ming H. Chen, associate professor of law, in a recent article published in *Washington & Lee Law Review*, “Sanctuary Networks and Integrative Enforcement.” Chen sits on the Colorado Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, which in February held a public briefing at Colorado Law on the backlog of naturalization applications in Colorado.



“The controversy surrounding the Dakota Access Pipeline showcased for a generation the consequences of failing to account for the total impacts of development on and near indigenous lands, including a failure to respect human rights.”

Carla Fredericks, associate clinical professor, in a report co-authored with Mark Meaney, Nicholas Pelosi, and **Kate R. Finn** ('15), detailing the financial impacts stemming from protests, boycotts, legal challenges, and divestment campaigns opposing the 1,172-mile oil pipeline. The report argues that by considering those social risks, the companies involved could have avoided hefty financial losses totaling at least \$7.5 billion.



“For those of who live in or around Boulder, #GiveFirst feels like a linchpin of the startup community. Along with mountains and sun, it’s one of the attractions that motivates entrepreneurs to migrate to the Front Range. It is a mode of behavior about how exchanges work between people working in the startup scene. In my estimation, it facilitates what Brian Eno calls ‘scenius,’ which he defines as the communal form of genius.”

Associate Professor **Brad Bernthal**, opening the annual entrepreneurial conference hosted by the law school’s Silicon Flatirons Center for Law, Technology, and Entrepreneurship, “Community, Creativity, and #GiveFirst.” Bernthal serves as director and founder of the center’s Entrepreneurship Initiative.



“[As government officials], we are in the forever business. . . . We’re not in here just to satisfy the interests of this generation. We are here making decisions that are going to impact people for generations to come. That is the forever business.”

Sally Jewell, former U.S. secretary of the interior, delivering the keynote address, “The Changing Landscape of Public Lands,” at the Getches-Wilkinson Center’s Martz Winter Symposium on March 1, 2019.



“It’s an amazing, fulfilling experience to be a Colorado Law student because all of the boxes are checked—stellar academics, family-like students and faculty, a gorgeous setting, and a quality of life that’s second to none. It’s a very rare combination.”

Travis Bell, Class of 2011



"I don't think that 'U.S. retreating on climate and energy' is quite the right way to describe things, and I don't think 'the states will save us' is quite the right way to define things, but I think this is true: We are in a period of dynamism and flux."

Jody Freeman, Harvard's Archibald Cox Professor of Law, describing the state of climate and energy law during the Trump administration at the Getches-Wilkinson Center's 11th Annual Schultz Lectureship in Energy on Jan. 24, 2019.



"Algorithmic decision-making can be opaque, complex, and subject to error, bias, and discrimination, in addition to implicating dignitary concerns. The literature in the United States has been largely speculative, operating in a policy vacuum, with no omnibus federal law governing algorithmic decisions. This is resolutely not, however, the case in the European Union."

Margot Kaminski, associate professor of law, in a forthcoming article in the *Berkeley Technology Law Journal*, "The Right to Explanation, Explained."



"Lawyers have to be vigorous in their defense of due process. This is the slippery area of the law where if you take a shortcut today and a shortcut tomorrow, then there is no process left."

The Hon. **Carlos Lucero**, delivering the law school's Byron R. White Center's John Paul Stevens Lecture on Sept. 27, 2018.

0

Percentage increase in Colorado Law's tuition in the past seven years

5

Colorado Law's national rank, legal technology
(*The National Jurist*)

8

Colorado Law's national rank, environmental law
(*U.S. News & World Report*)

16

Percentage decrease in average indebtedness of Class of 2017 graduates who borrowed compared to the four previous classes

29

National ranking, Colorado Law's scholarly impact (Gregory C. Sisk and colleagues)



Charles Wilkinson and David Getches, namesakes of the Getches-Wilkinson Center.

Investing in Our Future: Announcing the Getches-Wilkinson Center Fellows Program

By Alice Madden ('89)

Residents of the West, the nation, and the world live in challenging times in terms of protecting our natural resources. Rivers, airsheds, old-growth forests, red-rock landscapes, and wild lands face new and daunting risks. Fires, glacier loss, drought, and violent storms serve as calls to action to ensure a sustainable, just, and equitable future for all. In Colorado and beyond, there is a rising demand for thoughtful policy initiatives at all levels of government. At the Getches-Wilkinson Center for Natural Resources, Energy, and the Environment (GWC), we see an opportunity to help address this unmet need while training the next generation of outstanding leaders in natural resources, energy, and water law.

After examining how we could best leverage the strengths of the GWC to meet this urgent demand, we are launching the GWC Fellows Program. This unique and multidisciplinary training program will be open to recent law graduates, former judicial clerks, and lawyers early in their careers. Four fellows chosen through a national competitive search will conduct reform-oriented research on the most pressing issues in their fields and interact with public- and private-sector leaders to inform policymaking. Each fellow will serve a two-year commitment and specialize in a certain area (e.g., water, energy, or natural resources). Fellows will be mentored by a faculty member who will oversee their substantive work. Further, they will receive formal training in leadership and communication skills. Colorado Law and the GWC are uniquely situated to recruit excellent and diverse candidates, assist them in producing impactful work, and accelerate their careers upon completion.

The GWC is pleased to announce it has received a pivotal matching grant of \$420,000 through the generosity of David Bonderman, a lawyer, businessman, and significant supporter of conservation initiatives. We are actively seeking to match this gift, which will allow us to initiate the program for four years. Our ultimate goal is to obtain, over time, sufficient funding to endow a permanent program of four fellows serving two-year commitments.

The work

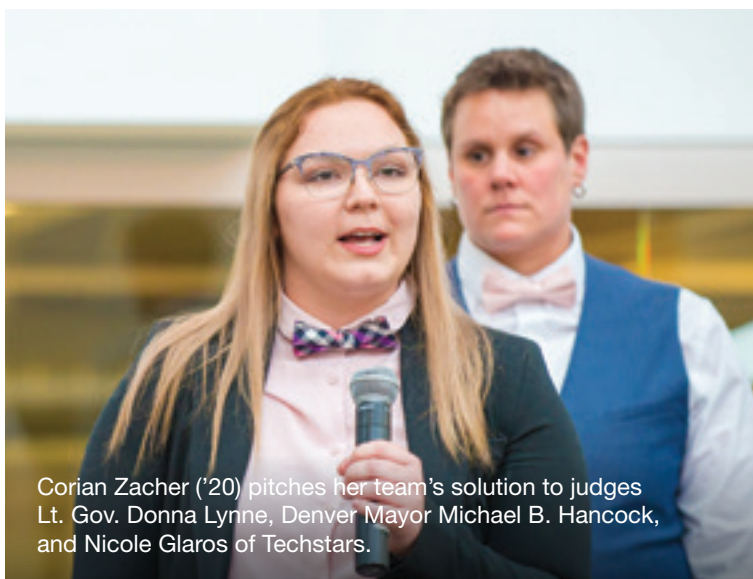
The GWC Fellows Program will provide a matchless educational experience in which fellows will produce innovative work that advocates for the public good in natural resources law. Fellows will engage at every level—federal, state, tribal, county, city, and international. They will operate a “rapid response” team that will quickly address significant breaking events, sharing their findings with the public through a blog and social media. Fellows will produce white papers, often building upon rapid-response subjects. They will also identify administrative and legislative proposals where formal comments would be productive and generate amicus briefs for concerned organizations. Fellows will learn how government agencies, policymakers, related NGOs, and businesses interact—and how to create change.

Get involved

There is a compelling need for this fellows program, and to launch it, we need your support. Once operational, we are confident the program will be recognized as worthy of a full endowment, to make this intensive training program permanent. We invite you to become a founding member of the GWC Fellows Program alongside David Bonderman. To learn more, please contact **Alice Madden** ('89), executive director of the GWC, at alice.madden@colorado.edu or 303-492-1288.

“This program will launch a new kind of postgraduate fellowship. Over two years, these diverse, superbly qualified fellows will do research, develop deep expertise, and then take it out to federal and state legislatures and agencies to help reform existing law in critical natural resources areas. This combination of scholarship and real-world experience will help build the next generation of environmental stewards and leaders to the great benefit of all communities and the land, water, and air.”

Charles Wilkinson, Distinguished Professor Emeritus



Corian Zacher ('20) pitches her team's solution to judges Lt. Gov. Donna Lynne, Denver Mayor Michael B. Hancock, and Nicole Glaros of Techstars.



After the boot camp, each team had five weeks to dedicate to researching and understanding its assigned problem from various angles and to devising—and getting government leaders to embrace—its solution.

Zacher and her team proposed a solution that eliminates unnecessary steps, employs a simplified agreement option, and leverages and streamlines dissemination of information collected in the DOLA grant management system to drastically reduce the wait time for communities. This allows communities to start their projects sooner, which can make all the difference for communities with short construction seasons, for example.

Last June, the four GELA teams pitched their solutions to Lt. Gov. Donna Lynne, Denver Mayor Michael B. Hancock, and Nicole Glaros of Techstars in front of a crowd of nearly 200 at Galvanize in Denver. One team focused on increasing neighborhood engagement during liquor licensing in Denver, another sought to solve the shortage of geographically and culturally appropriate certified foster homes in the state, and a third offered a solution to prevent low-risk people with warrants from spending unnecessary time in jail.

DOLA embraced the team's proposed solution and immediately worked to roll out early steps, with full implementation in 2019. Zacher was instrumental in drafting intergovernmental grant agreements.

"This would not have happened without Corian and the entire team helping to tell our story," said Rachel Harlow-Schalk, DOLA's deputy director.

GELA will run its fourth cohort starting this May, again partnering with the state and cities of Denver and Boulder. Teams will pitch their innovative solutions to government leaders in a high-energy event the evening of June 27 at Galvanize Golden Triangle in Denver. Full details are at siliconflatirons.org/events.

Kelly Brown is the Governmental Entrepreneurial Leadership Accelerator program director at Silicon Flatirons Center.

Program Pairs Government Innovation and Empowering Student Experience

Silicon Flatirons program encourages innovative solutions to government challenges.

By Kelly Brown

Looking for a summer experience centered around community engagement, **Corian Zacher** ('20) learned about the Governmental Entrepreneurial Leadership Accelerator (GELA) and knew it would be the perfect learning opportunity for her first summer during law school.

"I was drawn to the chance to work on a real government-based problem affecting my community," she said.

GELA is much more than just a law student summer experience. Organized by the Silicon Flatirons Center for Law, Technology, and Entrepreneurship at Colorado Law, the program encourages governments to be innovative when faced with challenges.

Governments of all sizes feel the pressure of increasing needs and demands, while experiencing fewer resources. GELA teaches how innovative problem-solving can help.

Silicon Flatirons works closely with the city and county of Denver, the city of Boulder, and the state of Colorado to run the program, which is in its fourth year.

GELA accepts emerging leaders from these governmental agencies, as well as Colorado Law students interested in entrepreneurship, policy, and public service, into the program, which runs full time every May and June. The selected fellows are configured into interdisciplinary teams and assigned a real public policy issue affecting the state or local government.

"GELA was an incredible experience," Zacher, the GELA 2018 fellow, said. "I learned so much about government, problem-solving, and state contract processes." Her team was charged with helping the Colorado Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) streamline grant distribution to save time and money for Colorado communities.

