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## 2005 Winter Public Record

Loyola Law School - Los Angeles

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# PUBLIC Record

Winter 2005

## Loyola Law School Reaches Out

THE LOYOLA LAW COMMUNITY pulled together to assist those affected by Hurricane Katrina by welcoming students from New Orleans law schools; launching food, clothing and fundraising drives; participating in legal clinics; and even traveling to help with direct relief efforts.

Four students from New Orleans—three from Tulane University School of Law and one from Loyola New Orleans School of Law—joined the Loyola campus in early September. The students were welcomed to Loyola at an orientation session on September 6th, which was followed by an interfaith service in the Chapel of the Advocate and a school-wide barbecue. Additionally, an impressive number of alumni and students were quick to offer shelter, housing, transportation and financial support, and Los Angeles-area law firms also contacted the school with generous offers of support.

"In spite of being uprooted from the city that care forgot, Loyola Law School has been nothing short of phenomenal in this difficult time," said Amber Dattilo of Tulane. "The administration, faculty, staff and students have shown overwhelming support and encouragement."

In addition to opening classes to affected students, Loyola Law School faculty and students are working with organizations like the Los Angeles Pro Bono Counsel, Bet Tzedek and Public Counsel to provide legal assistance to those who were evacuated to Los Angeles. Also, long-time Loyola Law staff member and Mississippi native Art Rennick volunteered with the American Red Cross in the Gulf Coast.

Of the School's efforts, Dean David Burcham '84 said: "I am very pleased to welcome the students from New Orleans and I am very impressed with how our students, staff, faculty and alumni pulled together so quickly to help out. As always, they worked hard to put the School's ideals into action."



## Loyola JDs in Non-Legal Careers

Why attend law school if not to practice law? Law librarians, entrepreneurs, talent and sports agents, legal and executive recruiters and tax consultants are good examples of those who benefit from a juris doctor.

A legal education is both challenging and broadening. Research and writing, public speaking, critical thinking, attention to detail and understanding regulatory frameworks (like zoning and code requirements) are just some of the skills developed in law school that are transferable to non-legal careers. "The JD gives professionals credibility. Also, the ability to draft specialized business contracts for employment, leases and purchases and sales, for example, is a useful skill for an entrepreneur," said Graham Sherr, assistant dean for career services at Loyola.

Many Loyola Law School graduates chose non-legal careers, including **Christopher A. Calarco '97**, a special agent with the FBI in Los Angeles, and **Christopher W. Silva '89** (LMU '86), president and chief executive officer of St. Francis Winery & Vineyards in Santa Rosa.

Even while attending Loyola, Calarco hoped for a career with the FBI and interned with the Bureau. Following graduation, he worked as a deputy district attorney in LA and waded through the FBI's lengthy application process. He was later offered a position with the FBI and now serves on its Violent Crime Squad (VCS) and its eight-member, rapid deployment Art Crime Team (ACT).

Calarco's work with the VCS includes investigating kidnappings, extortion, murders-for-hire, major thefts and assaults against federal officers and judges. His assignments with ACT cover cultural property crimes concerning stolen artifacts, antiquities and fine art. One of his team's most recent accomplishments was recovering a \$40 million Rembrandt through a sting operation in Copenhagen.

*Continued on p.2*

# Direct Examination

## LOYOLA LAW SCHOOL CONGRATULATES ALUMNAE RECOGNIZED AS AMONG CALIFORNIA'S TOP 75 WOMEN LITIGATORS

Nancy Sher Cohen '78  
Marcia J. Harris '77  
Janet I. Levine '80  
Susan Lopez-Giss '74  
Ami Fisch Solomon '87  
Christine D. Spagnoli '86  
Teresa R. Tracy '79

(Los Angeles Daily Journal, September 2005)

**1962 John P. McNicholas III** was sworn in for a three-year term to the Board of Governors for the State Bar of California. McNicholas is a partner in McNicholas & McNicholas.

