

# 2022-23 School of Law Academic Honors & Awards



JULY 2023

This program recognizes recipients of academic honors and awards, and various service, clinic and advocacy awards for 2022-23. Congratulations to all of the students who have attained these distinctions.

# ACADEMIC HONORS (Degree Honors)

In accord with the Academic Rules of the University of San Diego School of Law, degree honors are conferred upon those students who distinguish themselves by their academic achievement.

## SUMMA CUM LAUDE

*Jack Whitaker  
Taylor Ann Halby  
Brenton Nelson Gutkowski  
Teresa Regina Morin  
Kara Renae Watkins  
Jake Elijah Posnock (LLM)*

## MAGNA CUM LAUDE

*Andrea Kelley Lavelle  
Mariam Mickael  
Brooke Ann Clarke  
Julian Piroli  
Maggie G. Baruffi  
Emily A. Stowe  
Brandon Buck  
Andrew Dallas Kent  
Sophia Bryce Wagener  
Melody Lilazy  
Kyu Bin Kang  
Justin G. Oetting  
Erik Hansen*

*Morgan Haley Wahler  
Emma Grace York  
Lilly Claire Walker  
Connor Alexander Hume  
Benjamin Andre Won Koh*

*CUM LAUDE  
James E. Lanham  
Jacob C. Wade  
Hailey Elizabeth Trawick  
Christopher R. Dorsett  
Amanda Jane Sharp  
Nicholas Michael Dea  
Kelly Margaret Johnson  
Skeet B. Frazee  
Kerstyn Elyse Keenan  
Melissa Alexandra Padilla  
Jessika Brittni Russell  
Carson Alexis Dudick  
Christopher M. Jones  
Nicolas Charles Golda  
Lauren E. Holappa*

*Chase W. Turnbull  
Frederick Stickney Smyth  
Jack Ryan Doti  
Luke Bennett Fishman  
Alexis Rose Herskowitz  
Blake A. Madone  
Megan Elizabeth Bagley Smith  
Stella Diane Gerson  
Brody Allen Zaugg  
Erin I. Hudak  
Rebecca Nuojia Xu  
Nicholas Aaron Zalkow  
Dillon D. Denio  
Anoush A. Khatchatrian  
Briana Nicole Peters  
Cody Clark Sanders  
Estella Marie Massey  
Logan Rand  
Jackson Alexander Sullivan  
Jiaye Zhou  
Emily Jade Kawahara  
Traci Lynn Campbell (LLM)*

# ORDER OF THE COIF

Steeped in the history of serjeants-at-law in medieval England, the American Order of the Coif dates back to 1902 and is the preeminent honor society for recognition of high academic attainment in the study of law. Membership in Coif is limited to those students in the top 10 percent of the graduating class. Congratulations to the students who have attained this high honor.

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Teresa Regina Morin  
Kara Renae Watkins  
Andrea Kelley Lavelle  
Mariam Mickael  
Brooke Ann Clarke*

*Julian Piroli  
Maggie G. Baruffi  
Emily A. Stowe  
Brandon Buck  
Andrew Dallas Kent  
Sophia Bryce Wagener  
Melody Lilazy  
Kyu Bin Kang*

*Justin G. Oetting  
Erik Hansen  
Morgan Haley Wahler  
Emma Grace York  
Lilly Claire Walker  
Connor Alexander Hume  
Benjamin Andre Won Koh*

# ACADEMIC AWARDS

Recipients of the Irvin J. Kahn; Dean's Comparative Law Award; Paul, Plevin, Quarles Labor And Employment Law Award; and Dean's Tax Scholar awards also will have their names engraved on perpetual plaques which remain on display in the law school.

## VALEDICTORIAN AWARD

For the highest cumulative grade point average overall.

*Jack Whitaker*

## SCHOLARSHIP AWARD FOR THE HIGHEST CUMULATIVE GRADE POINT AVERAGE, FULL-TIME DIVISION

*Jack Whitaker*

## SCHOLARSHIP AWARD FOR THE HIGHEST CUMULATIVE GRADE POINT AVERAGE, PART-TIME DIVISION

*Nicolas Charles Golda*

## MASTER OF LAWS: DEAN'S TAX SCHOLAR AWARD

For the highest cumulative grade point average in the Master of Laws in Taxation Program.

*Jake Elijah Posnock*

## MASTER OF LAWS: DEAN'S COMPARATIVE LAW AWARD

For the highest cumulative grade point average in the Master of Laws in Comparative Law program.

*Romina Alessandra Brogini*

## JUDGE GERALD BROWN PROGRESS AWARD

For the student with the greatest increase in grade point average, from first year to graduation.

*Jared Robert Garfield*

## IRVIN J. KAHN AWARD

For the outstanding student in real property courses.

*Andrew Dallas Kent*

## PAUL PLEVIN QUARLES LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT LAW AWARD

For the highest cumulative grade point average in the Labor and Employment Law Concentration.

*Amanda Jane Sharp*

## VIRGINIA C. NELSON GRADUATION PRIZE IN ADVANCED ADVOCACY

For outstanding efforts and distinction of earning the highest grade in Advanced Trial Advocacy.

*Yusra Serhan*

# SERVICE AWARDS

## USD ENHANCEMENT AWARD

For the outstanding graduates who exemplify leadership and have improved and enriched the USD law community.

*Emily Jade Kawahara  
Janine Williams Parchment*

## ALEC L. CORY PRO BONO AWARD

For the student with the highest total pro bono hours, who promoted pro bono work on campus, and also contributed the most to make the San Diego community a better place through the type of pro bono work they completed per the California definition of pro bono.