Zacher's team, along with three others, learned about the methods entrepreneurs use when problem-solving, such as lean startup and design-centered thinking, in an intensive two-week boot camp. They also learned that failing is OK, and the importance of moving on or pivoting if needed. The boot camp was taught by guest lecturers with entrepreneurial or government innovation experience.

GELA's first three years:

48 fellows | 12 problem statements | 48 mentors
20 executive sponsors | 90 boot-camp sessions
700 pitch-night attendees | countless pitch practices

Faculty



Dean Anaya Named University Distinguished Professor, Receives Honorary Doctorate

With approval by the Board of Regents, Dean **S. James Anaya** was named one of seven newly designated Distinguished Professors within the University of Colorado system. Distinguished Professors, of which there are only 57, are faculty members who demonstrate exemplary performance in research or creative work, a record of excellence in classroom teaching and supervision of individual learning, and outstanding service to the profession, the university, and its affiliates. Last fall, Quebec's Université de Sherbrooke awarded Anaya an honorary doctorate for his work on human rights and indigenous peoples (pictured).

In September 2018, the Constitutional Court of Guatemala issued a landmark decision on a dispute over a dam that encroached on the traditional territory of the Xinka indigenous people, suspending construction of the dam and mandating a process of consultation with the affected Xinka people. In doing so, the court relied on Anaya's work for the underlying legal standards. Recently, at a workshop in the Kichwa village of Sarayaku in the Peruvian Amazon, Anaya spoke on international developments concerning the rights of indigenous peoples over the last few decades. Workshop participants included indigenous leaders from around the world.



Guruswamy Advises Litigants Challenging Attempted Constitutional Coup in Sri Lanka

Lakshman Guruswamy, Nicholas Doman Professor of International Law, served as a pro bono advisor to one of the litigants in a case challenging the constitutionality of Sri Lanka President Maithripala Sirisena's attempted coup d'état. In October 2018, Sirisena purported to fire the duly appointed prime minister and appoint a new prime minister, who was unable to secure a parliamentary majority needed to legitimize the appointment. Guruswamy advised the petitioners on matters of human rights and constitutional interpretations. In December 2018, the Supreme Court ruled that the president's actions were unconstitutional. The president accepted the ruling and reappointed the fired prime minister, who is now the legitimate prime minister of Sri Lanka.



Squillace to Teach Interdisciplinary Course on Climate Change in France

Raphael J. Moses Professor of Law **Mark Squillace** will co-teach a course on climate change in Chamonix, France, this May. The course will be taught in partnership with the University of Colorado's Masters of the Environment Program and the Chamonix-based Research Center for Alpine Ecosystems. The center is one of the world's preeminent non-governmental organizations dedicated to the study of the effects of climate change on alpine environments. The course will focus on the effects of climate change on the Mont Blanc region. Students will visit Chamonix's high-altitude research sites and learn about the efforts to document the effects of climate change on and around Mont Blanc.



Mueller Ranked Among Most-Cited Evidence Professors for Third Consecutive Year

A report recently found **Christopher B. Mueller**, Henry S. Lindsley Professor of Procedure and Advocacy, to be the seventh most-cited evidence law professor in the U.S. This is the third consecutive year Mueller has been included in the top 10. Mueller teaches civil procedure, evidence, and complex civil litigation. His books are highly regarded and used in law schools across the country. The report was compiled by University of St. Thomas Professor Gregory Sisk and his colleagues.



Carpenter Is Lead Author of U.N. Report on Migration

Kristen Carpenter, Council Tree Professor and director of the American Indian Law Program, attended a seminar in Chiang Mai, Thailand, in her capacity as the North American member and vice chair of the United Nations Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (EMRIP), a subsidiary body of the U.N. Human Rights Council. EMRIP members heard testimony from indigenous peoples facing discrimination, violence, and other human rights violations in their home countries, during migrations, and in border crossings. They discussed the causes and circumstances that indigenous peoples face when they migrate for reasons of economic need, political conflict, or cultural traditions. Carpenter is the lead author of an upcoming EMRIP report, "Indigenous Peoples' Rights in the Context of Borders, Migration, and Displacement," which will be presented to the Human Rights Council in September 2019.



Weiser Elected Colorado Attorney General

On Nov. 6, Colorado Law's former dean, **Phil Weiser**, was elected Colorado attorney general. Weiser served as the Hatfield Professor of Law and Telecommunications and executive director and founder of the law school's Silicon Flatirons Center for Law, Technology, and Entrepreneurship. From 2011 to 2016, he served as dean of Colorado Law. He will continue his relationship with the law school as an adjunct professor and engaged member of the Silicon Flatirons team.



Workshop Examines International Law and Racial Justice

Dean **S. James Anaya** and Associate Professor **Justin Desautels-Stein**, with UCLA Law professor E. Tendayi Achiume, organized and hosted a workshop titled International Law & Racial Justice at Colorado Law in August. Discussions highlighted critical perspectives of how issues of racism and racial justice in international law are being solved, with a keynote address by the University of Iowa College of Law's Adrien Wing. More than 20 scholars from the U.S. and abroad attended.



Speck Co-Organizes Meeting of Junior Tax Scholars

The 13th annual Junior Tax Scholars Workshop, organized in part by Associate Professor **Sloan Speck**, convened at Colorado Law June 15–16, 2018. Seventeen pretenure tax faculty members from across the country reviewed papers on a wide range of tax law topics. Speck, who teaches income taxation, corporate taxation, and real estate planning, presented his work-in-progress about the effects of taxation on crowdfunding for health care.



Spain Bradley Presents on Unity During Crisis at FEMA

In celebration of Conflict Resolution Month, Associate Professor **Anna Spain Bradley** served as the keynote speaker at the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)'s signature event in Washington, D.C., on Oct. 24. Speaking on "Unity During Crisis: The Value of Organizational Solidarity and How to Build It," Spain Bradley drew on her expertise in conflict resolution, diversity and inclusion, and decision-making and neuroscience to share insights on how FEMA employees can advance their well-being through inclusive leadership and enhanced conflict-resolution skills. The talk was livestreamed to FEMA locations across the country.



Artificial Intelligence and Law

By Susan Miller ('19)

What impact will the technology that enables self-driving cars, robots, and drones have on the legal profession?

From films to news headlines, artificial intelligence, or AI, is often portrayed as a threat to many modern professions. It's only logical, then, for lawyers to wonder: Should they be worried or enthusiastic? Will AI take over the legal profession as we know it—or will it bring more access to legal services and enable improved lawyering?

Associate Professor **Harry Surden**, a distinguished scholar in the areas of AI and law, regulation of autonomous vehicles, and legal automation, suggests most legal careers will remain safe. Rather than replacing lawyers, he says, AI can actually enhance legal work by streamlining mechanical tasks, thus providing attorneys with more time to spend on abstract reasoning and problem-solving.

From software engineer to law professor

Surden's background is somewhat unconventional for a law professor. As an undergraduate student, he simultaneously pursued courses in computer science and political science, wondering to what extent computer science might apply to law and policy. After working as a professional software engineer for several years, he decided to explore this cross-disciplinary approach further in law school. He earned his JD from Stanford before clerking for a federal judge in San Francisco. From there, he returned to his alma mater as a researcher, where he further pursued this idea of computer science applied to law—sometimes called “legal informatics.” In 2006, he helped co-found the Stanford Center for Legal Informatics (CodeX) and served as its first research fellow. In that role, Surden helped develop a proof-of-concept research project that allowed architects to automatically determine when their electronic building designs were in compliance with local building code laws.

“Professor Surden has always dedicated his research in AI and law to questions of immediate relevance to the field,” said Roland Vogl, a professor of law at Stanford and executive director of CodeX. “He has an incredible ability to explore the topics of his research thoroughly, while still presenting very complex issues in a way that makes them accessible to lawyers and computer scientists alike.”

Surden joined the faculty of Colorado Law in 2008, where his scholarship has included such articles as “Machine Learning and Law” (*Washington Law Review*), “Technological Opacity, Predictability, and Self-Driving Cars” (*Cardozo Law Review*), and “Computable Contracts” (*UC Davis Law Review*). He teaches technology- and law-related courses such as Patent Law and Computers and the Law.

Over the years, Surden's academic research interest began to crystalize on a particular aspect of computer science and law: artificial intelligence. He was drawn to AI in the early 2000s as he observed AI techniques moving out of university laboratories and becoming widely integrated throughout society. At that time, AI was comparatively understudied as a topic within law. While researchers today are more attuned to AI, Surden remains part of a relatively small group of law professors who are not

only studying the impact of AI on law and policy, but who are also building software applications that use AI on legal topics. Surden's research has focused on applying intelligence techniques to various problems in patent and contract law, and, in 2018, he was awarded the University of Colorado's Provost Award for his research on legal informatics.

“Professor Surden's work on autonomous vehicles is important for both consumer protection and the policy of technological design,” said Colorado Law Associate Professor **Margot Kaminski**, whose own research on the law of information governance, privacy, and freedom of expression overlaps with Surden's as it relates to autonomous systems such as AI, robots, and drones. The pair are organizing a May conference in partnership with the law school's Silicon Flatirons Center for Law, Technology, and Entrepreneurship titled “Explainable Artificial Intelligence: Can We Hold Machines Accountable?” (more information available at siliconflatirons.org).

“[Surden's work] shifts the conversation away from the over-discussed ‘trolley problem’ (that is, the question of how to decide who gets hit when a car is offered a choice between two people) to the more pressing question of how to design an entire environment of interaction between autonomous cars and human drivers,” Kaminski said. “That's where the harder, more practical questions lie. By doing interdisciplinary research—he's one of few law professors to collaborate with a roboticist—Professor Surden is a trailblazer in this field.”

The AI of today

The AI depicted in science fiction and the media as intelligent computers capable of discussing deep, abstract, and insightful ideas with humans, or acting at a level that meets or surpasses general human intelligence, is not the AI that we use or have today, nor is there evidence that we are near such “strong” AI, Surden says.

Rather, AI today is best understood as using computers to solve problems and make automated decisions that, when done by humans, are usually thought to require intelligence, Surden says. However, he notes that these automated decisions are typically based not on artificial human-level intelligence, but on algorithms detecting patterns in large amounts of data, and using statistics to make educated approximations—known as machine learning.

The dominant approach to AI today, machine learning techniques are often able to produce useful, accurate outcomes in certain domains such as language translation. But, because they rely on detecting complex patterns in data, Surden explains them as “producing intelligent results without intelligence.”

For example, when a machine learning-based computer system produces a translation, it usually does so using statistical associations. However, such a pattern-based machine learning approach—while often producing decent translations—does not actually involve the computer “understanding” what it is translating or what the words mean in the same way a human translator might.



Associate Professor Harry Surden presents at BYU Law School about how the values and biases in artificial intelligence impact the justice system.

Despite these limitations, machine learning has been instrumental in producing many recent breakthrough technologies. For example, as Surden explains in “Technological Opacity, Predictability, and Self-Driving Cars,” algorithms in autonomous vehicles learn to drive themselves by detecting patterns of braking, steering, and acceleration based on data from human drivers. Other popular machine learning applications include an email spam filter that uses algorithms to detect common words or phrases used in spam to filter out emails that may clog inboxes; credit card fraud detection; and automated cancer tumor diagnosis.

