

# The Advisor

December 2 2013

THE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER OF THOMAS JEFFERSON SCHOOL OF LAW

## TJSL December Graduation

Thomas Jefferson School of Law's Fall Commencement will be held on Saturday, December 14, 10 a.m., at Copley Symphony Hall in downtown San Diego. Approximately 85 graduating students will receive *juris doctor* degrees.

TJSL is proud to announce that the commencement speaker will be Board of Trustees Member San Diego Superior Court Judge Browder Willis, who is a 1983 graduate of the law school.



Judge Willis has been a San Diego Superior Court Judge for the last 12 years, since working in the District Attorney's Office. Before law school, Judge Willis served as an officer in the U.S. Army. He has previously served on the Board of Directors for the Earl B. Gilliam Bar Association, was Vice President of the Deputy District Attorneys Association, and has served on the Public Lawyers Committee of the San Diego County Bar, the Inns of Court and the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation. Judge Willis' recognitions include the 2008 Judicial Officer of the Year awarded by Chief Probation Officers of California, the 2008 Thomas Jefferson School of Law Alumnus of the Year, the 2010 STAR Award and the San Diego County Juvenile Justice Commission Outstanding Jurist Award in 2011.

The class Valetorian is Tristin Sullivan-Leppa Summa Cum Laude. "Law school has been a dream of mine since I was a young teen and I am so excited to finally be graduating," said Sullivan-Leppa. "I am so grateful for the wonderful experiences I have had here at TJSL and for all the amazing friends I have made along the way. It is an amazing feeling to know that all of my hard work has paid off and I am honored to be named the valetorian of this graduating class," said Sullivan-Leppa. "It took a lot of hard work, dedication, and support from my wonderful family. I was also extremely lucky to have had some awesome Professors who were always willing to provide guidance and encouragement. A special thanks to Professor Sandra Rierson for all of her help with my law review note."

Sullivan-Leppa was also named to the 2014 edition of Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges and is involved with the TJSL Law Review. "I was honored when Danielle Gilbert appointed me to Technical Editor on our Law Review's Editorial Board. As Technical Editor I have helped spearhead a new online journal for Law Review."

Upon graduation Sullivan-Leppa will be moving back home to Washington State where she will begin studying for the WA bar exam. "My husband and I are eager to begin the next phase of our life!"

The doors open at 9 a.m. at Copley Symphony Hall, 750 B Street, San Diego.



## ADR Society Takes On 22 New Members

On November 17, the Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Society hosted a series of tryouts to determine membership for the upcoming academic year on the team.

Competitors negotiated 30-minute rounds in a 2-on-2 format. This year, for the first time ever, ADR provided interested competitors with a series of training sessions where they broke down the fundamentals of negotiation, what judges look for in negotiation competitions, and the basics of strategic planning. The results were highly palpable.

“I felt that this year, we were treated to a noticeably higher-caliber competitor than we have seen before,” explained President Alexander Green (3L). “It made a big difference for us as judges and veterans to see interested competitors implement—and do so effectively—the kinds of negotiation tactics that we teach and apply within our society. I am highly encouraged about our future and I think we’ve brought in a great group of students, negotiators, and people, whom will provide us with a superb opportunity to carry on the strong tradition of excellence that we have fostered in this society over the past decade. I would not hesitate to send many of these new members to a real competition right off the bat, and I am very, very excited about where we go from here.”

In celebration of the new members, the graduating members, and the success that ADR has had this semester (two teams tying for first at the ABA Regional Negotiation Competition earlier this month), the ADR team hosted their annual Fall Social at Saltbox Dining and Drinking, bringing together rookie and veteran members in a casual environment where they could connect and socialize.

For more information about the Alternative Dispute Resolution Society, please e-mail [adr@tjls.edu](mailto:adr@tjls.edu).



Saint Vincent De Paul's Representative Aracelli Valdez and Timothy Bradford

## TJSL Giving Back

Jefferson Law Republicans, the Jewish Student Union, and Outlaw got together before the Thanksgiving break and with the help of donations from students, the organizations collected and donated 11 bags of business attire to Saint Vincent De Paul's "City Digz" clothing facility on 16th and Market.

