



# The University of Toledo

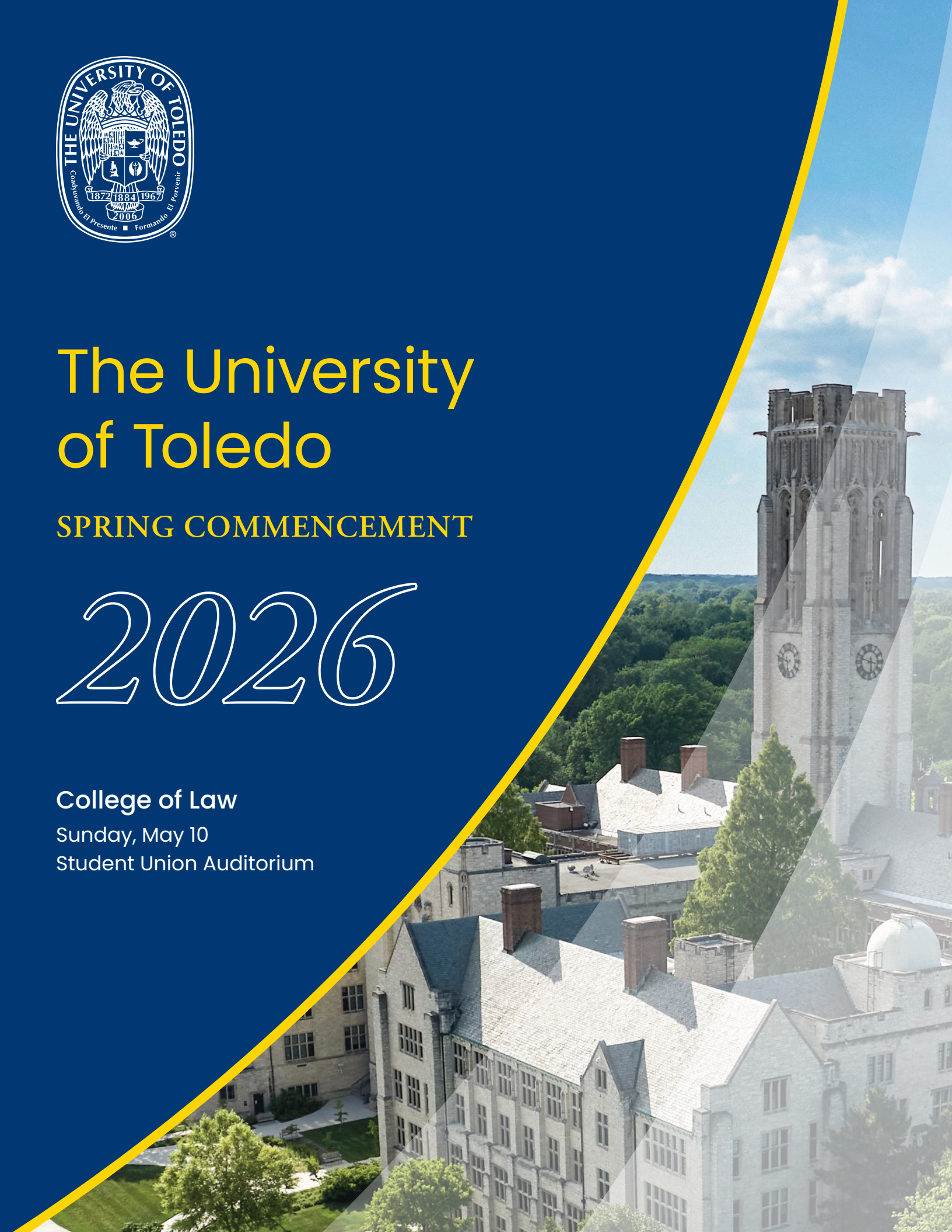
SPRING COMMENCEMENT

# 2026

College of Law

Sunday, May 10

Student Union Auditorium







## Letter from the President

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Dear graduates,

Congratulations! Today you become Rocket Alumni!

This day marks the end of an extraordinary academic journey. You have earned your place among our graduates through persistence, commitment and expansive intellectual growth.

But more importantly, today marks the Commencement of the next stage of your life, launching you on a path of service, growth, contribution and family. Today is another exciting beginning.

At The University of Toledo, your journey has been shaped by discovery, innovation and purpose. You have engaged in experiences that challenge convention, advance knowledge and connect learning to real-world impact. You have learned through study, and you have learned by doing. You leave here prepared to succeed.

As your new journey begins, I urge you to remain curious about the world and the people around you. None of us knows all, and none of us is right in every instance. New ideas, new opportunities and new challenges will continue to shape you. Never stop asking questions and seeking knowledge. It is the foundation of progress.

Your education has equipped you to act, so embrace your agency! Whether you are entering the workforce, continuing your studies or forging some other new direction, step forward with intention and resolve. Progress is driven by those who are willing to do; to build, to solve and to innovate.