AI and the law

How does machine learning apply to the field of law? In his widely cited article “Machine Learning and Law,” Surden notes that a limited number of legal tasks may benefit from current machine learning approaches. Core tasks still require a great amount of problem-solving and abstract reasoning that pattern recognition or machine learning is unable to replicate. However, a fair number of relatively mechanical tasks within law can benefit from AI, such as e-discovery document review, litigation predictive analysis, and legal research.

E-discovery document review is an example of machine learning starting to make inroads into legal tasks that have traditionally been performed by lawyers. Like email spam filters, AI can detect patterns in documents that can then be used to sort through the millions of e-discovery documents and filter out pages that are likely irrelevant to the case. This in turn leaves far fewer potentially relevant documents for attorneys to analyze.

Additionally, AI can be used for predictive analysis in litigation. Surden explains that while attorneys in the past might have told clients that they had an 80 percent chance of early settlement based on experience and intuition, AI can provide substantive support. By using data based on similar cases, claims, or facts of a scenario, AI can predict potential outcomes or even show trends in a timeline. However, one downfall noted by Surden is the difficulty in predicting outcomes for unique cases with distinct fact patterns.

Finally, other more controversial uses of AI in the law exist, such as the use of AI in criminal sentencing or in providing statistics on the probability of reoffending. The patterns in past data on criminal sentencing may contain biases that a machine cannot detect, and reliance on AI would preserve such biases into the future. Thus, while AI may not be suited to all legal tasks, certain assignments may be done more effectively and efficiently by using AI.

There are many other examples of ways in which AI can be used in law. Surden’s research has focused on so-called “computable contracts”: legal contracts in which the content and the meaning of the contractual obligations are represented in a way that can be understood and automatically applied by computers. Surden has convened a working group at Stanford that is focused on moving this process out of the university laboratory and into the world. His other research has focused on ways in which machine learning can lower barriers to access to legal services for low-income communities.

How the legal profession can use machine learning:



E-discovery document review: AI can improve organization and reduce the amount of discovery clutter by sorting through millions of e-discovery documents and filtering out pages that are irrelevant to a case.



Litigation predictive analysis: By leveraging data from past client scenarios and other relevant public and private data, AI can predict future likely outcomes on particular legal issues that could complement legal counseling.



Legal research: AI can improve organization by grouping documents together based on nonobvious shared qualities, thereby simplifying the research process and saving attorneys time.

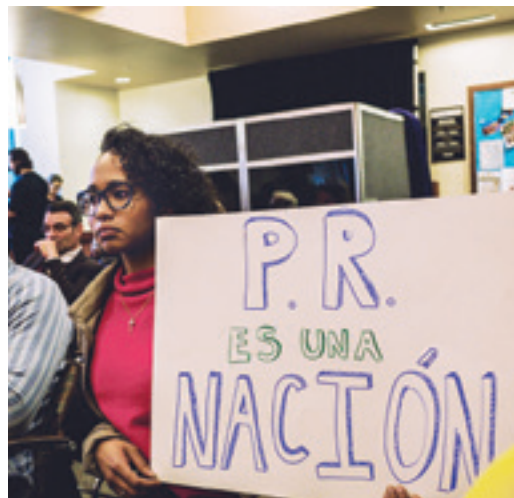
The AI of tomorrow—and beyond

The use of AI in mechanical tasks will likely continue to expand, and Surden suggests that law students position themselves in an area of law that requires abstract reasoning rather than repetitive tasks that will soon become obsolete. However, there are limits to the use of AI in law. For example, AI still requires patterns and rules and is ineffective for unique fact patterns and distinct cases. AI still cannot complete the abstract reasoning that attorneys carry out, and it is unlikely such complex functions will be automated anytime soon. Finally, Surden notes that while speculation on futuristic cognitive AI is tempting, it is better to understand the existing technology and plan accordingly.

Thus, while AI is likely to replace some legal tasks that today involve mechanical repetition or underlying patterns, lawyers do a variety of things such as advising clients, problem-solving, formulating persuasive arguments, and interpersonal activity—that are unlikely to be automated away soon. However, Surden cautions that we shouldn’t focus only on the job-reducing aspects of new technology. Historically, while new technologies have often reduced certain jobs, they have also created entirely new classes of jobs that were difficult to anticipate. For example, the rise of computing technology eliminated many jobs involving humans who computed mathematical problems for a living, but that same technology gave rise to entirely new classes of jobs, such as data analysts and software engineers, that didn’t exist and that were hard to predict at the time. Surden says there is likely to be a similar path in law.

“Although AI’s entry into law is likely to eliminate or reduce some existing legal tasks, it is also likely to create entirely new categories of legal jobs in the future—perhaps legal data analyst or machine learning legal specialist—that are today hard to imagine,” Surden says.

“Like all technological revolutions, the future of law influenced by AI will not necessarily be good or bad overall for the profession. The only thing that we can count on is that it will be different.”



In a historic move, Colorado Law hosted the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) for its 169th Period of Sessions last fall. This was the first time the commission held public hearings in the United States outside of its Washington, D.C., headquarters and the first time hearings have been held at a law school.

The week featured more than 35 public hearings on cases of alleged human rights violations across the Americas, including hearings on:

- The criminalization of social activists and journalists in Cuba
- Identification of the remains of migrants thought to have disappeared along the U.S.-Mexico border
- The use of fracking and the violation of human rights of communities and defenders of environmental and land rights in the Americas
- The right of Puerto Rican citizens to vote in presidential and congressional elections (a hearing attended by the governor of Puerto Rico, Ricardo Rosselló)

"Attending the hearings of the IACHR was a wonderful opportunity to learn firsthand about human rights advocacy. Not only do you get to see how the system works and how to litigate human rights cases, but you also learn so much from your professors' perspectives and analyses, networking events, and the people who attended the hearings. Listening to stories from Nicaragua, Venezuela, and other countries in the Americas, and the commission's response to the issues that the regions face, is enlightening."

Alejandra Gomez (LLM '19)

100+
human rights defenders,
government representatives,
academics, and
others participating

50+
civil society organizations
in attendance

37
public hearings held

24
members of the Inter-American
Commission on Human Rights
and staff present

15
countries represented

3
cases involving the U.S.

Watch highlights at
cu.law/IACHR.

On the Frontlines

Colorado Law alumni at the forefront of human rights work and advocacy reflect on their proudest professional moments.



Velveta Golightly-Howell ('81)

Attorney / Broomfield, Colorado

"Colorado was one of several states selected to participate in the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation-funded Turning Point Initiative, which required grantees to assess and enhance their health care infrastructure. I was appointed to the executive steering committee established by the Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Financing (CDHPF) to meet this mandate. At our first meeting, I noted the access and quality-of-care challenges Coloradans face with racial, ethnic, and geographic health disparities. Subsequently, CDHPF's executive director and my colleagues, representing the state's health care community, accepted my recommendation to focus on this critical issue. Our executive steering committee's efforts resulted in creation of the Colorado Office of Health Disparities (COHD). Colorado made history when it became only the second state to have such an entity. Approximately two years after COHD's establishment, the Colorado legislature passed legislation that then-Gov. **Bill Ritter** ('81) signed, under which COHD became a statutory entity."



Janet Drake ('96)

Deputy attorney general of the Criminal Justice Section, Colorado Attorney General's Office / Denver, Colorado

"I had the opportunity to work on anti-human-trafficking legislation in 2014. The new human-trafficking statutes strengthened Colorado's criminal laws and created a statewide Human Trafficking Council, which I chaired for two years. Those developments have substantially helped prosecutors hold human traffickers accountable and empower survivors."



Harry Budisidharta ('07)

Executive director, Asian Pacific Development Center (APDC) Denver, Colorado

"Creating a diverse and inclusive environment at APDC. Our staff speaks over 20 different languages, and the majority of our board members are immigrants and refugees. We also serve immigrants and refugees from all over the world, regardless of their ethnicity, race, religion, sexual orientation, or immigration status. In 2016, we partnered with the Colorado Center on Law and Policy to convince the Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Financing to change its Medicaid eligibility rule so that refugees, asylees, and other protected-status immigrants could maintain their Medicaid eligibility even after they had been in protected status for seven years. This policy change had substantial positive impacts on the communities we serve and allowed them to maintain access to much-needed medical services."



Adam * ('11)

Rescue manager and legal liaison

Phnom Penh, Cambodia

(*Full name and photo have been omitted for confidentiality)

"Signing our MOU with the anti-trafficking police so that we officially had the legal authority to work on investigations and raids together. Prior to my arrival in Cambodia, my NGO had only done 'soft rescues' (building relationships with victims in order to covertly and voluntarily remove the victim from the establishment) because it is extremely difficult to obtain an MOU with the police, and, despite numerous attempts, none of my superiors or predecessors ever came close to making it happen. Fortunately, through judicious use of my legal skills and a tremendous amount of patience (the MOU process took nearly three years from start to finish, if you include the time it took me to find the right government official to get a foot in the door), I was able to obtain the investigations MOU and usher in a new era for our rescue program."



Stanley Pollack ('78)

Assistant attorney general, Water Rights Unit, Navajo Nation Department of Justice (retired) / Window Rock, Arizona

"Securing the Navajo Nation San Juan River in New Mexico Water Rights Settlement, ratified by Congress in Public Law 111-11, which authorized the construction of the Navajo-Gallup Water Supply Project. When completed, this project will have the capacity to provide water to a quarter of a million, mostly Navajo, residents in northwestern New Mexico and northeastern Arizona. Almost 40 percent of the Navajo people lack indoor plumbing with running water and live in severe poverty. The development of potable water infrastructure will have significant public health benefits and is an important step toward the economic development of these impoverished communities."



Aaron Hall ('08)

Partner, Joseph Law Firm, P.C / Aurora, Colorado

"Any time we are able to keep a family together, help a client become a citizen of the U.S., or get a client immigration status is a proud moment. One of my favorite cases was where the government had charged that our client was ineligible for a green card due to an allegation of a decades-old deportation order. Due to that supposed order, our client, his wife, and two children were all ordered to be deported again. We were able to challenge the existence of the alleged decades-old deportation order in federal district court and eventually convince an immigration judge to approve every member of the family for green cards. Being part of a case where we take a family from the brink of a devastating deportation to permanent stability in the United States is extremely gratifying."



Ashley Harrington ('10)

Managing attorney, Children's Program, Rocky Mountain Immigrant Advocacy Network (RMIAN) Denver, Colorado

"Unlike in the criminal law system, there is no government-appointed counsel in immigration proceedings, even for children. This means that each day, individuals, including children, are forced to defend themselves against deportation without an attorney. Throughout law school it was my dream to work at RMIAN, where we provide legal information and representation to vulnerable immigrants who are unable to afford private counsel to ensure they have access to justice and protection under our laws. What I am most proud of in my professional career is now having the opportunity to lead a team of dedicated attorneys and staff at RMIAN who work tirelessly to help immigrant children and families each and every day."