**1972 James Jay Seltzer** lives part-time between Pebble Beach and Belvedere Island in Marin County, and often travels to Asia and Western Europe.

**1974 Robert Guerra** was honored in September by the California State Bar Association for his volunteer work. Guerra offers legal assistance to Spanish-speaking immigrants, many of whom are farmworkers, day laborers and food service workers. **L. Christine Manolakas** was named associate dean for academic affairs at the University of the Pacific McGeorge School of Law. **M. Carmen Ramirez** was sworn in to a three-year term with the State Bar of California's Board of Governors. Ramirez has devoted her entire career to providing legal assistance to the poor of Ventura and Santa Barbara.

**1977 J. Michael Dwyer** was named to the board of directors for the Multnomah Bar Association (MBA), a professional organization for lawyers. Dwyer, who practices in the areas of personal injury, family law and mediation as a partner with Dwyer & Miller LLP, chairs MBA's Court Liaison Committee, volunteers with its Mentor Program and is past chair of its Judicial Screening Committee. **Lawrence E. Leone** was appointed partner with Trope and Trope in Los Angeles, specializing in complex family law litigation. **Richard P. Longaker** was elected president of the Board of Trustees for the Santa Monica Bar Association for 2005-06.

**1978 Jay T. Rubin** recently started his own firm, Rubin & Vasquez, LLP, which specializes in civil litigation.

**1980 Paul Irving**, chief executive officer and managing partner at Manatt, Phelps & Phillips, was appointed to the executive committee of Operation HOPE Inc., a nonprofit social investment bank that works to revitalize inner-city communities.

**1981 Joel B. Weinberg**, a partner with ASK Financial, made the cover of the October 2005 *Los Angeles Lawyer*. His article in the magazine, "Debtor Beware," assesses key aspects of the Bankruptcy Abuse Prevention and Consumer Protection Act of 2005. Weinberg is a member of Loyola's adjunct faculty, teaching bankruptcy law.

**1982 Susan Goddard** and her sister and law partner Jo Anna, of Goddard and Goddard in Denver, were featured in the *Rocky Mountain News* article "All in the Family Rings True at Twins' LoDo Law Office" on August 27. **Gregory R. Vanni** of Thon, Beck & Vanni was sworn in as president of the Pasadena Bar Association in October.

**1986 Steven L. Krongold** helped win a \$21 million jury verdict against UPS for wrongful termination, one of the largest such verdicts in the Norwalk Courthouse. **Alan I. Nahmias** was elected by the Commercial Law League of America to its Board of Governors. A partner with Plotkin, Rapoport and Nahmias, he is a 16-year member of the League and is immediate past chair of its Bankruptcy Section.

**1987 David L. Rukstalis, Jr.** recently held the grand opening of the Law Offices of David L. Rukstalis, Jr., located in Los Angeles.

**1994 Lieutenant Colonel Kurt Schlichter**, a partner at Gunderson, Schlichter, Shonack & Handel, LLP in Manhattan Beach, was called to active duty as a US Army infantry officer and assigned to the Kosovo peacekeeping mission.

**1995 Brian Cullen**, a former deputy city attorney in Hesperia, joined Skousen & Skousen as an associate. He practices real estate and transactional law in the firm's Los Angeles and San Bernardino offices. **Brett Hayes** joined the Los Angeles office of Seyfarth Shaw LLP as a lateral partner in the firm's real estate group.

**1996 Miranda Dempsey**, who specializes in criminal defense and professional license defense, recently opened the doors of the Dempsey Law Group in Irvine. **Lamdien "Dien" Le** was named a partner with Sullivan Taketa LLP in Westlake Village

and is one of 12 attorneys selected statewide to participate in the State Bar's Access and Fairness Leadership Academy.

**1997 Nadav Ravid** was elected a shareholder at Buchalter, Nemer, Fields & Younger. Ravid specializes in real estate, and also teaches courses with UCLA Extension. **Astrid R. Spain** was elected partner at McDermott Will & Emery. Her practice includes all aspects of intellectual property law.