You can change lives. Use your talents to contribute in the ways that are meaningful to you. Lead with integrity, collaborate with purpose, and remain committed to something greater than yourself.

You are ready for this moment.

Take time today to reflect on the journey that brought you here, including the support of family and friends, the mentorship of faculty and staff, and the shared experiences with your classmates. You are part of a community that will continue to support and inspire you long after today.

You will always be part of UToledo. With a global network of more than 173,000 alumni, Rocket Nation is a lifelong connection rooted in pride, purpose and possibility. All of these members of Rocket Nation are here for you.

As you step forward on your new road, embrace the opportunity ahead. Demonstrate The Power To Do every day.

Congratulations, and Go Rockets!

James Paul Holloway, Ph.D.  
President  
The University of Toledo

## Board of Trustees

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*Vice Chair*

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*National Trustee*

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*Student Trustee*

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## President's Cabinet

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*Interim Vice President for Marketing and Communications*

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*Strategic Advisor to the President for Community Relations*

## Deans

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Melissa Valiska Gregory, Ph.D.  
*Dean, Judith Herb College of Arts,  
Social Sciences and Education*

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*Dean, John B. and Lillian E. Neff  
College of Business and Innovation*

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*Dean, College of Engineering*

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*Dean, College of Health  
and Human Services*

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*Dean, College of Law*

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*Dean, College of Medicine  
and Life Sciences  
Vice Provost for Health Education*

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*Dean, College of Natural Sciences  
and Mathematics*

Pamela C. Heaton, Ph.D.,  
B.S.Pharm, FAPhA  
*Dean, College of Pharmacy  
and Pharmaceutical Sciences*

Thomas A. Atwood, B.A., M.L.I.S.  
*Dean, University Libraries*

# Order of Exercises

## Commencement of Law Degree Candidates

Sunday, May 10, 2026 | 1 p.m.

Student Union Auditorium

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### **Welcome**

Rebecca E. Zietlow  
*Dean, Distinguished University  
Professor and Charles W. Fornoff  
Professor of Law and Values*

### **Student Welcome**

Nevaeh D. Johnson  
*Immediate Past President,  
Student Bar Association*

### **Faculty Welcome**

Robert S. Salem  
*Clinical Professor of Law*

### **Student Address**

Nicholas Walters  
*Valedictorian*

### **Commencement Address**

Brian Goldberg  
*Class of 1985*

### **Presentation of Class**

Evan C. Zoldan  
*Associate Dean for Academic Affairs,  
John W. Stoepler Professor of Law and  
Values, Director of the Legal Institute of  
the Great Lakes*

### **Conferring of Degrees**

James Paul Holloway  
*President*

### **Recognition and Hooding of Candidates**

Rebecca E. Zietlow  
*Dean*

Evan C. Zoldan  
*Associate Dean*

### **UToledo Alumni Welcome**

Kayleigh Summerville  
*Class of 2017*

### **Closing Remarks**

Rebecca E. Zietlow  
*Dean*

### **Recessional**



## College of Law

**Rebecca E. Zietlow, J.D.**  
**Dean**

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### **Juris Doctor**

#### **Isabella Rose Agrusa**

B.A., Michigan State University

#### **Dean's List**

Fall 2025

#### **Highest Ranking**

Tax Controversy Clinic

#### **Madeline Grace Alger\*\***

*Cum Laude*

B.A., Michigan State University

#### **Dean's List**

Spring 2025

#### **Logan Marie Allen**

*Magna Cum Laude*

B.A., Olivet College

#### **Dean's List**

Fall 2023

Spring 2024

Fall 2024

Spring 2025

#### **Highest Ranking**

Legal Ethics and  
Professional Responsibility

#### **Organizations**

Law Review  
Articles Editor

#### **Laura Ann Alves\***

*Cum Laude*

B.A., Eastern Michigan University

M.S.B.A., Madonna University

#### **Dean's List**

Spring 2021

Fall 2024

#### **Highest Ranking**

Lawyering Skills II

#### **Emma A. Anderson**

B.S.B.A., Bowling Green State University

#### **Rachel E. Anderson\***

*Magna Cum Laude*

B.A., Bowling Green State University

#### **Dean's List**

Spring 2023

Fall 2023

Spring 2024

Fall 2024

Spring 2025

Fall 2025

#### **Organizations**

Law Review  
Associate Member

#### **Caileigh Angerman**

B.A., Michigan State University

#### **Organizations**

Delta Theta Phi  
Dean  
Student Bar Association  
Representative  
Special Assistant to the  
National Chancellor  
Fornoff Competition  
Finalist  
Labor and Employment  
Law Association  
President