Adam Severson ('11)

Robert. J. Golten Fellow of International Human Rights, University of Wyoming College of Law / Laramie, Wyoming

"In Egypt and Thailand, I helped secure refugee status for more than 100 political dissidents, land and labor rights activists, survivors of gender-based violence and torture, and religious and ethnic minorities. I also successfully defended asylum seekers and refugees accused of war crimes and serious nonpolitical crimes."

At the University of Wyoming College of Law, I have supported ongoing litigation in Uganda's Constitutional Court over access to basic maternal health care. An estimated 17 Ugandan women per day die in childbirth because they cannot access lifesaving medicines, adequately skilled health workers, or emergency obstetric care. Talented lawyers and health experts in Uganda and the U.S. have contributed to the litigation, which I am optimistic will ultimately lead to better health care for expectant mothers."



Ryan Haygood ('01)

President and CEO, New Jersey Institute for Social Justice Newark, New Jersey

"Joining President Obama and civil rights legends in the 50th anniversary reenactment of the iconic Bloody Sunday march over the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, Alabama. After reaching the top of the bridge, Congressman John Lewis led us in a moment of reflection and prayer. I reflected on the way in which the march over this bridge, named after a grand wizard of the Alabama KKK, gave birth to the Voting Rights Act of 1965 (VRA), which is widely recognized as the crowning achievement of the civil rights movement."

I twice defended the VRA in the U.S. Supreme Court with a team of NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund (LDF) lawyers. I represented black voters in one of those cases, *Shelby County, Alabama v. Holder*, in which the Supreme Court struck down the VRA's coverage provision as unconstitutional, leaving millions of voters of color vulnerable to voter discrimination.

Within days of the decision, Texas implemented the strictest photo ID law in the nation. I led LDF's successful legal challenge to the photo ID law, arguing during a two-week federal trial that the law was racially discriminatory and imposed substantial and unjustified burdens on voters of color in Texas. In the first ruling of its kind, the district court found that Texas' photo ID law, which prevented more than 600,000 mostly black and Latino registered voters from voting, was intentionally racially discriminatory, violated the VRA, and was an unconstitutional poll tax."



Guardians of the Land

Colorado Law's Maya Land Rights and Development Project works with Belizean indigenous organizations to secure Maya customary land tenure and promote sustainable economic development opportunities for Maya communities.

To understand the relationship between indigenous peoples and their traditional lands, one need not look further than the indigenous Q'eqchi' and Mopan Maya communities in the Toledo District in southernmost Belize. The Maya, who make up more than half of the district's population, collectively care for the land they have inhabited for generations by keeping their watersheds pristine and their rainforests lush and selectively harvested. Environmental stewardship is as much a part of the Maya's customary rules and values as is caring for one's family. As Cristina Coc, indigenous Q'eqchi' Mayan land rights activist and co-spokesperson of Maya Leaders Alliance, puts it: "The values [of environmental stewardship] are embedded in the way we define our existence."

Developers and corporations have long coveted this vast, largely untouched land, even drilling for oil and harvesting rainforests without the consent of the Maya people. The Maya have responded in turn, fighting these unwelcome encroachments onto their lands in both domestic and international human rights arenas. Finally, in 2015, the Maya were dealt a break. The Caribbean Court of Justice, the highest appellate court for Belize, handed down a landmark decision affirming that Maya communities in the Toledo region hold customary title to the lands they collectively use and occupy. The implication was historic: Belizean law recognized Maya property rights as equal in legitimacy to Western forms of property rights.

Since this legal victory—litigated by an international legal team that included Colorado Law's Dean **S. James Anaya**—the Maya people have been asked to answer a complex question: How do they thrive off their traditional lands and make their communities more economically resilient while also caring for the environment, individuals, and their collective well-being?

The Maya Land Rights and Development Project at Colorado Law, established in 2018 by the student-led Doman Society of International Law, seeks to help answer that question. The project works in partnership with the Maya Leaders Alliance (MLA), a nonprofit organization that represents the Q'eqchi' and Mopan Maya people, and the Toledo Alcaldes Association (TAA) to help Maya leadership strengthen local governance and build economic resilience in Maya communities.

"Maya land rights have been affirmed in the highest appellate court of Belize since 2015, yet implementation of the court order is slow and violations continue to occur, leading to ongoing litigation to defend and protect Maya land rights," observed Ashleigh Sawa ('19), student leader for the program. "Protection of land rights also means protection of Maya culture, custom, and livelihood; this is the aspect of the project that is the most important to me."

Sawa became involved with these efforts in August 2017 as a student in the American Indian Law Clinic, where she and **Daimeon Shanks** ('19) worked with the Maya Land Rights legal team on litigation strategy and preparation, international legal research, and reporting to international bodies such as the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights and the Universal Periodic Review. In February 2018, Sawa was able to travel to Belize to attend a hearing before the Caribbean Court of Justice, held in the courtroom of the Supreme Court of Belize—an invaluable experience that allowed her to meet members of the Maya community and see up close the land being impacted.

The creation of the Maya Land Rights and Development Project will allow more students to become involved in this important work, Sawa said. It has already attracted the interest

of both JD and LLM students as well as pro bono attorneys based in the U.S., Canada, and Belize.

Volunteers are involved in a variety of projects ranging from international advocacy and economic development work to helping implement the 2015 court order that recognized communal land rights for indigenous Maya communities. Examples of projects include:

- Developing legislation and regulations to provide protection for Maya communal lands, and mapping the boundaries of those lands
- Working with Maya leadership to develop and implement the Creating Maya Economies Initiative, whose goal is to strengthen local governance and find creative ways to develop local economies to meet standards of stewardship of land and sustainable development
- Partnering with the United Nations' REDD+ program Deforestation Monitoring Body, which works to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation
- Reporting to human rights monitoring bodies, including the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights and the U.N. Human Rights Committee, on the status of Belize's compliance with the country's human rights obligations
- Establishing mechanisms and governance frameworks for the extraction of forest products
- Recommending policy and legislation reform for reducing forest loss

To learn more about the project, contact **Patrick Lee** ('18), Dean's Fellow, at G.Patrick.Lee@colorado.edu.



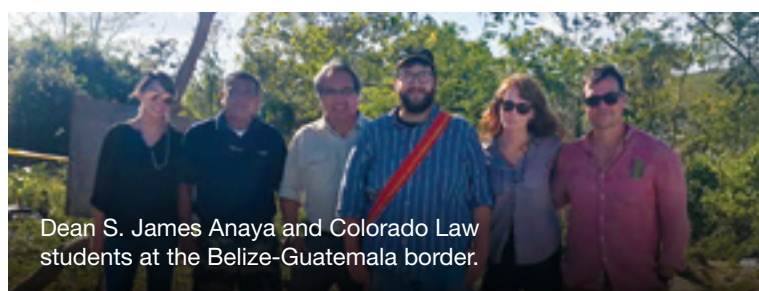
G. Patrick Lee ('18) and Ashleigh Sawa ('19) with leadership from the Jalacte village in Belize and members of the village's legal team. Colorado Law students are helping to advocate for members of the village in a land rights case.



Dean S. James Anaya, Daimeon Shanks ('19), and Ashleigh Sawa ('19) at a Maya archaeological site in the Toledo district of Brazil.



Traditional dancers perform on Maya Day, an annual festival celebrating Maya culture.



Dean S. James Anaya and Colorado Law students at the Belize-Guatemala border.



Scholarships Make an Impact

On Nov. 1, 2018, we celebrated our donors and student fellowship and scholarship recipients at the annual Colorado Law Scholarship and Fellowship Dinner.

Thanks to your generosity, we were able to provide nearly \$1.4 million in private scholarship support to 192 students this year.

“By awarding a scholarship, you’ve told students just like me that they’re on the right track. That their aspirations in the law are valid. That you believe someday they’re going to do great things with their education. And that in a field that always demands more, we are enough nonetheless.”

Hanna Bustillo ('19)

Chief Justice Francis J. Knauss and Emma Gurr Knauss Scholarship recipient
John D. Fleming and Charles J. Kelly Memorial Scholarship recipient

Support the Dean's Fund for Excellence

The Colorado Law Dean's Fund for Excellence enables the law school to immediately direct funds to areas of strategic importance or priorities of greatest need.

Thanks to the generosity of more than 544 alumni and friends, we have raised \$174,615 for the Colorado Law Dean's Fund for Excellence so far this fiscal year (July 1–June 30). The Dean's Fund for Excellence provides discretionary funds for the law school's greatest areas of need or to support new, unexpected opportunities.

Make your gift at **giving.cu.edu/lawdean**.



"Lawyers provide a valuable service to our community and our society, and a robust, inclusive legal education is crucial to any lawyer's success. It's imperative that we provide the means for students to have experiential learning opportunities, such as internships, clinics, or jobs they couldn't otherwise be able to afford to take in order to improve their legal skill sets. Too many students wouldn't be able to experience some of these programs without the support of the Dean's Fund. So, since I can, I give."

Erica L. Tarpey ('96)

Managing partner, Ireland Stapleton Pryor & Pascoe, PC



Wright Family Foundation Endows Ruth Wright ('72) Distinguished Lecture in Natural Resources

The Getches-Wilkinson Center for Natural Resources, Energy, and the Environment (GWC) received a generous gift from the Wright Family Foundation in honor of **Ruth Wright** ('72) to name the Ruth Wright Distinguished Lecture in Natural Resources.

The lecture, previously known as the GWC Distinguished Lecture series, has brought experts to Colorado Law since 2014 to speak on a range of issues from public lands to watershed sustainability to climate litigation. Previous speakers include **Michael Connor** ('93), former deputy secretary, U.S. Department of the Interior; Bruce Babbitt, former secretary, U.S. Department of the Interior; and Bill Hedden, executive director, Grand Canyon Trust. The series was established in partnership with the *Colorado Natural Resources, Energy, and Environmental Law Review*, and speakers will work with the journal's editors to publish a related article following each year's lecture.

Lisa Heinzerling, the Justice William J. Brennan Jr. Professor of Law at the Georgetown University Law Center, delivered the inaugural Ruth Wright Distinguished Lecture in Natural Resources on Nov. 9, 2018. She spoke on "Cost-Nothing Analysis: Environmental Economics in the Age of Trump."

"We are thrilled to be able to honor Ruth Wright's inspiring legacy as a leader in Western natural resources, land conservation, and environmental policy and advocacy," said **Alice Madden** ('89), executive director of the GWC. "This endowment will allow us to continue to bring some of the best environmental minds to Colorado Law for free lectures addressing critical emerging issues."

As a legislator, environmentalist, and historian, Ruth Wright has dedicated her career to environmental issues and activism. While a student at Colorado Law, she led efforts to preserve Boulder's open space and limit the height of buildings in Boulder to 55 feet to protect enjoyment of the unique landscape for the ages. In 1980, she was elected to the Colorado House of Representatives, where she represented Boulder until 1994. She was the second woman ever to become the minority leader for the House of Representatives, a role she held from 1986 until 1992. While serving in the House, Wright continued to be a strategic champion for the environment, and has been recognized by such groups as the Colorado Wildlife Foundation, the ACLU, the Sierra Club, and Colorado Open Lands.