**1998 Linda J. Gullede** left Paul, Hastings, Janofsky & Walker LLP in San Francisco to open Gullede Law Group in Ventura, an employment law boutique, with her husband, K. Woody Gullede. **Mario D. Vega** and **Christopher Overton** formed the law firm Vega & Overton LLP on Olympic Boulevard in Los Angeles. They are joined by **Beatriz Pelayo-Garcia '04**. The firm specializes in business, real estate, estate planning and family law.

**1999 Laura Overton** is corporate counsel for Sun Healthcare Group, a national healthcare provider, and was named to the Board of Directors of Hope International University in Fullerton. **Major Jim Winner** was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal for his three years of distinguished service as an appellate defense counsel for the Air Force Legal Services Agency, where he represented hundreds of Air Force members before the Air Force Court of Criminal Appeals, the US Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces and the US Supreme Court. Winner was recently reassigned to serve as deputy staff judge advocate for the 49th Fighter Wing at Holloman Air Force Base in New Mexico.

**2000 Andrew E. Cooper** was appointed a deputy district attorney for Los Angeles County. **R. Todd Zink** was selected for the second consecutive year as a Rising Star by the Super Lawyers of Southern California. Zink is a deputy district attorney for LA County, Compton Court, and continues to serve as a major in the US Marine Corps Reserve.

**2004 Jason N. Bernstein** successfully completed the Arizona Bar Examination in February and is now a member of both the California and Arizona Bar Associations.

**ENGAGEMENTS & MARRIAGES** **Sheila Maria Pistone '91** married Peter Pirzadeh, a civil engineer, in a ceremony in Maui on September 10, 2005. **David Graeler '98** and **Michele Garrett '04** are engaged to wed in summer 2006. Graeler is an associate at Nossaman, Guthner, Knox & Elliot and Garrett is an associate at Lewis, Brisbois, Bisgaard & Smith.

**BIRTH CERTIFICATES** **Charles H. Smith '85**, his wife Barbi and son Taylor welcomed their daughter Emma Charlotte, born on July 12, 2005. **Greg Dorfman '99** and **Arlene Dorfman '00** announce the birth of their son Matthew, born on January 24, 2005. **Dina E. Belenky '01**, husband Vladimir Lenchitsky and son Jonathan announce the arrival of their son David, born on August 18, 2005. **Matthew Swanlund '99** and wife Amanda welcome the arrival of their son, Stellan Carter Swanlund, on September 17, 2005. **Anne Choi Goodwin '01** and her husband Daniel announce the arrival of twin boys, John Daniel Goodwin and Charles Fremont Goodwin, born on September 27, 2005.

**JUDICIAL REVIEW** **Hon. Irma J. Brown-Dillon '73** was honored by the Asian-American Drug Abuse Program. Brown-Dillon, who sits on the Inglewood Juvenile Drug Court, was recognized for her participation in a pilot program stressing rehabilitation over detention. **Hon. Raul Canela Pardo '73** was appointed a lifetime federal administrative law judge with the Social Security Administration. **Graciela Freixes '80** of Agajanian, McFall, Weiss, Tetreault & Crist LLP was elected a Los Angeles Superior Court commissioner. **Comm. Glenn Mondo '84** and **Comm. Max DeLiema '74** were elected commissioners with the Orange County Superior Court. **Hon. Keith Schulner '92**, who took charge of his late father's law office in Ventura County, was promoted to administrative law judge II, specializing in employment tax and unemployment and disability insurance issues. Schulner earned the second highest promotional exam result in California on the most recent exam, making him the youngest judge in California on the Unemployment Insurance Appeals Board to receive this promotion.