“This will help people find jobs in these difficult times,” said Timothy Bradford (2L), Jefferson Law Republicans member. “I was very pleased to start my Thanksgiving break by handing off these clothes to Aracelli Valdez, the manager of City Digz. Thank you to everyone who contributed.”



Ismael Iniguez (3L), Kierre Coghill (2L), Lea Fields-Bernard, Brad Sorrentino (3L), Raffy Krikorian (3L)

## Trial Team Success

By Milena Celentano

TJSL's Trial Team took Semifinalist honors in the Ninth Annual American Bar Association Labor & Employment Law Section Regional Trial Competition in Los Angeles, November 17-18. There were 16 teams competing to represent the region, including UCLA, Pepperdine, Loyola, and USD.

TJSL sent two teams comprising eight TJSL students: Charles Lollar (3L), Javier Vargas (3L), Michael Klitzke (3L), Jessica McCracken (2L), Raffy Krikorian (3L), Brad Sorrentino (3L), Ismael Iniguez (3L), and Kierre Coghill (2L). Coached by

adjunct Professors Lea Fields-Bernard and Lilys McCoy, the team spent long hours mastering a challenging fact pattern involving a claim of wrongful termination under the Americans with Disabilities Act. The team was greatly aided in its preparation by Professor Susan Bisom-Rapp and Professor Rebecca Lee, both employment law scholars.

Sorrentino, Krikorian, Coghill, and Iniguez advanced as a team to the semifinals, where they ended a successful run as the third seed overall. Their placement was especially impressive, as they were all first time competitors. "While the competition was certainly trying, it was clear that our dedication, time, and coaching set us apart. It was an honor to represent our school," said Sorrentino.

According to second year student Kierre Coghill, "Advancing to the semifinals in my first competition taught me to trust in myself as much as I trusted in my teammates and coaches. It was amazing to compete against schools such as UCLA, Pepperdine, and The University of Houston and to realize that not only can we hold our own, but we can win. I could not be more proud to say that I am a member of Thomas Jefferson School of Law Mock Trial Team."

The team is looking forward to a busy Spring semester. They will be competing in the American Association of Justice Student Trial Advocacy Competition, Pacific McGeorge's National Ethics Trial Competition, and the Texas Young Lawyers Association Mock Trial Competition. Last Spring, the TJSL Team won TYLA Regionals and reached the Semifinals of TYLA's National Trial Competition.



## TJSL Los Angeles Alumni Celebrate Thanksgiving

Graduates from Thomas Jefferson School who now make up the Los Angeles Alumni Chapter came together on Saturday, November 16 for their annual Thanksgiving potluck dinner. This event was hosted by Jakgeem Mays '10, and brought out over a dozen TJSL Alums from all over the LA area. Each person brought their favorite dish and created a spread that reminded everyone of a family dinner.

The Los Angeles Alumni Chapter also hosts professional networking mixers for TJSL Alumni throughout the LA area; including Century City, Hollywood and Culver City.

To keep up with the most recent news and updates for the LA Chapter, please visit "Thomas Jefferson School of Law-Los Angeles Chapter" on Facebook and "Thomas Jefferson School of Law Los Angeles Chapter" on LinkedIn.

For more information, contact Sterling Williams '12 at [latjslalumni@gmail.com](mailto:latjslalumni@gmail.com).



## TJSL Unveils New Military Website

In recognition of the fact that Thomas Jefferson School of Law has long been a leader in educating active duty service members, veterans, reservists and military spouses, the school has unveiled a new website designed to streamline the information and application process for those with a military connection.

The website, [www.tjssl.edu/military](http://www.tjssl.edu/military), brings together a collection of resources designed to be especially relevant for those navigating the waters of a career transition after military service, or during a spouse's military service. The site provides prospective applicants with information about military-specific financial aid options, flexible curricular options, military-focused clinical offerings, and upcoming events that involve the campus military community. The website also provides profiles of current TJSL students and recent graduates who made the transition from military service to student life at TJSL.

