

# December 2016 Hooding Ceremony



December 17, 2016 • 5:00 p.m. • Lanier Auditorium



# **Texas Tech University School of Law**

## **Hooding Ceremony**

### **December 2016**

#### **Processional**

##### **Welcome**

Darby Dickerson  
*Dean and W. Frank Newton Professor of Law*

##### **Greetings**

Robert L. Duncan '81  
*Chancellor, Texas Tech University System*

Lawrence Schovanec, Ph.D.  
*President, Texas Tech University*

Darryl S. Vereen '92  
*President, Texas Tech School of Law Alumni Association*

##### **Student Welcome**

Robert Berleth '16

##### **Keynote Address**

L. Timothy Perrin '87  
*President, Lubbock Christian University*

##### **Hooding of Graduation Candidates**

John R. Delony, Ph.D.  
*Associate Dean for Student Life*

##### **Hooding Professors**

DeLeith Duke Gossett  
*Associate Professor of Law*

Dean G. Pawlowic  
*Professor of Law*

##### **Farewell Remarks for the Class**

Triana Gonzalez '16

##### **Closing Remarks**

Dean Dickerson

#### **Recessional**

## About Texas Tech University School of Law

Founded in 1967, Texas Tech University School of Law boasts a rich history. In the 1930s, Alvin R. Allison, a self-described “country lawyer from Levelland,” could not afford to attend one of the three American Bar Association-accredited law schools in Texas. Instead of attending law school, he earned his law license by apprenticing under a local attorney for two years and passing the Texas Bar Examination in 1934.

His struggle to become a lawyer inspired his quest to establish a law school in West Texas at his alma mater, Texas Technological College. The Texas Tech Board of Directors hired Richard B. Amandes as the School of Law’s first dean in 1966, and in 1967, the first class, comprised of 72 students, enrolled at Texas Tech Law. The ABA granted accreditation to the school in August 1970, which followed accreditation from the Supreme Court of Texas in 1968. In 1969, Texas Tech Law gained membership to the Association of American Law Schools, and in 1974, was elected to the Order of the Coif, a qualification shared by less than half of the nation’s law schools.

Since opening, the School of Law has graduated 8,432 students, including the first woman to head a major federal-law enforcement agency, the Army’s highest-ranking legal officer, general counsels of corporations, elected officials, state and federal judges, and some of the nation’s top litigators.

Texas Tech Law offers a robust clinical program, three academic centers, nine dual-degree programs, five concentration programs, a regional-externship program, a Top 15 legal-practice program, a public-service graduation requirement, an innovative leadership program, and a nationally competitive advocacy program that boasts 39 national and international championships. In 2016, the Blakely Advocacy Institute ranked Texas Tech Law number 1 for moot-court programs.

Texas Tech Law attracts professors who are passionate about teaching. In fact, Texas Tech Law has won the University’s Departmental Excellence in Teaching Award twice in recent years, two professors have been recognized with the Chancellor’s Council Distinguished Teaching Award since Fall 2013, and seven professors are elected members of the prestigious American Law Institute. Texas Tech Law is also the only law school in the country to have had an entire court—the Seventh Court of Appeals in Amarillo—teach a full-year course.

With quality students, talented faculty, and devoted staff, the School of Law continues to produce gifted attorneys who practice across the state, region, and country.

## Mission Statement

The mission of the Texas Tech University School of Law is to prepare individuals for the effective and ethical practice of law in a rapidly changing, diverse, and interconnected world; to engage in meaningful scholarship; and to foster a culture of public service.

## Vision Statement

To be a premier student-centered law school developing effective, ethical lawyers and leaders for Texas and for the diverse world of the 21st century.





## About the Doctor of Jurisprudence Academic Regalia

### ***Tam***

Instead of undergraduate or master's degree mortarboard and tassel, law and other doctoral degree graduates wear a velvet tam with a short gold tassel.