*Stella Diane Gerson*

## PRO BONO SERVICE RECOGNITION

The Pro Bono Service Recognition is given to those students who have completed in excess of 100 hours of pro bono legal service during their law school career.

*Summer Meldal Bosse  
Joanna Burstedt  
Lauren Donohue  
Courtney Amanda Gray  
Brenton Nelson Gutkowski  
Connor Alexander Hume  
Zubaidah A. Kadhim*

*Kerstyn Elyse Keenan  
Martha Dominika Klak  
Carolyn Anne Klier  
James E. Lanham  
Marty R. Levers  
Kerah Michele Lewis  
Pouch Ching Hsuan Liang*

*Melody Lilazy  
Connor Edward McGettigan  
Christine Jeeyoung Noh  
Amanda Jane Sharp  
Emily A. Stowe*

## PRO BONO SERVICE HIGH DISTINCTION

The Pro Bono Service High Distinction is given to those students who have completed in excess of 250 hours of pro bono legal service during their law school career.

*Matthew K. Bowen  
Natalie Clagett  
Hunter Wesley Collins  
Dimitri Alan Davis  
Michael DeBonis  
Roy H. Ezell III  
Ashley Alexandra Fan  
Steven A. Funk  
Stella Diane Gerson  
Bridget Hannah Gramling  
Taylor Ann Halby*

*Evan Hawkins Harris  
Madison L. Henry  
Tala Rose Hughes  
Alexandra N. Loyo-Rodriguez  
Mariam Mickael  
Melissa Alexandra Padilla  
Jessica Nazanin Panahi  
Jadwyn Nicole Parrish  
Jessica Ellen Robertson  
Ian D. Ross  
Justin Michael Sanchez*

*Yusra Serhan  
Kendall Smith  
Megan Elizabeth Bagley Smith  
Frederick Stickney Smyth  
Isabella Francesca Sobalvarro  
Jackson Alexander Sullivan  
Hailey Elizabeth Trawick  
Lauren Kylee Trinrud  
Emma Grace York  
Jiaye Zhou*

# CLINIC AWARDS

## OUTSTANDING APPELLATE CLINIC INTERN

*Vinh Phu To*

## OUTSTANDING CIVIL CLINIC INTERN

*Martha Dominika Klak*

## OUTSTANDING EDUCATION & DISABILITY CLINIC INTERN

*Peter James Cuevas*

## OUTSTANDING ENTREPRENEURSHIP CLINIC INTERN

*Shahrzad Borna*

## OUTSTANDING FEDERAL TAX CLINIC INTERN

*Siena M. Martinez*

## OUTSTANDING HOUSING RIGHTS CLINIC INTERN

*Derek G. Thompson*

## OUTSTANDING IMMIGRATION CLINIC INTERN

*Jennifer Bejar Cobarruvias*

## OUTSTANDING STATE INCOME TAX CLINIC INTERN

*Bryan Riley Nuxoll*

## OUTSTANDING STATE SALES & USE TAX CLINIC INTERN

*Sarah Amouzandeh*

## OUTSTANDING VETERANS CLINIC INTERN

*James Michael Spradley*

## OUTSTANDING WOMEN'S CLINIC INTERN

*Heritage Landolyn Liboon Ganasi*

## OUTSTANDING WORKERS' RIGHTS CLINIC INTERN

*Isabella Francesca Sobalvarro*

# ADVOCACY AWARDS

## CONSUMER PROTECTION POLICY CENTER'S OUTSTANDING PUBLIC INTEREST ADVOCATE AWARD

For outstanding external advocacy in the legislature, courts, or before administrative agencies.

*Summer Meldal Bosse*

## CONSUMER PROTECTION POLICY CENTER'S OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTOR TO THE CALIFORNIA REGULATORY LAW REPORTER

For contributions to the journal that monitors the activities of California's major regulatory agencies.

*Dimitri Alan Davis*

## ENERGY LAW AND POLICY CLINIC OUTSTANDING LAW CLERK AWARD

*Erin Hudak*

## ENERGY POLICY INITIATIVES CENTER'S OUTSTANDING STUDENT LEADER AWARD

*Hunter Collins*

*Alexandra Cumberland*

## CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY INSTITUTE'S JAMES A. D'ANGELO OUTSTANDING CHILD ADVOCATE AWARD

For the graduates who have demonstrated the special skills, knowledge, and dedication necessary to be effective child advocates.

*Stella Diane Gerson*

*Jadwyn Nicole Parrish*

*Mackenzie Marie McCoy*

## ORDER OF BARRISTERS

For demonstrated excellence in appellate and/or trial advocacy.

*Trevor Mathew Dorne*      *Caelle Maureen McKaveney*

*Devon Mariah Esguerra*      *Teresa Regina Morin*

*Samantha H. Hasiewicz*      *Jessica Ellen Robertson*

*Madison L. Henry*      *Emily A. Stowe*

*Connor Alexander Hume*      *Emma Grace York*

## ORDER OF BARRISTERS STATUE OF JUSTICE

*Jessica Ellen Robertson*

## COMMUNITY DEFENDERS AWARD

For commitment to constitutional protections in indigent criminal defense.

*Bridget Hannah Gramling*

*Samatha H. Hasiewicz*

*Carolyn Anne Klier*

## MICHAEL T. THORSNES TRIAL ADVOCACY AWARD

For the outstanding National Mock Trial team member.

*Samatha H. Hasiewicz*