#### **Natalie Rowene Beaverson**

B.A., Bowling Green State University

M.B.A., Bowling Green State University

#### **Dean's List**

Summer 2024

#### **Organizations**

Fornoff Competition  
Solicitor  
Best Team

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\* Graduated December 2025

\*\* Graduating August 2026

**Joel Thomas Belknap**

B.A., Kent State University

**Organizations**

Family and Juvenile Law Society  
President

**Jacob Allen Walter Benner**

*Magna Cum Laude*

B.A., The University of Toledo

**Dean’s List**

Fall 2023  
Spring 2024  
Fall 2024  
Spring 2025

**Organizations**

Law Review  
Executive Articles Editor

**Johnathon Jacob Bold**

B.A., Wayne State University

**Vincenzo L. Boraggina**

*Magna Cum Laude*

B.A., The University of Toledo

**Dean’s List**

Fall 2023  
Spring 2024  
Fall 2024  
Spring 2025  
Fall 2025

**Highest Ranking**

Lawyering Skills I  
Lawyering Skills II  
Legal Ethics and  
Professional Responsibility  
Immigration Law

**Organizations**

Law Review  
Note and Comment Editor

**Emma L. Boyer**

*Cum Laude*

B.S., Ohio University

**Dean’s List**

Fall 2024  
Spring 2025  
Fall 2025

**Organizations**

Moot Court  
Team Member  
Mock Trial  
Co-Captain  
Team Member

**Maximus Jay Brant**

*Magna Cum Laude*

B.B.A., Grand Valley State University

**Dean’s List**

Fall 2023  
Spring 2024  
Fall 2024  
Spring 2025

**Highest Ranking**

Civil Procedure-Pleading  
and Practice

**Organizations**

Law Review  
Contributing Articles Editor

**Paramaditya Chandra**

B.A., Ontario Tech University

**Patrick L. Chatterton II**

B.S., Central Michigan University

**Logan E. Clark\***

B.B.A., The University of Toledo

**Kaitlyn Nicole Coutcher**

*Magna Cum Laude*

B.S., The University of Toledo

**Dean’s List**

Fall 2022  
Spring 2023  
Fall 2023  
Spring 2024  
Summer 2024  
Summer 2025  
Fall 2025

**Highest Ranking**

Lawyering Skills I  
Lawyering Skills II  
Property-Fundamentals  
of Ownership

**Organizations**

Law Review  
Technical Editor  
Night Student Association  
President  
Vice President

**Brenden Cox**

*Cum Laude*

B.A., Michigan State University

**Dean’s List**

Spring 2024  
Spring 2025

**Wylie Rochelle Coyne**

B.A., Metropolitan State University  
Denton Scholarship

**Organizations**

Black Law Students Association  
Treasurer  
Mindful Advocates Association  
Vice President  
Sports Law Association  
Vice President  
Secretary

## College of Law

**Rebecca E. Zietlow, J.D.**  
**Dean**

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### **Jessica N. Creekmore**

*Magna Cum Laude*  
B.S.N., Middle Tennessee  
State University  
M.S.N., University of Michigan —  
Ann Arbor

#### **Dean's List**

Spring 2024  
Spring 2025

#### **Organizations**

Law Review  
Articles Editor

### **Emily Nichole Davis\***

B.S., The University of Toledo

### **Sara Elizabeth DeHaven**

*Cum Laude*  
B.S., Ohio State University

#### **Dean's List**

Fall 2023  
Summer 2024  
Spring 2025  
Fall 2025

#### **Highest Ranking**

Biotechnology and IP

#### **Organizations**

Night Student Association  
Treasurer

### **Valerie Patricia Deighton**

B.A., Muskingum University

### **Jake Richard Desotelle**

B.A., Michigan State University

### **Hanan Marie Diebert**

*Cum Laude*  
B.A., The University of Toledo  
**Dean's List**  
Fall 2023  
Spring 2024

### **Adam Grant Dodds**

B.G.S., Ball State University  
**Dean's List**  
Summer 2024

### **Andrew Dryden**

B.A., Bowling Green State University

### **Suleiman M. Elfarana**

B.S., Arizona State University

### **Zahraa Elharake**

B.A., The New School

#### **Organizations**

International Law Society  
President  
Environmental Law Society  
Co-President  
Tax and Finance Law Association  
Secretary