**IN MEMORIAM** **Richard Saulque '51** passed away in May 2005. **Max Halfon '72**, a retired civil engineer and lawyer, died on August 8, 2005 in Oceanside. A native of the Bronx, Halfon served in World War II as a ship's radio operator with the US Merchant Marines. He is survived by his wife, Arline, a daughter and son, and three grandchildren. **Susan Roberts O'Brien '73** passed away on August 5, 2005. Born in Cambridge, O'Brien was an assistant county counsel in Ventura. She served on the Parent Teacher Associations at her children's schools, was active in numerous charities and was an avid tennis player. O'Brien is survived by her husband, a daughter, son and mother.

**CORRECTION** In the Direct Examination column in the summer 2005 issue, **Bryan Cave LLP** was misspelled. The *Public Record* regrets the error.

# EVENTS WRAP-UP



LOYOLA HONORS SAN DIEGO-AREA ALUMNUS WITH DISTINGUISHED CAREER AWARD

Graduates living or working in the San Diego area

attended an alumni reception hosted by **Dean David W. Burcham '84** on Saturday, September 10, 2005 at the San Diego Marriott Hotel. **Neal E. Schmale '74**, executive vice president and chief financial officer of Semptra Energy, was recognized during the evening for his distinguished career. The reception was well-attended and coincided with the State Bar of California's annual meeting.



LOYOLA LAW SCHOOL HOSTS ANNUAL BOB COONEY GOLF TOURNAMENT

This year's annual Bob Cooney Golf Tournament

welcomed the largest number of participants in its history. The sold-out event, held September 18, 2005 at Coyote Hills Golf Course in Fullerton, began with a shotgun start. There was also a putting contest, a \$1 million dollar shoot-out, a reception and an awards dinner. Golfer Rochelle N. Edwards's hole-in-one earned her a custom-made Nike driver—it was the first-ever hole-in-one in the tournament's 20 year history. The Law Firm Challenge trophy was awarded to the Public Sector Team, which included the **Hon. John Meigs '78, Terrell Powell '75, Travis Williams '75** and **Charles Newman**. The trophy is proudly displayed in Judge Meigs's chambers. Proceeds from the tournament, chaired by **Ami Silverman '87**, benefit the Cancer Legal Resource Center, a joint program of Loyola Law School and the Western Law Center for Disability Rights.

*Continued from p. 1*

The thought of a traditional law job, with a set schedule, never appealed to Calarco. "I like traveling," he says. "I want to see the world, and since the FBI has offices around the globe, I have that opportunity." He is open to variety and new challenges, and looks forward to a potential long-term assignment abroad.

Christopher Silva is a fifth-generation Sonoma County native, fluent in Spanish and Italian. He studied for a year at Loyola University in Rome before completing his undergraduate work at Loyola Marymount University and his juris doctor at Loyola Law School.

After law school, Silva worked for three years as a litigation attorney in Los Angeles before returning to Santa Rosa, his hometown, where he worked as a litigation and trial attorney for Lanahan & Reilley LLP. When he was offered a position with the marketing and management division of St. Francis Winery, Silva knew it was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, and retired from his legal career. He rose quickly to COO, then CEO and president. "My move to St. Francis is a classic example of never knowing what the next chapter in life might bring," said Silva. "I never pictured



**SANTA ANA ALUMNI CHAPTER HOSTS LUNCHEON AT BOWERS MUSEUM**  
Loyola Law School's second annual Santa

Ana Alumni Luncheon was held on September 23, 2005 at the city's Bowers Museum of Cultural Art. **Dean David W. Burcham '84** welcomed alumni from the area, including members of the bench and bar. Attendees caught up with other alums and had a chance to tour the exhibits, *Evita: Up Close and Personal* and *Mummies: Death in the Afterlife*.



**CHAMPIONS OF JUSTICE TRIBUTE AND DINNER**

The Civil Justice Program at Loyola Law School honored two distinguished lawyers on Friday, September 30, 2005. **Thomas V. Girardi '64**, of Girardi and Keese, and James Brosnahan, Jr., of Morrison & Foerster, were recognized for embodying the spirit of the civil justice system. Ronald Rouda of Rouda, Feder, Tietjen & Zanobini served as MC and guest speakers included Joseph W. Cotchett, Mark Danis, Joseph Dunn, the Hon. Carlos Moreno and Los Angeles County Sheriff Lee Baca. The dinner, held at the Beverly Hills Hotel, was part of a two-day symposium, *Access to Justice: The Economics of Civil Justice*, held at the Law School.