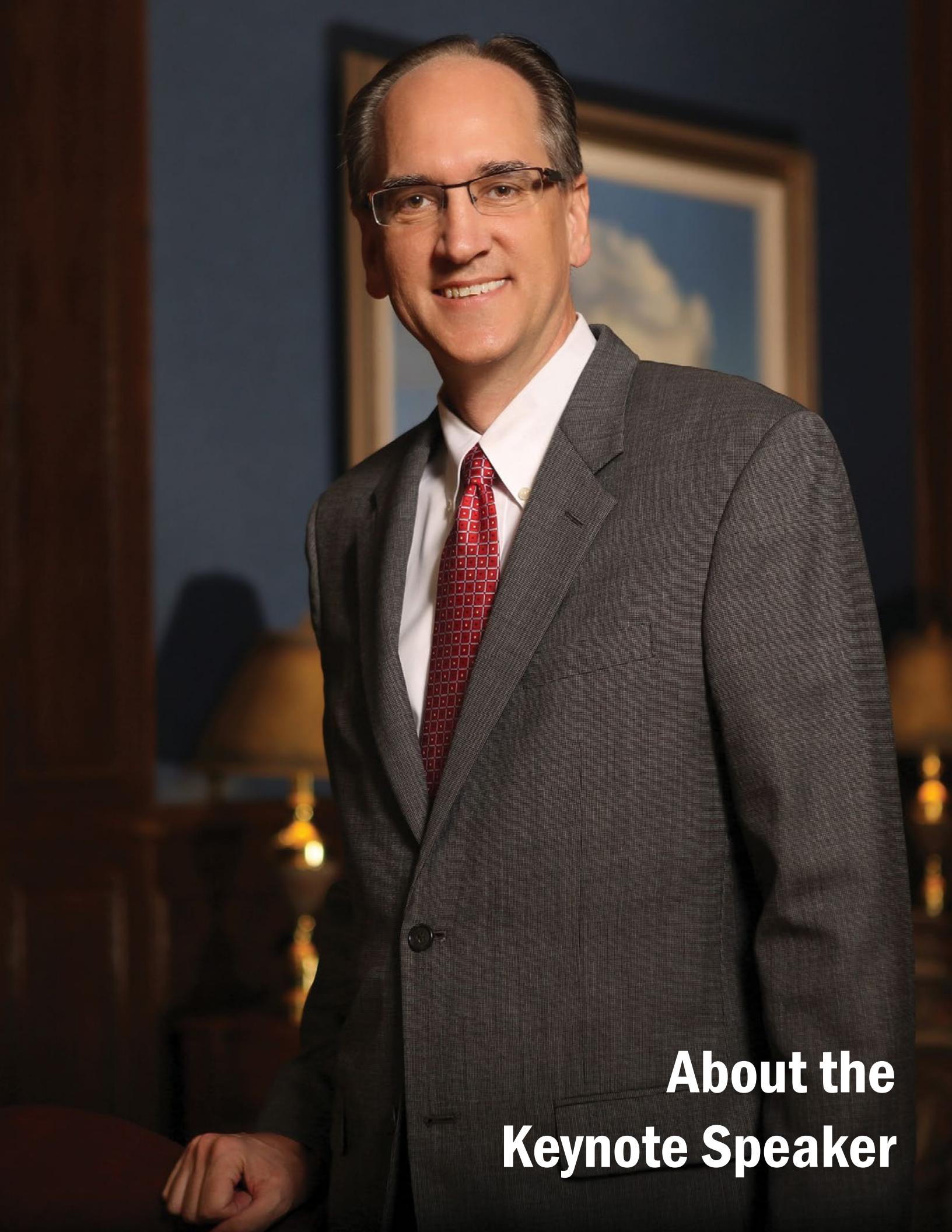
### ***Gown***

Texas Tech Law graduates wear a black gown. To distinguish it from undergraduate or master's degree gowns, the Doctor of Jurisprudence gown bears three black velvet bars on the arms and black velvet panels down the front of the gown.

### ***Hood***

As is customary with doctoral degrees, a law graduate carries the hood, and a person with the same degree places the hood on the graduate. The hood's exterior is black while its interior has purple velvet, signifying a degree in the law.





**About the  
Keynote Speaker**

**L. Timothy Perrin** was born and raised in Lubbock, Texas, and graduated from Lubbock Christian University, *summa cum laude*, in 1984. He studied law at Texas Tech University School of Law, graduating in 1987, also with honors. While in law school, he was a member of the *Texas Tech Law Review*, published two student articles, and was elected to the Order of the Coif. After five years practicing general civil litigation with a law firm in Corpus Christi, Perrin accepted a faculty position with the Pepperdine University School of Law. At Pepperdine, he served with distinction as a Professor of Law, Associate Provost of the University, and Vice Dean of the law school, where he was recognized for both his teaching and his scholarship. He has published books and articles on evidence and trial practice and procedure. He co-authored *The Art and Science of Trial Advocacy* (LexisNexis 2d ed. 2011). He began his tenure as the sixth president of Lubbock Christian University in June 2012.





# Hooding Candidates



## Candidates for the Doctor of Jurisprudence

### Candidate · Hooding Attorney/Professor

**Mariana Alvarez**

*Professor Arnold H. Loewy*  
B.A., Texas Tech University

**Robert Berleth**

*Professor Bryan T. Camp*  
B.A.A.S., West Texas A&M University  
M.P.A., Texas Tech University\*

**Kelli Ann Marie Harral Burns**

*Mark A. Harral '10*  
B.B.A., University of Houston  
M.B.A., Texas Tech University\*

**Wesley Chan**

*Professor Dean G. Pawlowic*  
B.B.A., University of Houston  
M.S., Texas Tech University\*

**Joshua Aaron Daws**

*Robert A. Weninger*  
B.A., Lamar University

**Joshua W. Ford**

*Associate Dean Stephen T. Black*  
B.B.A., Lubbock Christian University

**Triana Gonzalez**

*Assistant Dean Amy L. Jarmon*  
B.A., Texas A&M International University  
M.A., Texas A&M International University  
Health Law Concentration

**Sheetul Hassan**

*Professor Rishi Batra*  
B.S., Georgia Institute of Technology

### Candidate · Hooding Attorney/Professor

**Annie J. Northcutt**

*Zackery J. Wavrusa '10*  
B.S., Texas A&M University

**Laura Marie Perez**

*Berta Perez Linton*  
B.A., Angelo State University

**Benjamin Petty**

*Professor DeLeith Duke Gossett*  
B.M., Belmont University  
M.M., University of Oklahoma  
M.M., University of Oklahoma