### **Hannah Elizabeth Elias\***

B.A., University of Michigan —  
Dearborn

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\* Graduated December 2025

\*\* Graduating August 2026

**Enaz Y. Elkhechen***Cum Laude*

B.A., The University of Toledo

**Dean's List**

Fall 2023

Spring 2024

**Highest Ranking**Property-Fundamentals  
of Ownership

Constitutional Law-Structure

**Andrew Conor Etherington***Magna Cum Laude*

B.A., Adrian College

**Dean's List**

Fall 2023

Spring 2024

Fall 2024

Spring 2025

Fall 2025

**Highest Ranking**

Evidence

**Christina G. Fuller**

B.A., The University of Toledo

**Jake Ghazar**

B.A., Wayne State University

**Lauren Marie Gibbons***Cum Laude*

B.A., Ohio State University

**Dean's List**

Fall 2023

**Organizations**

Law Review

Contributing Articles Editor

Associate Member

**William Jay Gombash***Magna Cum Laude*

B.S., The University of Toledo

M.S., University of Maryland

Global Campus

**Dean's List**

Fall 2022

Spring 2023

Fall 2023

Spring 2024

Fall 2024

Spring 2025

Fall 2025

**Highest Ranking**

Business Associations

Effective Motion Practice Seminar

**Organizations**

Law Review

Managing Editor

**Benjamin L. Greear***Cum Laude*

B.S.B.A., Concord University

**Dean's List**

Spring 2024

Fall 2024

Fall 2025

**Highest Ranking**

Death Penalty Seminar

**Megan Elizabeth Grimm***Cum Laude*

B.B.A., The University of Toledo

**Organizations**

Law Review

Executive Editor

**Zane Y. Hammoud**

B.S., Wayne State University

**Catina Harding***Magna Cum Laude*

B.A., The University of Toledo

M.S.W., The University of Toledo

**Dean's List**

Fall 2023

Spring 2024

Fall 2024

Fall 2025

**Highest Ranking**Property-Fundamentals  
of Ownership

Law of American Policing

Local Government Law

**Organizations**

Law Review

Articles Editor

**Angela Hanna Hartford\****Magna Cum Laude*

B.A., The University of Toledo

**Dean's List**

Fall 2022

Spring 2023

Fall 2023

Spring 2024

Summer 2024

Fall 2024

**Highest Ranking**

Torts

Criminal Law

NCAA Compliance and

College Sports Law

Criminal Law Simulation

# College of Law

**Rebecca E. Zietlow, J.D.**  
**Dean**

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## **Emily Ann Hollar**

*Magna Cum Laude*  
B.A., University of Findlay

### **Dean's List**

Fall 2023  
Spring 2024  
Fall 2024  
Spring 2025

### **Highest Ranking**

Civil Procedure–Jurisdiction  
Disability Law  
Immigration Law

### **Organizations**

Disability and Education  
Law Association  
Secretary

## **Kaia Marie Holmquist**

*Magna Cum Laude*  
B.S., Utah State University

### **Dean's List**

Fall 2023  
Spring 2024  
Fall 2024  
Spring 2025  
Fall 2025

### **Organizations**

Law Review  
Associate Member

## **Blake Allen Hornyak**

*Magna Cum Laude*  
B.A., Miami University

### **Dean's List**

Fall 2023  
Spring 2024

## **Jenna Anne Hotchkiss**

B.A., Ohio Wesleyan University

### **Organizations**

Delta Theta Phi  
Customs Chair  
Environmental Law Society  
President  
Student Bar Association  
Class Representative

## **Caelan Louise Hunt**

*Cum Laude*  
B.A., Michigan State University

### **Dean's List**

Summer 2025

## **Amjed Bassam Jadallah\***

*Cum Laude*  
B.S.N., Wayne State University  
M.S.N., University of Michigan –  
Ann Arbor