**STUDENT/MENTOR BRUNCH**

A record number of first-year Loyola Law students signed up for the 2005 Mentor Program, which kicked off with an on-campus brunch on October 9, 2005. "This informal get-together is designed to give mentors and students a chance to meet one another," said Carmen Ramirez, executive director of advancement. The alumni mentors will offer guidance to students through their years at Loyola.



**ALUMNI GRAND REUNION HELD IN OCTOBER**  
The Grand Reunion was held at the Omni Hotel in downtown Los Angeles on October 20, 2005.

The evening began with an awards ceremony honoring **John J. Collins '61**, managing partner at Collins, Collins, Muir & Stewart, and Magistrate Judge **Carla Woehrle '77** of the US District Court. They were presented with the 2005 Distinguished Alumni Award. Also honored that evening were the Alumni Association Board of Governors' Recognition Service Award recipients **Olegario D. Cantos VII '97**, special assistant to the assistant attorney general, Civil Rights Division; **Stuart A. Liner '87**, partner at Liner Yankelevitz Sunshine & Regentstreif; and **Charles G. Smith '84**, partner at Towle, Denison, Smith & Tavera. The Hon. Dickran M. Tervizian, Jr. of the US District Court for the Central District of California was presented with the 2005 St. Thomas More Medallion. Hundreds of alumni attended the reunion to honor fellow members of the alumni community and to enjoy a wonderful evening of camaraderie.



**BENCH DEDICATED TO LATE STUDENT Roy Bokhoor '04** was remembered on September 28, 2005 with a ceremony to dedicate the Roy Bokhoor Memorial Bench, located in the Founders Hall quad. The bench and its bronze plaque honoring Bokhoor's memory are gifts from alumni and faculty.

**Did You Know?**

**IN SEPTEMBER 2005**, President Bush signed into law a temporary suspension of percentage limitations on the deductibility "qualified contributions," and a temporary suspension of the 3% reduction of itemized deductions with respect to qualified contributions. "Qualified contributions" is defined as a gift made between August 28 and December 31, 2005 exclusive in the form of cash to a public charity.

**PLEASE REMEMBER**

to send your tax deductible gift to Loyola Law School by December 31, 2005!

**Top 100**  
Congratulations to those from Loyola Law School recognized as among California's Top 100 Lawyers.

- Alumni:**  
Larry R. Feldman '69  
Thomas V. Girardi '64  
Walter J. Lack '73  
Thomas J. Nolan '75  
Mark P. Robinson, Jr. '72

- Faculty:**  
Richard L. Hasen, William H. Hannon  
Distinguished Professor of Law

(Los Angeles Daily Journal, September 2005)

myself leaving the law to help manage a winery, but this was an exciting opportunity in an area and an industry that I essentially grew up with."

"I put much that I learned studying and practicing law to use each day running a winery," said Silva. His new career involves reviewing contracts, maintaining compliance with state and federal regulations, minimizing exposure in personnel matters and maintaining a safe workplace. "Good executives, like good litigators, must be quick on their feet, communicate effectively and strategize quickly based on an efficient but careful review of the facts. I think we'll continue to see more lawyers enter the business world, particularly lawyers who study and represent businesses. I wouldn't trade what I am doing now for anything, but if it all ended tomorrow I would go back to practicing law and consider myself quite fortunate to do so."

The Career Services Office at the Law School coordinates an annual panel presentation for students who are interested in learning more about non-traditional career opportunities. If you are interested in participating in future panels, please contact Carmen Ramirez, executive director of advancement, at Carmen.Ramirez@lls.edu or 213.736.1046.