**Alex Walker Presti**

*Professor William R. Keffer*  
B.A., Southern Methodist University  
M.B.A., Texas Tech University\*  
Business Law Concentration

**Kylie Ann Morrison Rahl**

*The Honorable E. Scott Frost '87*  
B.B.A., Midwestern State University

**Erin Rea**

*Professor DeLeith Duke Gossett*  
B.A., Texas Tech University  
M.P.A., Texas Tech University\*

**Megan M'Liss Saltzman**

*Lorna L. McMillion '14*  
B.A., Texas Tech University

**Anna Kristine Watkins**

*Jeri L. Thornesberry '01*  
B.S., Oklahoma Christian University

## Final Degree Evaluation

The listing of candidates and degrees in this program is preliminary and subject to final degree-requirement evaluation. A candidate earns a degree after the Registrar determines that the candidate has satisfactorily completed all graduation requirements and posted final grades on the official record. The diploma of Texas Tech University School of Law, signed and sealed by its appropriate officers, is the official public document evidencing that a degree has been awarded.

\* Denotes dual-degree program

## Achievements and Awards

### Who's Who Among Students in American Universities & Colleges

Joshua W. Ford  
Triana Gonzalez  
Kylie Ann Morrison Rahl

### Underwood Top Grade Award 2015

Benjamin Petty

### Legal Practice Top Brief Award

Kylie Ann Morrison Rahl      2014–2015

### Excellence in Legal Research Program

Robert Berleth  
Wesley Chan  
Joshua W. Ford  
Triana Gonzalez

### Clinical Programs

Annie J. Northcutt  
*Advanced Alternative  
Dispute Resolution Clinic*

Triana Gonzalez  
*Civil Practice Clinic*

Joshua W. Ford  
Kylie Ann Morrison Rahl  
*Tax Clinic*

### ABA National Negotiation Team

Anna Kristine Watkins      2015–2016

### Student Ambassadors

Laura M. Perez      2014–2015

### Pro Bono Dean's Award

Triana Gonzalez      2015  
Erin Rea      2016

### Pro Bono Excellence Award

Joshua W. Ford      2016  
Megan M'Liss Saltzman      2015  
Triana Gonzalez      2015

### Pro Bono Honors Award

Joshua W. Ford      2015  
Erin Rea      2015

### Academy for Leadership in the Legal Profession Senior Fellows

Robert Berleth      2016  
Joshua Aaron Daws      2016  
Triana Gonzalez      2016

### Academy for Leadership in the Legal Profession Fellow

Alex Walker Presti      2016

### Regional Externship Program

Mariana Alvarez      *Dallas*  
Sheetul Hassan      *Dallas*  
Benjamin Petty      *Dallas*

## Student Organization Leadership

### Christian Legal Society

Joshua W. Ford      *Vice-President  
(2015–2016)*

### Estate Planning Society

Joshua W. Ford      *Treasurer (2015–2016)*

### Intellectual Property Student Association

Wesley Chan      *Secretary (2015–2016)*

### Phi Alpha Delta

Megan M'Liss Saltzman      *Clerk (2015–2016)*

### South Texas Student Association

Joshua W. Ford      *Treasurer (2016)*  
Triana Gonzalez      *President (2015–2016)*

### Student Animal Legal Defense Fund

Annie J. Northcutt      *Treasurer (2015–2016)*

### Tech Health Law Association

Triana Gonzalez      *President (2016)*  
Vice President (2015–2016)

### Tech Law Military Association

Robert Berleth      *President (2015–2016)*  
Megan M'Liss Saltzman      *Organizational  
Development Chair  
(2015–2016)*

## Law Journals

### *Business and Bankruptcy Law Journal*

Sheetul Hassan      *Staff Editor (2015)*  
Articles Editor (2016)  
Benjamin Petty      *Articles Editor (2015)*  
Staff Editor (2016)  
  
Benjamin Petty      *Top Bankruptcy Bulletin  
2016*

### *Estate Planning and Community Property Law Journal*

Joshua W. Ford      *Staff Editor (2015)*  
Articles Editor (2016)

### *Journal of Biosecurity, Biosafety and Biodefense Law*

Megan M'Liss Saltzman      *Executive Managing  
Editor (2016)*

### *Administrative Law Journal*

Annie J. Northcutt      *Articles Editor (2016)*  
Triana Gonzalez      *Staff Editor (2015)*  
Comment Editor (2016)

Annie J. Northcutt      *Spencer Salmon Award  
2016*

### *Texas Bank Lawyer*

Triana Gonzalez      *Senior Writer (2015–2016)*

### *Texas Tech Law Review*

Kylie Ann Morrison Rahl      *Staff Editor (2015)*  
Articles Editor (2016)



MARK AND BECKY LANIER  
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CENTER



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Elma Moreno  
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Caprock Regional Public Defender Office*



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Mitchell A. Toups '82, *Beaumont*  
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