Colorado Law Selected for Prestigious Wyss Scholars Program

The Wyss Foundation, a charitable organization that promotes land conservation in the American West, selected Colorado Law as one of six graduate schools nationwide to be included in its Wyss Scholars Program. The program supports graduate-level education for promising leaders in Western land conservation.

One Wyss Scholar from Colorado Law will be selected each year on the basis of leadership potential, commitment to furthering land conservation in the American West, commitment to pursuing a career in nonprofit or public-sector conservation, financial need, and academic strength. Scholars receive generous financial assistance to cover the full cost of attendance for one year of graduate school.

Meet Colorado Law's Wyss Scholars



Leah Fugere ('20): 2019 Wyss Scholar. Originally from Colorado's Western Slope, Fugere is passionate about finding common ground among people with various interests to best serve our public lands. She hopes to litigate issues of water law to help promote effective management of resources and public lands.



Eric Dude ('19): Colorado Law's inaugural Wyss Scholar in 2018, Dude hopes to use his legal career to help foster dialogue among government agencies, conservation groups, indigenous tribes, and local stakeholders to create workable, conservation-minded solutions to the unique challenges that confront the public lands system.



The Class of 2008's 10th reunion committee:
Chris Fry, Mike Wautlet, Melissa West, and Karam Saab.

Class of 2008 Exceeds Giving Challenge

In honor of the class's 10th reunion, business law firm Snell & Wilmer L.L.P. and an anonymous Class of 2008 graduate challenged their classmates to reach 35 donors for the Class of 2008 Jennifer Lee Shelton Scholarship. The class exceeded this goal, reaching 47 donors, raising more than \$5,700 for the scholarship, and unlocking an additional \$10,000 thanks to Snell & Wilmer and a classmate.

The Class of 2008 Jennifer Lee Shelton Scholarship, established in memory of the cherished class member, is awarded to third-year law students who share Jennifer's untiring love of life and exhibit some of her other qualities: strong leadership skills, the ability to not take oneself too seriously, maintenance of interests outside of school, valuing friendship and loyalty, and self-confidence balanced with humor.



It's a Match!

Fryt ('80) Supports Leaders in Law and Community Fellowship Program

Thanks to a generous matching gift by **Mike Fryt** ('80), all gifts in support of the Leaders in Law and Community (LILAC) fellowship program made by Dec. 31, 2019, will be doubled (up to \$100,000).

LILAC addresses diversity in the broadest sense by recruiting and developing law students from backgrounds underrepresented in legal education and in the legal profession. Colorado Law welcomed its inaugural class of six LILAC fellows in fall 2017 and four fellows in 2018.

"LILAC is a terrific initiative to provide opportunity to talented people who might not otherwise be able to attend law school and contribute to society at the high levels of which they are capable," Fryt said. "In my years at FedEx—one of the best at discovering and managing diverse workforces—I saw firsthand how much additional value can be derived from diversity, in all its forms, including those targeted by LILAC. I am delighted to lend my assistance to this important program."

giving.cu.edu/LILAC



Juvenile and Family Law Clinic Receives Grant from American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers Foundation

In December 2018, **Lesleigh Monahan** ('87), center, presented a \$5,000 grant award from the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers Foundation to **Colene Robinson**, clinical professor of law and co-director of the Juvenile and Family Law Program, and **Deborah Cantrell**, professor of law and director of clinical programs, to support the Juvenile and Family Law Clinic. The clinic provides for indigent children, youth, and families referred by the courts and Boulder County Legal Services. Monahan is a partner with family law firm Polidori, Franklin, Monahan & Beattie L.L.C. and is a member of the Colorado chapter of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers.

Letter from the Law Alumni Board Chair

Dear Colorado Law Alumni,

It is an honor and a privilege to serve my alma mater as the chair of the Colorado Law Alumni Board. When I think of Colorado Law—the institution, students, faculty, staff, alumni, and community—my thoughts inevitably return to two things: Colorado Law's position as an incubator of cutting-edge research, scholarship, and academic prowess, and the altruistic work of all those who have taught and studied in its revered halls.

Colorado Law continues to be at the forefront of pioneering scholarship in our rapidly changing world. For example, Associate Professor **Harry Surden's** cutting-edge research into artificial intelligence, legal automation, and autonomous vehicles illuminates an ever-changing and novel field of the law, offering insight and practical solutions into how technology can improve our world, communities, and profession. Attorneys and laypeople alike continue to benefit from his work.

While talking with my fellow alumni and current faculty during the 2019 Colorado Law Alumni Awards Banquet, I could not help but notice how generously our community donates its time and money to important causes. This dedication to helping others is exemplified by the tireless work of this year's honorees: **William R. Gray** and **John A. Purvis** were instrumental in creating the first Colorado State Public Defender's Office in Boulder in 1970; the Honorable **Kristen L. Mix** established a public-service internship program for diverse second- and third-year law students, and endowed a scholarship in her name for Colorado Law students; **Todd A. Fredrickson**, **Jim Coyle**, and **Meshach Rhoades** have shown a lifelong commitment to promoting diversity and inclusiveness within the legal profession; and **Korey Wise** made a pivotal contribution to the Innocence Project at Colorado Law to help exonerate those who have been wrongfully convicted. Looking to these exemplars, there is no question that Colorado Law has cultivated a genuine culture of giving.

As I reflect on how fortunate I have been to take advantage of the opportunities that Colorado Law presents, I recognize that these opportunities were made available through the generosity of those who came before me. I am forever grateful for the impact this culture of giving has had on my life. However, being grateful is not enough; we must pave the path for the next generation. In that spirit, I would ask each of you to consider ways to embody the generosity of those who came before us so that we can provide the same opportunities in the future.

There are many ways to become involved. You can volunteer to mentor a Colorado Law student or a recent graduate, donate your time planning an alumni event, serve as a guest speaker in the classroom, or make a financial contribution to any number of worthy causes. Each of these avenues provides a springboard for the next generation to grow and experience success, ensuring that Colorado Law remains at the forefront of cutting-edge scholarship and the development of tomorrow's leaders. Please visit colorado.edu/law/alumni/get-involved for more ways you can become involved with the Colorado Law community.

Sincerely,



Siddhartha H. Rathod



“When I think of Colorado Law, my thoughts inevitably return to two things: Colorado Law's position as an incubator of cutting-edge research, scholarship, and academic prowess, and the altruistic work of all those who have taught and studied in its revered halls.”

—**Siddhartha Rathod ('07)**

The Law Alumni Board comprises 28 Colorado Law graduates. Members promote the best interests of the law school by stimulating interest in, building loyalty for, and increasing support for the law school among its alumni and students. The board assists the law school in serving the needs of its alumni, students, and faculty; the legal profession; and the public at large. The 2018–19 board chair is Siddhartha Rathod, and the chair-elect is Richard Murray.

Javed Abbas ('13), The Infinity Law Firm, LLC
Nikea Bland ('05), O'Malley Law Office, P.C.
Bethiah Beale Crane ('79), Crane & Tejada, P.C.
William “Bill” R. Buck ('83), Retired
Michael Carrigan ('94), Holland & Hart LLP
Amber Cordova ('02), AT&T
Hiwot M. Covell ('09), Sheridan Ross P.C.
Darla L. Daniel (Immediate Past Chair) ('01), Balson & Faix, LLP
Mark Fogg ('79), COPIC
The Hon. Thomas R. French ('77), 8th Judicial District
Tim Galluzzi ('14), Cheney Galluzzi & Howard
Dick Gast ('81), Gast Johnson & Muffy, PC
Jeffery Grimes ('89), Astex Pharmaceuticals
Franz Hardy ('00), Gordon Rees Scully Mansukhani, LLP
Richard “Rick” Hosley ('00), Perkins Coie LLP
John V. Howard ('87), Colorado Parks and Wildlife Commission
Marisa Hudson-Arney ('01), Condit Csajaghy LLC
Aditi Kulkarni-Knight ('15), Davis Graham & Stubbs LLP
Caitlin McHugh ('12), Lewis Roca Rothgerber Christie LLP
Kristin Moseley ('97), Porzak Browning & Bushong LLP
Richard Murray (Chair-Elect) ('07), Polsinelli PC
Greg Ramos ('92), Sherman & Howard L.L.C.
Siddhartha Rathod (Chair) ('07), Rathod I Mohamedbhai LLC
David W. Stark ('73), Retired
Lucy Stark ('98), Holland & Hart LLP
Andrea Wang ('01), U.S. Attorney's Office, District of Colorado
Maureen Weston ('92), Pepperdine University School of Law
Carole Yaley ('80), Retired

DID YOU KNOW?

Nominations for Alumni Awards Accepted Year-Round

The Law Alumni Board seeks your nominations for the William Lee Knous and Distinguished Alumni Awards. Distinguished Alumni Award categories include corporate counsel, executive in industry, judiciary, education, private practice, public sector, solo/small firm practitioner, and recent alumni. Nominations are accepted year-round and are considered in August/September to be awarded in March of the following year at the Law Alumni Awards Banquet. Nominate a friend, classmate, or colleague at cu.law/nominate.



38th Annual Colorado Law Alumni Awards Banquet

On March 14, 2019, Colorado Law celebrated seven alumni and friends at its annual awards banquet, held this year at Broncos Stadium at Mile High in Denver.

Congratulations to this year's honorees:

William Lee Knous Award

William "Bill" R. Gray ('66) and John A. Purvis ('67)
Purvis Gray Thomson, LLP

Distinguished Achievement—Judiciary

The Hon. Kristen L. Mix ('85), U.S. District Court for the District of Colorado

Distinguished Achievement—Private Practice

Todd A. Fredrickson ('91), Fisher & Phillips LLP

Distinguished Achievement—Public Sector

Jim Coyle ('85), Office of Attorney Regulation Counsel, Colorado Supreme Court (retired)

Dean Edward C. King Making a Difference Award

Meshach Y. Rhoades ('04), Armstrong Teasdale LLP

Richard Schaden Adopted Alumnus Award

Korey Wise, Korey Wise Innocence Project at Colorado Law

Nominate a friend, colleague, or classmate for the 2020 Colorado Law Alumni Awards:

cu.law/nominate

Class Actions

Submit a Class Action

Email: lawalum@colorado.edu

Please send your submissions by **June 30** for inclusion in the next issue. If your contact information or communication preferences have changed, update them at: **colorado.edu/law/reconnect**.



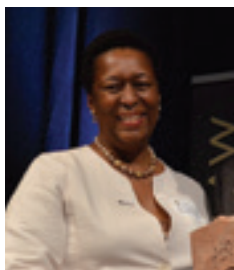
Bradstreet ('73)



Bernard ('78)



Lidstone ('78)



Jordan ('80)



Lucero ('89)

1970

Nurse-Family Partnership (NFP), a national program serving first-time moms and their children living in poverty, recognized **Robert "Bob" F. Hill ('70)** as one of the first recipients of the Robert F. Hill Award for Exceptional Impact. In 2003, Hill became the first board chairman of the NFP's National Service Office, a role in which he served for over 14 years. Hill is of counsel at Hill & Robbins, P.C. in Denver, which he co-founded in 1978.