**Loyola Law School Thanks Grand Reunion Sponsors**

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**SILVER SPONSORS – \$1,000**

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**BRONZE SPONSORS – \$500**

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- Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP
- Greenberg Glusker
- Gunderson, Schlichter, Shonack & Handel, LLP
- Larry Larson & Associates
- Lavi & Ebrahimian, LLP
- Law Offices of Alexandra Leichter
- Law Offices of Curiel & Parker
- Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP
- Stubbs Alderton & Markiles, LLP

LOYOLA LAW SCHOOL  
WISHES YOU A

Merry  
Christmas  
& Happy  
Holidays!

## Loyola Law School Named One of Best Law Schools by *The Princeton Review*

Loyola Law School was named one of the nation's most outstanding law schools by *The Princeton Review*. Out of 159 law schools, Loyola ranked 3rd for "Best Overall Academic Experience," 3rd for "Professors Rock" and 6th for "Best Environment for Minority Students."

Additionally, Loyola Law School scored, out of 100, a 98 in the academic experience rating; a 98 in the professors interesting rating; and a 96 in the professors accessible rating. Also noted in the profile are Loyola's "great research resources," its "abundant externship, internship and clerkship opportunities" and that "diverse opinions are accepted in the classroom."

The profile also highlights Loyola's "reputation for producing renowned litigators," its "emphasis on practical application, skills classes and real-world experience," that it has a "great reputation among employers in the Southern California area" and "a large alumni network of successful and respected lawyers in California."

On being recognized as one of the country's outstanding law schools, Dean David Burcham '84 said, "We are very pleased to be included in this survey and that our profile recognizes so many of the terrific things happening on our campus."

The rankings are based on institutional data from the schools and on surveys of 15,000 students attending the schools. The survey asked students over 50 questions and was conducted during the 2004-05 and 2003-04 academic years. The complete ranking lists are posted at [www.princetonreview.com](http://www.princetonreview.com).

## Law Firm Challenge 2005-2006

LOYOLA LAW SCHOOL IS LAUNCHING ITS LAW FIRM CHALLENGE, a fundraising initiative that targets alums at firms with a significant number of Loyola graduates. The goals of the Law Firm Challenge are to increase alumni participation at Loyola Law School and re-engage Loyola graduates in the life of their alma mater.

The Law Firm Challenge is a fundraiser that generates support for Loyola Law School by focusing on participation rate, not a monetary goal. The Law Firm Challenge emphasizes personal contributions from alumni at participating firms. An ambitious goal of reaching 100% alumni participation at 40 firms was set for the inaugural year. As of October 18, 2005, alumni at the following firms committed to participating in the 2005 Law Firm Challenge. Special thanks to alumni contacts spearheading the efforts at their respective firms, noted in parentheses.

- Buchalter, Nemer, Fields & Younger (Ann Camacho '02)
- Engstrom, Lipscomb & Lack (Elizabeth Crooke '79)
- Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher (Jeffrey LeSage '98)
- Gilbert Kelly Crowley & Jennett (Paul Bigley '84)
- Girardi & Keese (Jack Girardi '72)
- Greenberg Glusker (Hillary Bibicoff '94)
- Lewis, Brisbois, Bisgaard & Smith (Julia Sylva '83)
- Manatt, Phelps & Phillips (Ellen Berkowitz '89)
- McDermott, Will & Emery (Benjamin Hofilena '03)
- O'Melveny & Myers, LLP (Karen Rinehart '96)
- Paul Hastings (James Gilliam '03)
- Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP (Christopher Chaudoir '98)
- Prenovost, Normandin, Bergh & Dawe (Thomas R. Normandin '81)
- Sheldon & Mak (Kristin Hiibner '00)
- Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP (Jeleen Guttenberg '96)
- Stroock & Stroock & Lavan (Marian Selvaggio '02)

If you have any questions, or would like to join the Law Firm Challenge, please contact Executive Director of Advancement Carmen Ramirez at [Carmen.Ramirez@lls.edu](mailto:Carmen.Ramirez@lls.edu) or 213.736.1046.