

December 2017 Hooding Ceremony



December 16, 2017 · 5:00 p.m. · Lanier Auditorium

Texas Tech University School of Law

Hooding Ceremony

December 2017

Processional

Welcome

Jack Wade Nowlin
Dean and Glenn D. West Endowed Professor of Law

Greetings

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

Keynote Address

Justice Judy Parker '85
Court of Appeals for the Seventh District of Texas

Hooding of Graduation Candidates

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

Hooding Professors

Brian D. Shannon
Paul Whitfield Horn Professor

Kyle Velte
Visiting Assistant Professor of Law

Farewell Remarks for the Class

Julie Jaimes-Vazquez '17

Closing Remarks

Dean Nowlin

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 more than 8,000 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, 10 dual-degree programs, three concentration programs, a regional-externship program, a recognized legal-practice program, a public-service graduation requirement, and a nationally competitive advocacy program that boasts 42 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 three times 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**

Justice Judy Parker was appointed to the Court of Appeals for the Seventh District of Texas by Governor Greg Abbott on August 17, 2017. The Seventh Court of Appeals sits in Amarillo, Texas and has intermediate appellate jurisdiction of both civil and criminal cases appealed from forty-six counties in the Texas Panhandle and South Plains.

Justice Parker's service as a judge spans over twenty-three years. Prior to joining the Court of Appeals, Justice Parker served as Judge of County Court at Law #3 of Lubbock County from 2008-2017. As a trial judge, she presided over complex cases involving multiple areas of law including consumer, contract, commercial, personal injury, real estate, family, probate, and guardianship. She served as the Administrative Judge for the Lubbock County Courts at Law from 2014-2016. Justice Parker was the Associate Judge of Lubbock County from 1994-2008, hearing all aspects of family law litigation, including child abuse and neglect cases, and juvenile detention hearings. She presided over Lubbock County Family Recovery Court, a drug court involving child abuse and neglect cases, from 2008 to 2010. During her tenure on the bench, Justice Parker has presided over thousands of civil, probate, and family law cases, and is highly respected by both lawyers and litigants for her fairness, judicial temperament, knowledge of the law, and her prompt decision making.

Justice Parker began her legal career as an associate at Purdom Law Offices, P.C., in Lubbock, practicing general civil litigation in Lubbock and the surrounding counties for more than nine years. She earned her B.A. from Angelo State University, cum laude, in 1982. She received her J.D. from Texas Tech University School of Law in 1985. She is admitted to practice before the United States Supreme Court and the Northern District of Texas.

Throughout her legal and judicial career, Justice Parker has served her community and her profession on both the state and local level. Justice Parker is a founding member, Judicial Master, and current President of the Texas Tech University School of Law American Inn of Court. In addition, she is the Past President of the Lubbock Area Bar Association and Lubbock County Young Lawyers Association, Life Fellow of the Texas Bar Foundation, past Chair of the Texas Young Lawyers Association, and member of the statewide workgroup on Pro Bono since 2014. Justice Parker is a graduate of Leadership Lubbock, Immediate Past Chair of Lubbock Area United Way Board, sustaining member of the Junior League of Lubbock, member of Southwest Lubbock Rotary Club for twenty years, and member of Lubbock Area Republican Women since 1998.

Justice Parker was born in Brownwood, Texas and grew up on a ranch in Southern Brown County. She and her husband Scott have been married for 26 years and they have three adult children, Lindsey, Lauren and Travis. The Parkers are active members of the First Baptist Church of Lubbock.



Hooding Candidates

Candidates for the Doctor of Jurisprudence

Candidate · Hooding Attorney/Professor

Nicolas Arkells

Hooding Professor

B.S., Texas A&M University

M.B.A., Texas Tech University*

Law & Science Concentration

Winston O. Franks

Hooding Professor

B.A., Texas Tech University

Christopher Scott Inks

Hooding Professor

B.I.S., Angelo State University

M.S., Angelo State University

Julie Jaimes-Vazquez

Hooding Professor

B.S., Midwestern State University

Teresa Marie McGonagill

Professor William R. Keffer

B.S., University of Arizona

M.A., Webster University

Tyler Edward Merolla

Professor Kyle C. Vette

B.B.A., University of Texas at San Antonio

M.B.A., Texas Tech University*

William Jack Peterson

Kathryn Beer Beighley '82

B.A., Texas Tech University

M.Phil., University of Cambridge

Konrad Prus

Hooding Professor

B.A., University of Texas at Austin

M.S., Texas Tech University*

Christan Nichole Quiroz

Cassie Graydon '17

B.B.A., Texas Tech University

Lionel "Jake" Roach

Lionel J. Roach

B.S., Texas State University

Daniel Sieloff

Professor Brian D. Shannon

B.A., Texas Tech University

Chet Southworth

Professor Jarod S. Gonzalez

B.S., Excelsior College

M.H.R.D./O.D., Friends University

M.B.A., Texas A&M Central Texas

Jennifer N. Vincent

Hooding Professor

B.A., University of North Texas

Law and Science Concentration

Russell S. Warren, III

Russell S. Warren, Jr.

B.S., United States Military Academy

M.S., Texas Tech 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 proving that a degree has been awarded.

* Denotes dual-degree program

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Business and Bankruptcy Law Association

Second Year

Christopher Scott Inks · *Treasurer*

Delta Theta Phi

Third Year

Christian Nichole Quiroz · *Dean*

Second Year

Christan Nichole Quiroz · *Treasurer*

Federalist Society

Second Year

Daniel Sieloff · *Internal Vice President*

Intellectual Property Students Association

Third Year

Nicolas Arkells · *Vice President*

Second Year

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Lavender Law

Second Year

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Second Year

Konrad Prus · *President*

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First Year

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Tech Law Military Association

Second Year

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Tyler Edward Merolla · *Treasurer*

Administrative Law Journal

Jennifer N. Vincent · *Staff Editor (2016–2017)*

Journal of Biosecurity, Biosafety, and Biodefense Law

Lionel “Jake” Roach · *Author*

Clinical Programs

Advanced Alternative Dispute Resolution Clinic

Directors: Professor Larry R. Spain &

Adjunct Professor Gene Valentini

Nicolas Arkells

Julie Jaimes-Vazquez

Chet Southworth

Regional Externs

Jennifer N. Vincent · *Dallas*

William Jack Peterson · *Fort Worth*

National Advocacy Teams

National Sports Negotiations Team, 2016

National Texas Young Lawyers Mock Trial Team, 2017

Teresa Marie McGonagill

Student Ambassadors

Teresa Marie McGonagill (2016–2017)

Pro Bono Achievement Award

William Jack Peterson

Chet Southworth

Individual Achievement Awards

2017 Kenneth H. Burns Award

Christan Nichole Quiroz



CONGRATULATIONS

to the Class of December 2017!

**Best of luck on the bar exam and
your future endeavors.**

Continue lighting the way!

From the 2017-2018 Texas Tech Law Student Bar Association

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The Sidebar Express monthly e-newsletter

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