1973

The Hon. **Peter Bradstreet ('73)** retired at the end of 2018 after a long career in the law, most recently as acting judge for the Steuben County Supreme Court in New York. He practiced law in New York until 1993, when he took the bench as a county court judge. He recounts serving as the lead judge for the establishment of two drug courts in 2001 as his most personally rewarding experience on the bench.

1977

The Colorado Judicial Institute recognized the Hon. **Morris Hoffman ('77)**, 2nd Judicial District, with a 2018 Judicial Excellence Award, which recognizes innovation and effectiveness in Colorado's state courts.

1978

The Hon. **Steven Bernard ('78)**, a member of the Colorado Court of Appeals since July 2006, was appointed chief judge in December 2018. He worked as a prosecutor in Adams County for 26 years before becoming chief deputy district attorney in Weld County, where he served before joining the Court of Appeals. (Photo courtesy of Colorado Judicial Department.)

Herrick K. Lidstone Jr. ('78) received the Cathy Stricklin Krendl Business Lawyer Lifetime Achievement Award from the Colorado Bar Association Business Law Section. Lidstone, a shareholder with Burns, Figa & Will, was recognized for his many years of furthering the development of practical, comprehensive, and well-drafted business-related legislation; writing about and teaching Colorado business law; and devotion to enduring principles of professionalism in his legal career.

After a 40-year legal career, **Richard Toussaint ('78)**, a founding partner of Toussaint & Coaty, P.C. of Evergreen, Colorado, announced his retirement. He will continue to serve as municipal judge for the towns of Georgetown and Empire, Colorado.

1979

Mark A. Fogg ('79) was appointed as a member of the ABA Standing Committee on Professionalism for a three-year term beginning in August 2018. Fogg is general counsel at COPIC.

The Colorado Bar Association Nominating Committee appointed the Hon. **Kathleen Hearn Croshal ('79)** as CBA president for the 2019–20 term. Hearn Croshal served as a Pueblo County Court judge for nearly 16 years, retiring in 2011.

1980

The Hon. **Claudia Jordan ('80)** was honored with the Sam Cary Bar Association's King Trimble Lifetime Achievement Award at its annual scholarship awards gala on Oct. 6. Jordan, the first African-American female judge appointed in Colorado, stepped down in 2014 after more than 20 years of service on the Denver County Court bench.

1982

Stanley L. Garnett ('82), a shareholder with Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck, LLP, was named co-chair of the firm's Government Investigations & White Collar Defense Group. The group represents corporations and individuals across the country in complex federal and state criminal investigations, inspector general and congressional matters, and related civil and regulatory proceedings.

Ken Robinson ('82) joined Hutchinson Black and Cook, LLC as of counsel. His practice emphasizes design and construction litigation, construction contracts and documentation, mechanic's liens, real estate litigation, road law, drainage law, collections, and real property boundary and access disputes.

1985

The Colorado LGBT Bar Association recognized **James C. Coyle ('85)**, former attorney regulation counsel, with its Attorney of the Year award for extraordinary work in the profession. Coyle retired in June 2018.

Denver Mayor Michael Hancock appointed **Michael Hyman ('85)** deputy city attorney for the city and county of Denver. Hyman previously served as the city attorney for the city of Aurora.

1987

Moye White LLP managing partner **Thomas M. List ('87)** was elected by the firm's equity partners to serve on the 2019 Management Committee. List has more than 29 years of experience in commercial real estate.

1988

After 30 years in the practice of law—most recently as partner at Wells, Anderson, Race, LLC—**Suanne M. Dell ('88)** retired on Dec. 31, 2018.

1989

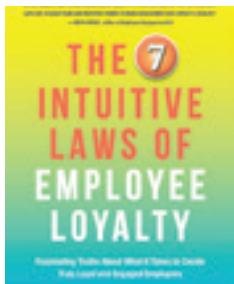
Michelle Lucero ('89), chief administrative officer and general counsel for Children's Hospital Colorado, has joined the Boettcher Foundation board of trustees. Composed of some of Colorado's most dynamic business and community leaders, the board of trustees is responsible for supporting and guiding the foundation in its mission of investing in the promise of Colorado and the potential of Coloradans.

1991

Monte Cooper ('91) joined Goodwin Procter LLP's intellectual property litigation group as counsel in Silicon Valley. He litigates complex patent, copyright, trade secret, and antitrust matters for Fortune 500 and technology clients.



Trujillo ('93), left



Book by Younger ('96)



Hollines ('97)



Spitz ('98)



Rafik ('00)



Wolf ('01)

1993

Gov. John Hickenlooper appointed the Hon. **Catherine Cheroutes** ('93) as a district court judge in the 5th Judicial District. Cheroutes was previously the managing partner of Cheroutes Zweig, where her practice consisted primarily of domestic relations cases, criminal defense, and court appointments in dependency and neglect, juvenile delinquency, and divorce cases.

The United Native American Housing Association named **David Heisterkamp** ('93) its 2018 Lawyer of the Year. Heisterkamp is managing shareholder of Wagenlander & Heisterkamp, LLC, a cross-cultural law firm that concentrates its national practice in the areas of American Indian, low-income housing, and international law.

The University of Colorado Boulder Alumni Association honored **Lorenzo A. Trujillo** ('93) with the 2018 George Norlin Award, given to outstanding alumni who have demonstrated a commitment to excellence in their field, and a devotion to the betterment of society and their community. An attorney for more than two decades, Trujillo prioritized underrepresented populations in private practice and led the board of directors for Law School . . . Yes We Can, a four-year mentoring program for underrepresented undergraduates interested in law. He serves as an affiliate professor of music at Metropolitan State University in Denver. Pictured with Chancellor Philip P. DiStefano

1994

Gov. John Hickenlooper appointed the Hon. **Dennis Brandenburg** ('94) as a judge on the Morgan County Court bench in the 13th Judicial District. Brandenburg previously served as a municipal court judge in the town of Otis and in the cities of Brush, Fort Morgan, and Sterling, Colorado.

Allen Rozansky ('94) joined Mallon Lonquist Morris & Watrous as senior estate and tax counsel. Rozansky brings 24 years of experience in the areas of estate protection, probate administration and litigation, and business entity formation and structuring.

The Hon. **John E. Scipione** ('94) was appointed by Gov. John Hickenlooper as a district court judge in the 18th Judicial District (Arapahoe, Douglas, Elbert, and Lincoln counties), effective October 2018. He previously served as a county court judge in Arapahoe County.

1996

The Forbes Human Resources Council recognized **Heather R. Younger's** ('96) book, *The 7 Intuitive Laws of Employee Loyalty*, as a must-read title for human resources professionals. Younger is founder and CEO of Customer Fanatix, which helps organizational leaders grow their leadership and engage employees through executive coaching, leadership retreats, and workshops.

The Hon. **Judith Smith** ('96) was appointed by Denver Mayor Michael Hancock to the Denver County Court. She previously headed up the Cybercrime and National Security Section of the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Colorado.

1997

After 20 years of holding senior executive legal and business positions at various technology companies, **Harry Hollines** ('97) founded The Hollines Group in November 2018. The firm provides legal counsel and business consulting services to startups, and early stage and established technology, software, and services companies with a focus on business and technology transactions, mergers and acquisitions, and strategic revenue growth strategies.

1998

Following the retirement of her law partner, **Tom Stover** ('85), **Jennifer Spitz** ('98) joined Lyons Gaddis Kahn Hall Jeffers Dworak & Grant, PC on Jan. 1, 2019, as a shareholder. She works on the firm's tax law and trusts and estate law teams.

2000

Richard "Rick" Hosley ('00) joined Perkins Coie LLP's white-collar and investigations practice as partner, where his practice has an emphasis on health care and focuses on government civil and criminal investigations, False Claims Act and Anti-Kickback Statute enforcement actions and qui tam litigation, privileged internal compliance investigations, and complex commercial litigation. He previously served as associate general counsel and vice president in charge of litigation at DaVita.

Michelle Rafik ('00) is pleased to announce the opening of Front Range Executive Coaching, a professional coaching company focusing on attorneys (frontrange-coach.com). Rafik is based in Colorado and coaches clients nationwide.

2001

National litigation firm Wheeler Trigg O'Donnell, LLP promoted attorney **Amy DeVan** ('01) to executive director, where she oversees all administrative responsibilities for the firm's 100 lawyers and 100 staff across three offices. Before becoming the firm's chief administrator, DeVan oversaw the firm's conflicts clearance review and analysis system. She serves as chair of the Colorado Bar Association Ethics Committee.

The U.S. Senate confirmed **Jason R. Dunn** ('01) as U.S. attorney for the District of Colorado in October 2018. President Donald Trump nominated him for the position in June. Dunn previously served as deputy attorney general, assistant solicitor general, and shareholder at Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck, LLP.

David Wolf ('01) and his wife, Norie Kizaki, welcomed a son, Hiroyuki Kizaki-Wolf, in December 2017. Wolf is managing principal of BSW Wealth Partners, which, in 2018, was named by *Outside* magazine as one of 100 Best Places to Work in the U.S., and one of the 50 Best Places to Work for Financial Advisors by *InvestmentNews*. BSW manages more than \$1 billion for individuals and families in Colorado and throughout the U.S.

2002

Gov. John Hickenlooper appointed the Hon. **Matthew D. Grove** ('02) to the Colorado Court of Appeals, effective December 2018. Grove previously served as a senior assistant attorney general and assistant solicitor general in the Public Officials Unit of the State Services Section of the Colorado Attorney General's Office.

Vandana S. Koelsch ('02) joined Allen Vellone Wolf Helfrich & Factor P.C. as senior counsel. Koelsch is an experienced Colorado intellectual property and commercial litigator with a focus on intellectual property claims.

Carissa V. Sears ('02) joined Allen Vellone Wolf Helfrich & Factor P.C. as a senior associate. She focuses her practice on complex commercial litigation.

2003

After serving as initiative director for many years, **Brittany Kauffman** ('03) has assumed a new role as senior director at the Institute for the Advancement of the American Legal System (IAALS). In this role, she oversees IAALS's programmatic objectives and strategy with expertise in civil justice reform at the state and federal levels.



Stigler ('03)

Following the acquisition of Modus Law by Michael Best & Friedrich LLP, Modus founder **Shawn Stigler** ('03) is managing partner of the firm's new Boulder and Broomfield offices. He focuses his practice on advising startups, privately held businesses, business owners, investors, and investment funds.

2004

Meshach Rhoades ('04), partner and trial lawyer at Armstrong Teasdale LLP, earned three professional and community recognitions in 2018: the Colorado Women's Bar Association's Raising the Bar Award, the Girl Scouts of Colorado Women of Distinction Award, and recognition as a finalist in the *Denver Business Journal's* Outstanding Women in Business Awards. Rhoades is an experienced litigator in complex commercial, regulatory, and telecommunications litigation, and also serves as co-chair of the firm's Inclusion Committee.

2005

In recognition of partner **Brent Case's** ('05) contributions to clients and leadership within the firm, Semple, Farrington & Everall, P.C. announced its new name, Semple, Farrington, Everall & Case, P.C. Case practices in the areas of labor and employment, schools and education, credit unions, and litigation.

Russell D. Giancola ('05) joined the Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, office of Porter Wright Morris & Arthur LLP as a senior associate. He focuses his legal work in commercial litigation and election law.