## **Nevaeh D. Johnson**

*Cum Laude*  
B.A., Bowling Green State University

### **Dean's List**

Spring 2024  
Fall 2025

### **Highest Ranking**

Wrongful Convictions Seminar

## **Alexander B. Joslyn**

B.A., University of Cincinnati

## **Carl Oscar Kasch**

B.A., University of Notre Dame

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\* Graduated December 2025

\*\* Graduating August 2026

**Rafal Salim Kenetha**

B.B.A., Walsh College

**Dean's List**

Fall 2025

**Highest Ranking**

Secured Transactions

**Lance Kamren Kern**

B.S.B.A., Bowling Green State University

M.B.A., Bowling Green State University

**Holly Elizabeth Kevern**

B.A., University of Dayton

**Highest Ranking**

Wrongful Convictions Seminar

**Jacob Alexander Kirkpatrick**

B.A., Ashland University

**Nicole Anne Koppel**

B.A., Clark University

**Dean's List**

Spring 2023

Spring 2025

**Aaron D. Korpai**

*Magna Cum Laude*

B.S., Eastern Michigan University

**Dean's List**

Fall 2023

Spring 2024

Fall 2025

**Organizations**

Law Review

Contributing Articles Editor

**Kelly A. Kramer**

*Magna Cum Laude*

B.A., Eastern Michigan University

**Dean's List**

Fall 2023

Spring 2024

Fall 2024

Spring 2025

Fall 2025

**Organizations**

Disability and Education

Law Association

President

**Jacob Jerrime Krueger**

B.A., Miami University

**Tasia Lane**

B.A., The University of Toledo

M.B.A., The University of Toledo

**Dean's List**

Spring 2025

**John G. Levendis\***

*Summa Cum Laude*

B.S., The University of Toledo

**Dean's List**

Spring 2023

Fall 2023

Spring 2024

Fall 2024

Spring 2025

Fall 2025

**Highest Ranking**

Criminal Law

Torts

Constitutional Law-Rights

Copyright Law

Intellectual Property Management,

Valuation and Licensing

Deposition Practice Simulation

Criminal Procedure-Investigations

Cannabis and Psychedelic Law

Civil Advocacy Clinic

**Certificate of Concentration**

Intellectual Property Law with

Distinction

**Organizations**

Federal Bar Association

Vice President

**Xiaojun Li**

B.S., University of Electronic Science and Technology of China

J.M., Jiangxi University of Finance and Economics

LL.M., Pennsylvania State University

# College of Law

**Rebecca E. Zietlow, J.D.**  
**Dean**

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## **Adam Liske**

B.A., Adrian College

### **Dean's List**

Fall 2024

Fall 2025

## **Edward Jackson Maksimczak**

*Magna Cum Laude*

B.S., Arizona State University

### **Dean's List**

Fall 2023

Spring 2024

Fall 2024

Summer 2025

### **Organizations**

Law Review

Symposium Editor

## **Madeline E. McCartan**

*Cum Laude*

B.A., Canisius College

### **Dean's List**

Fall 2024

Spring 2025

Fall 2025

### **Highest Ranking**

Criminal Law

### **Organizations**

Delta Theta Phi

Professional Development Chair

Women's Law Student Association

President

## **Zachary J. McKenna\***

B.A., The University of Toledo

### **Dean's List**

Fall 2023

Fall 2024

## **Morgan Abigale-Lynn Miller**

*Summa Cum Laude*

B.A., The University of Toledo

### **Dean's List**

Fall 2023

Spring 2024

Fall 2024

Spring 2025

### **Highest Ranking**

Civil Procedure-Pleading  
and Practice

Lawyering Skills I

Torts

Constitutional Law-Structure

Lawyering Skills II

Property-Transactions and  
Land Use

Negotiation: Theory and Strategy

Public Sector Labor Law Seminar

### **Organizations**

Delta Theta Phi

Member

Law Review

Contributing Symposium Editor

## **Belal Adnan Mouhajer**

B.S.B.A., Wayne State University

### **Organizations**

Business Law Society

Secretary

Middle Eastern North African Law

Student Association

President

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\* Graduated December 2025

\*\* Graduating August 2026

**Kelsey Ann Moyer**

*Magna Cum Laude*  
B.S., Michigan Technological  
University

**Dean's List**

Fall 2023  
Fall 2024  
Spring 2025  
Fall 2025

**Highest Ranking**

Lawyering Skills I  
Patent Practice and  
Procedure

**Organizations**

Law Review  
Articles Editor  
Associate Member

**Autumn Nicole Nash-Theiss\***

*Magna Cum Laude*  
B.A., The University of Toledo

**Dean's List**

Fall 2023  
Spring 2024  
Fall 2024  
Spring 2025  
Fall 2025

**Highest Ranking**

Lawyering Skills II  
Immigration Law

**Kelly U. Nnowalue\***

B.S., Grand Canyon University  
**Certificate of Concentration**  
Criminal Law

**Sarah Caitlyn Oakley**

B.A., Indiana University —  
Bloomington

**Dean's List**

Spring 2025  
Fall 2025

**Highest Ranking**

Trial Practice

**Organizations**

Delta Theta Phi  
Tribune  
Mock Trial  
Best Witness  
Team Member

**Anthony Edward Pacini**

B.A., Ashland University

**Alondra Placencia-Romo**

B.A., The University of Toledo

**Highest Ranking**

Advanced Immigrant Justice Clinic

**Jake Spencer Riem**

B.A., Michigan State University

**Dean's List**

Fall 2025

**Jimi Lyn Riley**

B.A., Lourdes University  
M.B.A., Lourdes University

**Maria Katherine Rogaski**

B.A., University of North Carolina —  
Wilmington  
B.S., University of North Carolina —  
Wilmington

**Dean's List**

Summer 2024

**Highest Ranking**

Pretrial Litigation Seminar

**Matthew Charles Scheneman**

*Magna Cum Laude*  
B.A., Hope College

**Dean's List**

Fall 2023  
Spring 2024  
Fall 2025

**Highest Ranking**

Lawyering Skills II  
Jurisprudence and Modern  
Legal Thought Seminar

**Organizations**

Fornoff Competition  
Co-Coordinator  
Finalist  
Barrister  
Best Team  
Law Review  
Note and Comment Editor  
Associate Member

**Tatiana Shaheen**

*Summa Cum Laude*  
B.S., Ohio State University

**Dean's List**

Fall 2023  
Spring 2024  
Fall 2024  
Spring 2025  
Fall 2025

**Highest Ranking**

Contracts I  
Lawyering Skills I  
Criminal Law  
Business Associations  
Civil Procedure-Jurisdiction  
Evidence  
Advanced Evidence

**Organizations**

Law Review  
Articles Editor

## College of Law

**Rebecca E. Zietlow, J.D.**  
**Dean**

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### **Isabella Rose Sherman**