The school launched the website following years developing a reputation for being a leader in educating students with a military background. This year, 11% of the fall entering class was made up of those who had served in uniform. The school also welcomes a large number of military spouses, a large proportion of whom are living in San Diego on an active duty service member's military orders. TJSL has a campus chapter of Student Veterans of America, which is a key component in the school's reputation for camaraderie among those who have served. The school also provides students with an opportunity to gain hands-on law practice experience through the Veterans Legal Assistance Clinic, which provides free legal representation to veterans who have a variety of legal needs. Student veterans are particularly drawn by the opportunity to gain law practice experience while helping fellow veterans.

Dean Thomas Guernsey marked the launch of the website as evidence of the school's commitment to meeting the needs of service members and their families. "The Navy and the Marine Corps have played unique roles in shaping the history and culture of San Diego, and the military community has played a major role in shaping the campus community here at TJSL," said Dean Guernsey. "Among our most important goals at TJSL is delivering an academic program that meets the needs of our service members and their families, with the financial support required to make a law education possible. That's why I am so proud that so many military students choose TJSL."

"I am excited about the launch of the new military website at TJSL," said Jennifer McCollough, a former Navy helicopter pilot who graduated from TJSL in 2013 and who now holds a prestigious federal clerkship in the Eastern District of Texas. "During my time at TJSL, the school was unfailingly flexible in helping me meet the demands of active duty service while continuing my commitment to excellence in my academic endeavors. I hope the site helps other soldiers, sailors, Marines and airmen find the same path to opportunity after military service."

The school owes its reputation as a leader in educating military-connected students in large part to its generous commitment to the Yellow Ribbon Program. The Yellow Ribbon program allows a large proportion of TJSL student veterans, and their spouses, to attend the school tuition-free. An even larger number of TJSL students attend law school using Post-9/11 GI Bill Benefits, and for many of those students, this entitlement pays for half of law school tuition outright. In addition to those military benefits, students who enter TJSL beginning in the January 2014 entering class will be eligible for a new slate of guaranteed merit scholarships, under a transparent and consistent system that allows applicants who are not using military benefits to clearly understand their prospective merit awards. The new military website provides applicants with a matrix laying out these award amounts.

"I am thrilled that the school has developed this new tool for reaching out to applicants from the military community," said Professor Bill Slomanson, a Navy veteran who works with many of TJSL's veteran applicants and students. "It was my own military service that brought me to San Diego, and I see in many of my military students the same desire to settle in this beautiful city. I'm proud that TJSL does such a wonderful job of training our military students for the next stage in their careers, especially because I observe, time and time again, that military students excel in the law school classroom."



## Summer Study Abroad Programs in Hangzhou, China and Nice, France

### Hangzhou, China

Thomas Jefferson School of Law, in cooperation with one of the most prestigious universities in China, Zhejiang University, presents a three week, ABA approved, International and

Comparative Law Study Abroad Program in Hangzhou, China, one of the most beautiful cities in the world.

The program gives students the opportunity to earn 4 credits in just 3 weeks. Classes are held mornings only and taught in English. Highlights include distinguished speakers and experts in the field of international law, a visit to Beijing Supreme Court, optional weekend and half-day trips to neighboring cities and scenic sites.

MCLE credit is available to attorneys in California. Attorneys in other states need to check with their State Bar office regarding MCLE credit.

Download the [2014 China Program Application](#)

View the [2014 China Program Brochure](#)

Visit the [China Study Abroad Program](#)

**Curriculum Highlights:** Students may choose to take two of the five courses offered. The courses are International Business Transactions; International Entertainment Law; Comparative Law Study of Small Businesses in China; Comparative Negotiations in International Business; and the Chinese Legal System and Its Reforms. Morning classes, held Monday through Friday, are taught in English. Distinguished faculty will include four professors from the Zhejiang University College of Law.