A book edited by **Jamie Rezmovits** ('05), *Evolving Leadership for Collective Wellbeing: Lessons for Implementing the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals*, was published in November 2018. Rezmovits is a partner at Scheitler & Rezmovits P.C. in Denver.

Dan Rosenberg ('05) was promoted to special counsel at Hall & Evans, LLC, where he is a member of several practice groups, including transportation, regulatory, construction, employment, professional liability, and premises liability. He focuses his practice on representing clients in actions brought by the federal, state, and local government against individuals and businesses.

Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck, LLP named **Amy Steinfeld** ('05) as office managing partner in the firm's Santa Barbara, California, office. Steinfeld's practice focuses on the intersection of land use and water law, and she brings more than a decade of experience in permitting and development to projects throughout California.

2006

Meghan C. Hungate ('06) joined Hutchinson Black and Cook, LLC as of counsel. Hungate focuses her practice in the areas of construction law, business and commercial litigation, collections law, mechanic's liens, and real estate litigation.

Heather Stroud ('06) started a new job as city attorney for South Lake Tahoe, California.

2007

Sarah Mercer ('07) has been promoted to shareholder at Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck, LLP. Mercer's government relations practice combines her litigation background with her prior service in local and state government to develop creative political and administrative solutions for her clients' legal problems.

2008

Christopher John Lane ('08) was promoted to partner in the real estate group of Davis Graham & Stubbs LLP. Lane has extensive experience representing clients in all areas of real estate transactions throughout the U.S., including leasing, acquisitions, dispositions, construction, and land use matters.

Margrit Lent Parker ('08) was promoted to special counsel at Childs McCune. Her practice areas of focus include business and contracts, litigation, and appeals.

In October 2018, **Alejandro A. Ortiz** ('08) joined the national office of the American Civil Liberties Union as senior staff attorney with its racial justice program. In this role, he investigates and prosecutes cases challenging racist laws, policies, and practices throughout the country.

2009

Joe Neguse ('09) was elected in November 2018 to represent Colorado's 2nd Congressional District in the U.S. Congress. Neguse, Colorado's first African-American congressman, one of only a few first-generation Americans to serve in Congress, and one of the youngest members of Congress in the nation, replaced Rep. Jared Polis, who was elected Colorado governor. Neguse held his community swearing-in ceremony at Colorado Law, where Colorado Supreme Court Justice Melissa Hart, one of Neguse's first professors in law school, administered the oath.

Jaime Schuler ('09) joined Poskus, Caton & Klein, P.C. as an associate. She practices in the areas of estate planning, estate administration, guardianships, conservatorships, probate, and trust administration.

2010

Hillary Aizenman ('10) joined Johnson & Klein, PLLC, in Boulder, as a senior associate. Her practice focuses on criminal defense and postconviction litigation. Previously, she spent six years at the Brighton regional office of the Colorado State Public Defender, where she was a senior deputy public defender.

Husch Blackwell LLP elected **Marshall Custer** ('10) to the firm's partnership. As a member of the firm's cannabis team, Custer serves as outside general counsel for clients that are entering or active in the regulated cannabis market, and works closely with individual entrepreneurs and executives on matters of marijuana and industrial hemp regulatory compliance, corporate structuring, debt and equity financing, governance, securities compliance, and mergers and acquisitions.

Erik Schuessler ('10) was promoted to shareholder at Burns, Figa & Will. He focuses his practice in the areas of commercial litigation, employment litigation, and real estate litigation.

2011

David R. Anderson ('11) joined Murphy & Decker, P.C. as an associate. His practice focuses in the areas of insurance defense, construction law, and commercial litigation.

Sara E. Bucar ('11) announced the formation of Brestel Bucar, Ltd. Her practice continues to focus on all aspects of elder law and estate planning, including litigation and mediation.

Michael "Mickey" Ley ('11) was elected to the partnership at Burns, Figa & Will. A member of the firm's litigation department, Ley represents businesses and individuals in negotiation and litigation of their commercial disputes.



Steinfeld ('05)



Neguse ('09)



Aizenman ('10)



Custer ('10)



Bucar ('11)



Children of Stiller-Shulman ('13)



Swain ('13)



The Milgrom & Daskam team



Willard ('16)



G. Robbie ('17) and C. Robbie ('17)



Warsofsky ('17)

2012

Michael Fields ('12) joined Colorado Rising Action, a state-based initiative of America Rising Action, as executive director. He was previously state director for Americans for Prosperity Colorado.

Courtney Krause ('12) was tapped to serve as deputy legal counsel for Gov. Jared Polis. She previously served as an associate on the real estate team at Akerman LLP.

2013

The Sam Cary Bar Association honored **Vanessa Devereaux ('13)** with its Billy Lewis Young Lawyer Award at the organization's annual scholarship awards gala in October 2018. Devereaux is assistant attorney general in the business and licensing section of the Colorado Attorney General's Office.

The Colorado Bar Association honored **Surbhi Garg ('13)** with its Outstanding Young Lawyer of the Year Award. Garg is an associate at Littler Mendelson P.C.'s San Jose, California, office.

Jon T. Hoistad ('13) joined McGeady Becher P.C. as an associate. His practice emphasizes special districts, municipal finance, municipal law, and real estate.

Anne Lee ('13) joined Hewlett Packard Enterprise as of counsel on its IP transactions team.

Kayla Nelson ('13) joined Zumalt & Sigler LLC as an associate. Nelson's practice focuses on contested guardianships and conservatorships, probate litigation and fiduciary representation, and estate planning and administration.

Kelsey Shofner ('13) joined GMR Protection Resources Inc., the nationwide leader in ATM lighting compliance, facility inspection, and information services, as assistant general counsel and director of legal compliance. She is responsible for the negotiation and management of all client and vendor contracts, commercial insurance, and all other general legal matters, and works with the leadership team to ensure the company's policies and practices follow all applicable laws and regulations.

Ari Stiller-Shulman ('13) and his wife, Allison, welcomed twins, Oren and Aida, on Sept. 8, 2018 (pictured with big sister Nina). Stiller-Shulman is an associate at Kingsley & Kingsley in Los Angeles, California.

Hunter Swain ('13) started his own law practice in November 2018. At Swain Law, LLC, Swain represents whistleblowers and employees in all types of employment-related legal matters. He and his wife, Sylvia, are expecting a baby boy, Sebastian, in April.

2014

Joseph Gruchawka ('14) started his own law practice in September 2018. The practice focuses on plaintiff-side wage and hour litigation, contract disputes, and judgment collection, and is based in Santa Rosa, California.

Courtney Shephard ('14) joined Davis Graham & Stubbs LLP as an associate in the firm's natural resources department. Her practice focuses on public lands, energy, and water resources.

Jeremy Speckhals ('14) joined Kipp and Christian, P.C. in Salt Lake City, Utah, in fall 2018. Before joining the firm, Speckhals clerked for judges in Colorado, Arizona, and Utah, including Colorado District Court Judge Margie Enquist, Colorado Court of Appeals Judge Laurie Booras, Arizona Court of Appeals Judge Patricia Norris, and, Utah Court of Appeals Judge Ryan Harris. Speckhals' practice

areas include commercial litigation, professional malpractice, products liability, personal injury, and civil litigation.

2015

John Daskam ('15) left Kutak Rock LLP in September 2018 to join Milgrom Law, P.C. After a strong initial quarter, Daskam was subsequently made a named partner and the firm rebranded as Milgrom & Daskam. Daskam practices real estate law and general corporate law with a focus on debt and equity financings and mergers and acquisitions.

Amber Mednick ('15) started a position as corporate privacy counsel with Expedia Group.

Jon Milgrom ('15) ventured out to start his own practice in May 2018 after working at Moye White LLP for four years. After founding Milgrom Law, P.C., he brought on classmate John Daskam and rebranded the practice as Milgrom & Daskam. A managing partner, Milgrom practices general corporate law with a focus on intellectual property, employment, and commercial contracts. The firm also brought on **Amanda Levin Milgrom ('14)** as a partner and **Alex Kimata ('18)** as an associate. Amanda brings her expertise in civil litigation to the firm, assisting clients with their litigation needs, primarily in the areas of intellectual property, employment, and general business disputes. She is also in charge of the pro bono program for its rapidly growing group of attorneys. Kimata supports the firm's general corporate, intellectual property, employment, and real estate practice areas, and brings particular expertise in the field of data privacy.

Rosa Trembour ('15) joined the Washington, D.C., office and litigation division of Eckert Seamans Cherin & Mellott, LLC as an associate. She focuses her litigation practice on employment-related matters, insurance coverage, and commercial disputes.

Abbey Wallach ('15) joined the trial department of Davis Graham & Stubbs LLP, where she specializes in complex commercial, employment, and products liability litigation.

2016

Erika Brotzman ('16) joined Cordell & Cordell P.C. as an associate attorney in its Colorado Springs office. She previously operated her own law firm in Denver and was with Whole Family Legal, LLC in Northglenn.

Cobun Zweifel-Keegan ('16) started a new position as deputy director of privacy initiatives at the Council of Better Business Bureaus in Arlington, Virginia, where he helps run its privacy shield dispute resolution mechanism.

Samantha T.F. Lillehoff ('16) joined McGeady Becher P.C. as a special district attorney. Before joining the firm, she clerked for the Hon. Terry Fox in the Colorado Court of Appeals. In September, Lillehoff was recognized with the George Holley Outstanding Young Lawyer Award by the 1st Judicial District Bar Association.

Kathryn H. Willard ('16) joined the energy team at Lathrop & Gage LLP as an associate in the firm's Denver office. She primarily assists clients in the Rocky Mountain region with oil and gas acquisitions and divestitures.

2017

Gabrielle (Palanca) Robbie ('17) married **Chris Robbie ('17)** in Michigan in September 2018. The couple met while in law school, and they now work and live in Denver.

In July 2018, **Annie Tooley Warsofsky ('17)** married David Warsofsky at Devil's Thumb Ranch in Tabernash, Colorado. She is a health care attorney at Greenberg Traurig, LLP.

In Memoriam

Remembering alumni and friends of the law school.



Peter C. Dietze ('62) *Jan. 4, 2019*

Dietze was born in Erfurt, Germany, on Dec. 4, 1934. At age 15, he escaped from Soviet-occupied East Germany to West Germany and, in 1955, immigrated to the U.S. He enrolled at the University of Colorado in 1957 and continued on to law school. After clerking for U.S. District Judge Hatfield Chilson, Dietze became the assistant city attorney of Boulder. In 1965 he was appointed city attorney, an office he held until 1968 when he entered private practice.

In 1971, he and Joel C. Davis founded the law firm of Dietze and Davis, P.C., from which Dietze retired in 2017. Dietze was a member of the University of Colorado Board of Regents from 1978 until 1996, including chair of the board for two one-year terms. In 2018, he received the William Lee Knous Award from Colorado Law. He is survived by his children, Jill and Mark Dietze, Karen and Rick Nelson, and Erika and Jim Fletcher; and five grandchildren.