*Cum Laude*

B.S., Central Michigan University

#### **Dean's List**

Fall 2023

Fall 2024

Fall 2025

### **Mohamad Ali Soueidan**

B.A., Wayne State University

### **Michael Taylor Stewart**

B.S., Ferris State University

### **Matthew Thomas Streitenberger**

B.A., Indiana University Purdue

University – Indianapolis

### **Hailey J. Swartwood**

*Cum Laude*

B.A., Eastern Michigan University

#### **Dean's List**

Fall 2023

#### **Organizations**

Mock Trial

Best Attorney

### **Salman S. Syed\*\***

B.A., University of Arizona

Global Campus

### **Joshua J. Valiquette**

*Cum Laude*

B.A., Michigan State University

#### **Dean's List**

Fall 2023

Spring 2024

Spring 2025

Fall 2025

#### **Highest Ranking**

Lawyering Skills I

Lawyering Skills II

### **Lauren Le Wall**

*Cum Laude*

B.A., Ohio State University

#### **Dean's List**

Fall 2023

Spring 2024

Fall 2024

Spring 2025

#### **Organizations**

Asian Pacific American Law

Student Association

President

Law Review

Editor-in-Chief

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\* Graduated December 2025

\*\* Graduating August 2026

**Nicholas Donald Walters**

*Summa Cum Laude*

B.S.B.A., Ohio State University

**Dean’s List**

Fall 2023

Spring 2024

Fall 2024

Spring 2025

**Highest Ranking**

Lawyering Skills I

Torts

Contracts II

Lawyering Skills II

Constitutional Law–Rights

Federal Income Tax

Business Enterprise Tax

Criminal Procedure–Investigations

Employment Law

Family Law

**Organizations**

Law Review

Executive Editor

**Brian Michael Ward\*\***

B.S., Illinois State University

**Organizations**

Sports Law Association

President

**Joshua Daniel Whitaker**

*Summa Cum Laude*

B.S., University of California –

Riverside

**Dean’s List**

Spring 2023

Fall 2023

Spring 2024

Fall 2024

Spring 2025

**Highest Ranking**

Contracts I

**Organizations**

Federal Bar Association

President

Law Review

Associate Member

**Mya Grace Wright**

*Cum Laude*

B.A., Notre Dame College

**Dean’s List**

Fall 2023

Spring 2024

Fall 2024

Spring 2025

**Organizations**

Law Review

Executive Editor

**Kyle Patrick Martinez Yerg**

B.A., The University of Toledo

**Organizations**

Latino Law Student Association

President

**Aisha A. Younas\*\***

B.S., University of Detroit Mercy

## College of Law

**Rebecca E. Zietlow, J.D.**  
**Dean**

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### Joint Degrees

#### Joint J.D./M.B.A.

Madeline Grace Alger\*\*  
Christina G. Fuller

### Degrees with Honors

#### Summa Cum Laude

John G. Levendis\*  
Morgan Abigale-Lynn Miller  
Tatiana Shaheen  
Nicholas Donald Walters  
Joshua Daniel Whitaker

#### Magna Cum Laude

Logan Marie Allen  
Rachel E. Anderson\*  
Jacob Allen Walter Benner  
Vincenzo L. Boraggina  
Maximus Jay Brant  
Kaitlyn Nicole Coutcher  
Jessica N. Creekmore  
Andrew Conor Etherington  
William Jay Gombash  
Catina Harding  
Angela Hanna Hartford\*  
Emily Ann Hollar  
Kaia Marie Holmquist  
Blake Allen Hornyak  
Aaron D. Korpall  
Kelly A. Kramer  
Edward Jackson Maksimczak  
Kelsey Ann Moyer  
Autumn Nicole Nash-Theiss\*  
Matthew Charles Scheneman

### Cum Laude

Madeline Grace Alger\*\*  
Laura Ann Alves\*  
Emma L. Boyer  
Brenden Cox  
Sara Elizabeth DeHaven  
Hanan Marie Diebert  
Enaz Y. Elkhechen  
Lauren Marie Gibbons  
Benjamin L. Greear  
Megan Elizabeth Grimm  
Caelan Louise Hunt  
Amjed Bassam Jadallah\*  
Nevaeh D. Johnson  
Madeline E. McCartan  
Isabella Rose Sherman  
Hailey J. Swartwood  
Joshua J. Valiquette  
Lauren Le Wall  
Mya Grace Wright

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\* Graduated December 2025

\*\* Graduating August 2026



## College of Law Faculty and Professional Staff

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### Administration

Rebecca E. Zietlow, J.D., B.A.  
*Dean, Distinguished University  
Professor, and Charles W. Fornoff  
Professor of Law and Values*

Evan C. Zoldan, J.D., B.A.  
*Associate Dean for Academic Affairs  
and John W. Stoepler Professor of  
Law and Values*

Kate E. Carollo, J.D., B.A.  
*Assistant Dean for Student Affairs*

Heather S. Karns, M.B.A., M.Ed., B.A.  
*Assistant Dean for Law Admissions*

Rick Goheen, J.D., M.S.L.S., B.A.  
*Assistant Dean for the LaValley  
Law Library and Associate Professor  
of Law*