**Overview:** Earn 4 summer credits in 3 weeks in one of the most beautiful cities in the China, Hangzhou. The TJSL China Program runs from May 19 to June 6, 2014. It is ABA Approved. A half-day tour of Hangzhou, a four-day tour of Beijing, including the main sites and a visit to the Beijing Supreme Court, and a two-day tour of Shanghai, will be offered.

**Setting Description:** Centrally situated in one of the most beautiful cities in China and within walking distance of the famous West Lake, Zhejiang University College of Law offers an ideal environment for learning international and comparative law. Classes are held Monday through Friday, in the morning. Students will have afternoons and weekends to travel.

**Program Value:** The China Program is designed to encourage students to experience international law in an international setting, to exchange ideas with students from a different land, and to explore cultural differences that influence international business and legal transactions. Students are drawn from law schools across the United States and the world. Chinese students fluent in English and currently studying law at the Zhejiang University Guanghua College of Law will actively participate in the program.

**Program Cost:** Tuition \$3,000.00

**Subjects:** International Studies, Legal Studies



### *Summer Study Abroad Programs Continued...*

#### **Nice, France**

Thomas Jefferson School of Law, in cooperation with the La Faculté de Droit de l'Université de Nice presents Summer Study Abroad Program in Nice, France.

Students may earn 4 summer credits in 4 weeks while studying on the French Riviera. The courses have an international focus and compare American and European approaches to law. Classes are held mornings only and are taught in English. Highlights include distinguished guest speakers in the field of international law, a day in the French court, an optional French class offered at no charge.

MCLE credit is available for California Attorneys. Attorneys in other states need to check with their State Bar office regarding MCLE credit.

Download the [2014 Nice Program Application](#)

View the [2014 Nice Program Brochure](#)

Visit the [Nice Study Abroad Program](#)

**Curriculum Highlights:** Earn 4 summer credits in 4 weeks while studying on the French Riviera, in the breathtaking city of Nice. The courses have an international focus and compare American and European approaches to law. Students may choose to take two of the four courses offered. The courses are International Human Rights Law; Comparative Environmental Law; International Internet Law; and Comparative Tort Law. Classes are in the morning, Monday through Thursday and taught in English.

**Overview:** The 2014 Nice Program runs from June 23 to July 17, 2014 and is approved by the ABA. The courses have an international focus and compare American and European approaches to law. Students can earn 4 credits in just 4 weeks by completing two of the four programs offered.

**Setting Description:** The University of Nice School of Law offers an ideal environment for learning international and comparative law in a city that is both beautiful and rich in European culture and history. The program includes an organized trip to spend the day in a French court and sit in on one or more actual cases. Students will have 3-day weekends providing opportunities to visit Cannes, St. Tropez, Paris, Monaco, Venice and other renowned European cities.

**Program Value:** The Nice Program runs from June 23 to July 17, 2014 and is approved by the ABA. The Nice Program is designed to encourage students to experience international law in an international setting, to exchange ideas with students from a different land, and to explore cultural differences that influence international business and legal transactions. Students are drawn from law schools across the United States and the world. Apply Now, for this unforgettable experience.

**Program Cost:** Tuition \$3,000.00

**Subjects:** International Studies, Legal Studies



**Buy your tees, hats, hoodies and more at TJSL's official online shop!**

<http://thomasjeffersonschooloflaw.skorfanshop.com>



**Thomas Jefferson School of Law Graduation to be held on Saturday, December 14, 2013  
at Copley Symphony Hall 10 a.m. Doors open at 9 a.m.**

**The Valedictorian is Tristan Sullivan-Leppa**

**The Center for Solo Practitioners, Thomas Jefferson's lawyer incubator program, is accepting applications for its 2014 class. The application period will close on December 5, 2013.**

Designed specifically and exclusively for Thomas Jefferson School of Law alumni, the TJSL Center for Solo Practitioners supports new solo practitioners as they establish their own law offices. The program encourages new solos to become leaders in their community by developing ways to reach traditionally underserved populations with much-needed legal services.