Paul L. Billhymer ('48) *Sept. 8, 2018*

Billhymer served in the U.S. Air Force from 1941 to 1945. After law school, he was an assistant attorney general in New Mexico and spent 25 years as chief counsel and executive director for the Upper Colorado River Commission in Salt Lake City, Utah. Billhymer was known nationally for his expertise in riparian water rights. He is survived by his wife of 75 years, Ione; children Curtis, Mari Ann, and Mark; five grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Lawrence M. Whisler ('48) *July 11, 2018*

Whisler served in the U.S. Army Air Corp during World War II and received the Distinguished Flying Cross. A farmer his entire life, he maintained a passion for training horses and mules, and working with horse-drawn equipment. Whisler is survived by his wife of 59 years, Shirley; children Todd (Missy), Trent (Teresa), and Tork (Tricia); sister Frances Nathanson; nine grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

William "Bill" R. Dunbar ('50) *Aug. 21, 2018*

Dunbar worked for the Federal Bureau of Investigation in Washington, D.C., served in the U.S. Army, and held a 38-year career with State Farm Insurance focused on managerial responsibilities in the areas of employee and labor relations. Dunbar is survived by his children, Laura and William (Julie); and two granddaughters.

Robert A. Bussian ('52) *Dec. 1, 2018*

Bussian began his legal career in New Mexico and later moved to New York to serve as vice president and general counsel of the American Independent Oil Company and Aminoil Inc. in Houston. He went on to practice as a domestic and international arbitrator concentrating in oil and gas law. He established the Bussian Fellowship for International Dispute Resolution, awarded annually to up to three Colorado Law students to pursue summer opportunities in the field of international dispute resolution. He is survived by his wife of 54 years, Sally; children David, Jenny (Jay) Kempner, and Jim (Anne); seven grandchildren; and nieces and nephews.

Hon. Ralph E. Miller ('52) *June 11, 2017*

Miller spent most of his career in Montrose, Colorado, where he founded the law firm Brooks & Miller with Ted Brooks. He also served briefly as a municipal judge and was district attorney from 1967 until 1970. Miller is survived by his wife, Nyda; children Buck (Marsh), Alan (Taffy), and Becky (Jerry) Moore; sister Mary Adah (Molly) Ball; five grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

Hon. Charles D. Pierce ('52) *July 29, 2018*

Pierce served on the Colorado State Court of Appeals for 35 years. Before that appointment, he was an attorney in Pueblo, Colorado, and the San Luis Valley. He also served under Gen. George Patton in World War II. After retirement, he wrote novels and short stories. Pierce is survived by his wife, Jane; children Cynthia Phillips, Kathryn Thompson, and John; four grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

Hon. William P. Hyde ('53) *Nov. 4, 2018*

Hyde practiced law in California for many years, eventually becoming a partner in his law firm. In 1975, he was elected to the Municipal Court of Ontario, California, and one year later was appointed by Gov. Jerry Brown to the Superior Court of San Bernardino County. He served on the bench until his retirement 18 years later. Hyde is survived by his wife of 61 years, Roxie; son Paul; and two grandchildren.

John Cho ('55) *July 4, 2018*

Cho loved and cared for his family deeply. He is survived by his wife, Elizabeth "Betty"; children Diane (David Benn), Kathleen (Eric Fearon), and Nancy (Bruce Duffy); and four grandchildren.

Laurence "Larry" E. Corr ('56) *Oct. 3, 2018*

Corr served in the U.S. Army and later worked as an attorney for the Federal Reserve Bank in Chicago. During his time with the Reserve, he traveled extensively as a treasury examiner. Corr was preceded in death by his parents, Harold and Mary Ellen Roche Corr.

Hon. William "Bill" L. West ('57) *Nov. 25, 2018*

West spent most of his career in Greeley, working in private practice until being appointed as district court judge in 1987. He served as municipal attorney for many of the towns and cities in Weld County, including Evans and Greeley, and was town attorney for Eaton for 29 years. He was active in the Weld County Bar Association, Weld County YMCA, and Greeley Chamber of Commerce. He is survived by his wife of 64 years, Ludene; children Bill (Susan) and Wendy (Ray Cairncross); sister Nancy (Rich) Krebs; brother-in-law Stan Arnold; sister-in-law Lynn Arnold; four grandchildren; four great-grandsons; and nieces and nephews.

Sid Biderman ('60) *June 15, 2018*

Biderman, former assistant city attorney for the city of Denver, practiced law until his 83rd birthday. He was married to his wife, Ellen Jo Lipp, for 38 years. An active player in the Colorado Over 50 Baseball League, Biderman was inducted into the Colorado Over 60 Baseball Association Hall of Fame in 2013. He is survived by his children, Mark and Karen.

Patrick “Pat” Hampton Butler ('61) *July 6, 2018*

Butler served in the U.S. Army as a 2nd lieutenant and worked for the Federal Trade Commission and the Department of Justice in Washington, D.C., after law school. He went on to work for Eli Lilly and Company's law department for 25 years. Butler is survived by his mother, Easter; daughters Daphne (Daniel Storch) and Ann Marie; sisters Faye Leans, Carolyn Wynn, Lee McNeil, Lois (Dana) Hardy, and Connie Washington; brother Curtis; three grandchildren; brother-in-law Paul (Dianne) Rason; and nieces and nephews.

Hon. Eugene T. Halaas Jr. ('63) *Oct. 6, 2018*

Halaas served for 17 years as a county court judge in Pueblo, Colorado, before being appointed to the district court bench, on which he served for a decade before retiring to Menifee, California, in 2000. Known as a tough but fair arbiter, Halaas served in the U.S. Navy and was dedicated to his family. He is survived by his wife, Pat; sons Jeffrey (Yael) and Michael (Aaron); and three grandchildren.

Hulbert “Hub” E. Reichelt III ('64) *July 3, 2018*

Reichelt is survived by his children, Mary and Scott.

Thomas J. Aron Jr. ('66) *Aug. 8, 2018*

Aron's career focused on water law, and he served as a water court master and referee in Weld County for many years. He was also an accomplished author who for nine years wrote a column about water resources; in 1989, his reporting on Two Forks Dam was honored with a Colorado Press Award. He is survived by his sons Richard, Edward, and John; four grandchildren; one nephew, and two nieces.

David Eugene Ware ('69) *Sept. 17, 2018*

Ware served in the U.S. Army, earning the rank of captain in the Judge Advocate General's Corps. A resident of Pueblo, Colorado, since 1974, he was a prosecutor for the district attorney before entering private practice as a partner with Altman, Keilbach, Lytle, Parlapiano & Ware, P.C. He is survived by his wife of 52 years, Suzanne Vobroucek Ware; children Sean (Stephanie) and Stephanie (Marv) Johnson; siblings Don, Kathy Allison, and Larry (Hope); brother-in-law Dick (Debbie) Vobroucek; three grandchildren; and nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Richard Warren Yolles ('77) *Oct. 10, 2018*

Yolles is survived by his wife, Karen; sons Daniel and Jacob; and brother Robert.

James Michael Hult ('78) *July 27, 2018*

Hult was an accomplished trial lawyer who used his legal education to fight for justice. He was active in the Colorado bar and led an active lifestyle, enjoying basketball, skiing, and surfing. Hult is survived by his partner, Nancy Young; ex-wife, Stephanie Smith Hult; daughter Caroline (Elliot) Hood; brothers Robin and Kelly; and one grandson.

Patricia Casey Arnott ('87) *Nov. 9, 2018*

Arnott taught history in Houston, Texas, and New Orleans, Louisiana, in the 1970s and practiced law in Grand Junction between 1987 and 1997. She is survived by her husband, Rocky; children Ruth Nakamura, Jeremiah Fritz, and James; stepdaughters Julie Cooke and Annabel Cieply; and five grandchildren.

Clark Aguilera ('93) *Sept. 3, 2018*

Aguilera practiced law in Denver for 24 years. His decency, honor, love for family and friends, and work ethic were always an inspiration to others.

Dawn M. Nee ('96) *Sept. 21, 2018*

Nee argued and won a case before the Maryland Supreme Court and worked for the public defender's offices in the city of Baltimore, and in New Jersey's Union, Ocean, and Mercer counties. She was also a dedicated athlete, earning a place on the ballot to be elected into Johns Hopkins' Athletic Hall of Fame for her contributions to its women's lacrosse program. Nee is survived by her parents, Dorothy Ford and William F. Nee Jr.; wife, Michelle Larkin; and daughter Lauren Nee Larkin.

Six Questions for Megan Ring ('96)

After 22 years in the Boulder Public Defender's Office—including the last six as the head of the office—Megan Ring stepped into the role of Colorado state public defender on Aug. 1, 2018. She is the first woman to hold the position in Colorado.

Ring started working as a public defender in the Boulder office in 1996, the same year she graduated law school. She now oversees the entire state's public defender system, including almost 900 public defense employees.



Q&A

When did you know that you wanted to be a public defender and why?

Steve Jacobson, the former head of the Boulder Regional Office, presented in my Criminal Procedure class. After hearing him speak, I applied to intern with the public defender. He portrayed being a Colorado state public defender as a challenging and rewarding career. I started by interning in the Golden office the summer between my 2L and 3L years and continued throughout my 3L year. During my internship, I represented juvenile and misdemeanor clients. Helping my clients who needed advocacy was such fulfilling work. It became clear to me that this was the work I wanted to do with my law degree.

What are the top criminal justice reform issues and policies you hope to address in your role as Colorado state public defender?

Abolishing the death penalty in Colorado is number one. Decriminalizing drug use and drug possession would have such a huge impact on so many people who are addicts or even simply users. Implementing true bond reform so that people are not kept in jail because they are poor. Providing appropriate mental health services for people who suffer from mental illness so that they do not reach and are diverted from the criminal justice system. The list could go on and on, but these are on the top of my list.

What does it mean to you to be the first woman to hold this position?

I am proud that my agency knew it was time for a woman to lead us. All seven applicants for the position were women.

What do you consider your biggest success(es) as Boulder public defender, and how will you apply those successes at the state level?

My biggest successes have always been about my clients. Any time I was able to get a client out of jail to save their job, or get them a misdemeanor instead of a felony, or a probation sentence instead of a prison sentence. Helping clients is what being a public defender is all about.

The Boulder Criminal Justice System has done some effective collaborating and implemented some positive changes, especially through IM-PACT* in juvenile justice. The skills I developed there will translate well in my new position.

**Boulder County's IMPACT, or Integrated Managed Partnership for Adolescent and Child Community Treatment, is a partnership of 11 nonprofit and government agencies serving the needs of youth and families who are involved with juvenile justice, child welfare, or mental health agencies. Since its inception in 1997, the partnership has seen an increase in the number of children and youth who have*

remained safely in their homes, and a steady decline in the number of juvenile criminal filings in Boulder County.

What skills did you learn at Colorado Law that you still use to this day?

Understandably, since I ended up being a trial lawyer until my recent appointment as the state public defender, trial advocacy and legal aid were the most helpful in preparing me to be a trial lawyer. I feel very fortunate that I ended up at Colorado Law; being able to hike and get into the mountains so easily helps you deal with all of the stress that law school brings.

What advice would you give to Colorado Law students or recent graduates interested in careers in public service?

Being a public defender has been an extremely rewarding career. It has kept me energized and passionate for over 22 years. Those big salaries can be enticing coming out of law school, but doing something you love will keep you engaged for years to come.



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