Kelly J. Tomlinson, J.D., B.A.  
*Director of Academic Success and  
Bar Preparation and Associate  
Professor of Legal Writing*

### Faculty

John A. Barrett Jr., J.D., B.A.  
*Professor of Law Emeritus*

Zsea Bowmani, J.D., B.A.  
*Assistant Professor of Law*

Lesa R. Byrnes, J.D., M.A., B.A.  
*Director of Legal Writing Program  
and Professor of Legal Writing*

Shelley L. Cavalieri, J.D., B.A.  
*Charles W. Fornoff Professor of  
Law and Values*

Maara A. Fink, J.D., B.A.  
*Clinical Professor of Law*

Llewellyn J. Gibbons, J.D., LL.M., M.A., B.A.  
*Distinguished University Professor  
and Professor of Law*

Gregory M. Gilchrist, J.D., A.B.  
*Harold A. Anderson Professor of  
Law and Values*

Rick Goheen, J.D., M.S.L.S., B.A.  
*Assistant Dean for the LaValley  
Law Library and Associate  
Professor of Law*

David T. Harold, J.D., M.A., B.A.  
*Assistant Professor of Law*

Candice L. Kline, J.D., M.B.A., B.A.  
*Assistant Professor of Law*

Jessica A. Knouse, J.D., LL.M., B.A.  
*Professor of Law*

Deborah P. Machalow, J.D., B.A.  
*Assistant Professor of Law*

Adrian A. McKinney, J.D., M.P.A., B.A.  
*Assistant Professor of Law*

Eugenio Mollo, Jr., J.D., B.A.  
*Clinical Associate Professor of Law  
and Director of the Immigrant  
Justice Clinic*

Marilyn F. Preston, J.D., B.A.  
*Professor of Legal Writing*

Robert S. Salem, J.D., B.A.  
*Clinical Professor of Law*

Jeffrey M. Schmitt, J.D., B.A.  
*Professor of Law*

Joseph E. Slater, Ph.D., J.D., B.A.  
*Distinguished University Professor  
and Eugene N. Balk Professor of  
Law and Values*

Glenys P. Spence, J.D., LL.M., B.A.  
*Assistant Professor of Law*

Jason P. Steed, Ph.D., J.D., M.F.A., B.A.  
*Assistant Professor of Law*

Katharine T. Talbott, J.D., B.A.  
*Assistant Professor of Legal Writing*

Kelly J. Tomlinson, J.D., B.A.  
*Director of Academic Success and  
Bar Preparation and Associate  
Professor of Legal Writing*

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*Dean, Distinguished University  
Professor, and Charles W. Fornoff  
Professor of Law and Values*

Evan C. Zoldan, J.D., B.A.  
*Associate Dean for Academic Affairs,  
John W. Stoepler Professor of Law and  
Values, Director of the Legal Institute of  
the Great Lakes*

## **Lecturers in Law**

Mark S. Barnes, J.D., B.A.

Christopher L. Bourell, J.D., LL.M., B.A.

Claire R. Cahoon, J.D., B.A.

Shelby J. Cully, J.D., B.A.

Hon. Myron C. Duhart II, J.D., B.A.

Paul Finkelman, Ph.D., B.A.

Nathan Goetting, J.D., M.A., B.A.G.E.

Brian C. Goodell, J.D., B.A.

Donna M. Grill, J.D., B.S.

Maggie Humphrey, J.D., B.A.

Katherine Hunt Thomas, J.D., B.A.

Rena S. Leizerman, J.D., B.A.

John D. Mackewich, J.D., B.S.

Charles R. McDonald, J.D., B.A.

Hon. Joseph V. McNamara, J.D., B.A.

Gabriella Mickel, J.D., LL.M., M.E.M., B.S., B.A.

Thomas Moga, J.D., M.A., B.S., B.A.

James Nusbaum, J.D., B.A.

E. Kirk Ross, J.D., M.A., B.S., B.A.

Kayleigh Summerville, J.D., B.S.

Jacob M. Ward, J.D., B.S.



## History of The College of Law

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The College of Law, started by the downtown Toledo YMCA in 1906, became affiliated with The University of Toledo in 1909. From 1922–27, the college was a department of the University's former College of Arts and Sciences. In 1927, it was reestablished as the College of Law. The American Bar Association (ABA) granted provisional approval and later full approval in 1941. The college was admitted to membership in the Association of American Law Schools (AALS) in the fall of 1941. Toledo was the first part-time law school to earn approval from the ABA and membership in the AALS.

Charles W. Fornoff joined the College of Law faculty in 1938. During Dean Fornoff's tenure, enrollment and faculty grew, and the school moved from University Hall to more commodious space on the upper floors of the then-University Library (now Gillham Hall). The school's intra-school moot court arguments – the Fornoff Competition – and the Fornoff Society are named in his honor.

The College of Law admitted its first class of full-time students in 1963, ending 57 years of operating only as a part-time, evening-division school.