To apply for the program, candidates must: (1) be admitted to practice in California; (2) be a graduate of TJSL; (3) have a demonstrated commitment to access-to-justice for those in need; (4) be willing to engage in ongoing pro- and low-bono services; (5) work well in intimate settings with a diverse group of individuals; (6) be committed to establishing a solo- or small-firm practice; and (7) be committed to helping underserved populations after completion of the program.

For additional information or an application, email the director of the program, Lilys D. McCoy, at [lmccoy@tjssl.edu](mailto:lmccoy@tjssl.edu).

# MEDIA WATCH

**October 21, 2013**

[3D printers: The next intellectual property game changer](#) Philly.com

Deven R. Desai from the **Thomas Jefferson School of Law** and Gerard N. Magliocca from Indiana University look at how 3D home printers could change legal guidelines for patent, copyright, and trademark laws and even internet content rules.

**October 22, 2013**

TJSL professor to be awarded Bullough Book Award .The Daily Transcript **Thomas Jefferson School of Law** Professor Julie Greenberg's book, "Intersexuality and the Law, Why Sex Matters" has earned high praise.

**October 28, 2013**

<http://www.providencejournal.com/breaking-news/content/20131028-3-d-printers-could-blur-lines-of-patent-laws-and-others.ece>

Professor Deven R. Desai was quoted in the Providence Journal about how 3D home printers could change legal guidelines for patent, copyright, and trademark laws and even internet content rules.

**November 1, 2013**

Thomas Jefferson School of Law's fifth Employee Rights Self Help Clinic story appeared in The Daily Transcript

<http://www.sddt.com/news/article.cfm?SourceCode=20131101czc&t=TJSL+to+hold+employee+rights+clinic+Nov+9#.UngzSPIDt8E>

**November 5, 2013**

TJSL employee rights clinic set for this Saturday article appeared in the Daily Transcript <http://www.sddt.com/News/article.cfm?SourceCode=20131105tje#.UoFxtflDt8E>

**November 16, 2013**

Professor Marjorie Cohn appeared on C-Span discussing Legal Challenges to Drone Strikes <http://c-spanvideo.org/program/DroneStrike>

**November 21, 2013**

TJSL collecting money, supplies for Typhoon Haiyan victims story appeared in the SD Daily Transcript <http://www.sddt.com/News/article.cfm?SourceCode=20131121czc&t=TJSL+collecting+money+supplies+for+Typhoon+Haiyan+victims#.UpOz3cRDt8F>

**November 21, 2013**

Professor Deven R. Desai was quoted in the New York Times in a story titled Beyond 3-D Printers' Magic, Possible Legal Wrangling. <http://www.nytimes.com/2013/11/24/business/beyond-3-d-printers-magic-possible-legal-wrangling.html?r=0>

**November 19, 2013**

Thomas Jefferson School of Law's Shannon Laoye was mentioned in SD Dairly Transcript story titled the Earl Gilliam Bar awards scholarships at annual event <http://www.sddt.com/News/article.cfm?SourceCode=20131119tja#.UpPeAcRDt8E>

**November 26, 2013**

Professor Rod Smith appeared on the KUSI 6 & 10 p.m. newscast in Reporter Steve Bosh's story about The Supreme Court taking up the Obamacare provision on contraception. <http://www.kusi.com/story/24083106/supreme-court-will-take-up-new-health-law-dispute>



# DECEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
		<p><i>New Attorney Swearing In Ceremony 10 a.m.</i> Sheraton San Diego Hotel &amp; Marina, 1380 Harbor Island Drive, San Diego, CA 92101 Room: Grand Ballroom in the Marina Tower</p>		<p><b>TJ</b> Alumni Association Mixer 6:00 PM</p>	<p><b>TJ</b> Legal Writing Institute Conference 9:00 AM</p>	<p><b>SE</b> Final Exam Fall 2013 - Civil Procedure I 9:00 AM</p> <p><b>SE</b> Final Exam Fall 2013 - Business Associations 9:00 AM</p> <p><b>SE</b> Final Exam Fall 2013 - Contracts I - Golden 9:00 AM</p> <p><b>SE</b> Final Exam Fall 2013 - Evidence - Christensen 2:00 PM</p> <p><b>SE</b> Final Exam Fall 2013 - Evidence - Atkins 2:00 PM</p> <p><b>SE</b> Final Exam Fall 2013 - Pre-Bar Fundamentals 2:00 PM</p>
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	<p><b>SE</b> Final Exam Fall 2013 - Property II - Markey &amp; Semeraro 9:00 AM</p> <p><b>SE</b> Final Exam Fall 2013 - Remedies - Waldman 9:00 AM</p> <p><b>SE</b> Final Exam Fall 2013 - Health Care Liability 10:00 AM</p> <p><b>SE</b> Final Exam Fall 2013 - Property II - Schwabach 6:00 PM</p> <p><b>SE</b> Final Exam Fall 2013 - Criminal Law 6:00 PM</p> <p><b>SE</b> Final Exam Fall 2013 - Remedies - Golden &amp; Wezelman 6:00 PM</p>	<p><b>SE</b> Final Exam Fall 2013 - International Business Transactions 9:00 AM</p> <p><b>SE</b> Final Exam Fall 2013 - Torts II - Delman 9:00 AM</p> <p><b>SE</b> Final Exam Fall 2013 - Wills &amp; Trusts - Wenger 9:00 AM</p> <p><b>SE</b> Final Exam Fall 2013 - Sports Law 2:00 PM</p> <p><b>SE</b> Final Exam Fall 2013 - Legal Principles 2:00 PM</p> <p><b>SE</b> Final Exam Fall 2013 - Federal Income Taxation 2:00 PM</p> <p><b>SE</b> Final Exam Fall 2013 - Vice Crimes 2:00 PM</p> <p><b>SE</b> Final Exam Fall 2013 - Federal Courts &amp; Jurisdiction 2:00 PM</p> <p><b>SE</b> Final Exam Fall 2013 - Wills &amp; Trusts - Martindill 6:00 PM</p> <p><b>SE</b> Final Exam Fall 2013 - Employment Law 6:00 PM</p>	<p><b>SE</b> Final Exam Fall 2013 - Contracts I - Greene, Lee &amp; Smith 9:00 AM</p> <p><b>SE</b> Final Exam Fall 2013 - Constitutional Law I 2:00 PM</p> <p><b>SE</b> Final Exam Fall 2013 - Introduction to Open Source Software 6:00 PM</p> <p><b>SE</b> Final Exam Fall 2013 - Constitutional Law II 6:00 PM</p> <p><b>SE</b> Final Exam Fall 2013 - Taxation of Business Organizations 6:00 PM</p>	<p><b>SE</b> Final Exam Fall 2013 - Trademark &amp; Unfair Competition Law 9:00 AM</p> <p><b>SE</b> Final Exam Fall 2013 - Advanced Legal Research 10:00 AM</p> <p><b>SE</b> Final Exam Fall 2013 - Legal Foundations 6:00 PM</p> <p><b>SE</b> Final Exam Fall 2013 - Torts I - Dyson 6:00 PM</p> <p><b>SE</b> Final Exam Fall 2013 - CA Civil Procedure 6:00 PM</p>	<p><b>SE</b> Final Exam Fall 2013 - Professional Responsibility - Berenson 9:00 AM</p> <p><b>SE</b> Final Exam Fall 2013 - Property II - Simon 2:00 PM</p> <p><b>SE</b> Final Exam Fall 2013 - Civil Procedure II 2:00 PM</p> <p><b>SE</b> Final Exam Fall 2013 - Community Property 6:00 PM</p> <p><b>SE</b> Final Exam Fall 2013 - Professional Responsibility - Desai 6:00 PM</p>	<p><b>TJ</b> Employee Rights Self-Help Clinic 9:30 AM</p> <p><b>TJ</b> December 2013 Graduation 10:00 AM</p>