During the tenure of Dean Karl Krastin, from 1963–76, enrollment and faculty increased threefold. The law library collection expanded rapidly, and, in 1969, The University of Toledo Law Review began publication. During the late 1960s, the college became extensively involved in clinical legal education and is now a nationally recognized pioneer in this field. One of the highlights of Dean Krastin's tenure was construction and dedication of the badly needed Law Center building, which was completed in 1972. In 1983, the college became only the second law school nationally with both day and evening programs to be awarded a chapter of the Order of the Coif.

The current dean of the College of Law, Rebecca E. Zietlow, Distinguished University Professor and Fornoff Professor of Law and Values, was appointed in 2025. She previously served as associate dean for academic affairs for the College of Law and has been a member of the law faculty since 1995. She is the first woman to hold the position.

These achievements establish a foundation for greater success in the future. The college and those associated with it are indebted to those who came before, whose efforts made these and future accomplishments possible.

## **Honors Criteria**

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### **Summa Cum Laude**

- Graduation with Highest Honors
- Highest Honors are awarded to students with an average of at least 3.9 on a 4.0 scale. This is equivalent to an “A” average.

### **Magna Cum Laude**

- Graduation with High Honors
- High Honors are awarded to students with an average of at least 3.6 on a 4.0 scale. This is equivalent to an “A-” average or above.

### **Cum Laude**

- Graduation with Honors
- Honors are awarded to students with an average of at least 3.3 on a 4.0 scale. This is equivalent to a “B+” average or above.

### **Dean’s List**

- Recognition of students earning a 3.5 grade point average or higher with a minimum of ten semester hours if full-time or a minimum of eight semester hours if part-time during the fall and spring terms; and a minimum of six semester hours for all students during the summer term.

### **Highest Ranking**

- Recognition of students receiving the highest grade in a law course.

## Academic Dress

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Academic dress was first used in medieval universities in Europe, having evolved from the attire of members of the monastic orders who were the chief scholars of that time. Many varieties of gowns, headdresses and hoods have been used, but beginning around 1895, colleges and universities in the U.S. developed a code that most institutions follow.

### The Gown

The gown is black and white, traditionally serge, worsted, poplin or silk, and often made of modern fibers. Sleeves for the bachelor's gown are pointed, for the master's closed with slits for the arms, and for the doctor's round and open. The doctor's gown has a velvet facing and three velvet bars on the sleeves, either black or the color stipulated for the degree held.

### The Hood

The hood originated from the tippet or shoulder covering worn by begging friars. The master's hood is narrower and more pointed than the doctor's hood. Hoods are lined with the colors of the institution from which the degree was earned and are edged with the velvet of a color designating the degree.

### The Cap

The cap most commonly worn is the black mortarboard. Doctor's caps usually have gold tassels. Others may have black or colored tassels, the latter indicating the field of study.

There are variations, both in hood and headdress, for the degrees earned in foreign countries. Some American universities also have distinguishing academic dress. Holders of doctoral degrees from The University of Toledo and members of its Board of Trustees are entitled to wear the official University of Toledo doctoral costume, adopted by the Board of Trustees on June 11, 1968, at the request of the Graduate Student Association and the graduate faculty.

The University of Toledo doctoral costume is in the official colors of the University. The robe is of midnight blue faille, with black velvet panels and bars outlined in gold. There is a choice of headgear – the mortarboard in blue or the black velvet tam, each with a gold tassel. The hood of black faille is lined with the colors of the University – midnight blue and gold.

Color of trimming for the doctor's gown and for the doctor's and master's hood and the field of learning represented are: white, arts and letters; sapphire blue or drab, business administration; light blue, education; orange, engineering; brown, fine arts; purple, jurisprudence; lemon, library science; green, medicine; pink, music; olive, pharmacy; dark blue, philosophy; and yellow, science.

## **Cords**

Red, white and blue military honor cords recognize graduates who have served or are currently serving in the U.S. Armed Forces. Additionally, the College of Law grants cords for Law School Organizations

- Student Bar Association – Wisteria Purple
- Law Review – White
- Mock Trial – Maroon
- Moot Court – White and Gold
- Delta Theta Phi – Kelly Green and White
- Criminal Law Society – Black and Silver
- Women Law Student Association – Pink
- Latino Law Student Association – Yellow and Red
- Environmental Law Society – Green, Silver, and Blue
- Middle Eastern and North African Law Student Association – Kelly Green, White, and Red
- Sports Law – Light Blue and White
- OUTLaw – Rainbow
- Family Law – Blue and Purple
- Labor and Employment Law Association – Royal Blue and White
- Public Interest Law Association – Purple and Silver
- International Law Society LS – Purple and White
- Black Law Student Association – Black and Gold
- Intellectual Property Law Society – Red
- Disability and Education Law Association – Light Blue
- Night Student Association – Purple and Gray
- Mindful Advocates Association – Sage Green and White
- Leadership Scholars – Peacock Blue
- Business Law Society – Maroon and White





**THE POWER TO DO**