



Class of 2026

SUFFOLK UNIVERSITY COMMENCEMENT
LAW SCHOOL

SUFFOLK UNIVERSITY
LAW SCHOOL

Commencement Exercises

SUNDAY, THE SEVENTEENTH OF MAY
TWO THOUSAND AND TWENTY-SIX
HALF-PAST FIVE O'CLOCK IN THE EVENING

LEADER BANK PAVILION
290 NORTHERN AVENUE
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

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PHOTOGRAPHY INFORMATION

A professional photographer will be taking pictures as graduates cross the stage. For more information and to order photos, contact GRADIMAGES at 1-800-261-2576 or visit gradimages.com.

PLEASE NOTE: THIS PROGRAM IS NOT AN OFFICIAL GRADUATION LIST. While every effort is made to ensure accuracy in this commencement program, printing deadlines may result in omission of some names and inclusion of names of persons not completing graduation requirements as intended. Academic honors listed in the program are based upon the earned grade-point average at the end of the spring term. Final academic honors are calculated upon degree conferral. This printed program, therefore, should not be used to determine a student's academic or degree status. Degrees and official academic honors will be awarded when all University requirements have been fulfilled.

COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES

Prelude

Boston Brass Ensemble
David Burdett, Conductor

Processional

Academic Procession

Nina Mitchell Wells, JD '76
Marshal

M. Benjamin Parsons, JD '26
Isaiah Hutchinson, JD '26
Student Marshals

Call to Commencement Exercises and Welcome

Andrew M. Perlman
Dean, Suffolk University Law School
Vice President for Academic Innovation
Professor of Law

National Anthem

Thao Nguyen, JD '26

President's Remarks

Marisa J. Kelly
President

Presentation of Candidate for Honorary Degree

Dyane L. O'Leary, JD '05
Professor of Legal Writing
Director, Legal Innovation & Technology Center

Conferring of Honorary Doctor of Laws

Commencement Address

Cheree McAlpine, JD '94
Chief Legal Officer, Zoom

Class Greetings

Crystin Mueller, JD '26

Conferring of Degrees

Closing Remarks

Andrew M. Perlman

Recessional

**KEYNOTE SPEAKER & HONORARY DEGREE RECIPIENT:
CHEREE MCALPINE, JD '94**

Cheree McAlpine, JD '94, brings more than 25 years of global legal leadership in the technology sector to her role as chief legal officer at Zoom, where she plays a key role in helping the tech company grapple with the lightning pace of technological change.

She joined the company in 2024 and oversees a worldwide team responsible for commercial, product, compliance, privacy, and regulatory matters, guiding Zoom through complex issues such as AI governance, global data regulation, and user trust and safety.

Previously, she served as senior vice president and general counsel at Intercom and held executive legal roles at Lumileds Inc., Avnet Americas, and Wyse Technology, where she managed the company's successful sale to Dell. She was named one of *Savoy's* Most Influential Lawyers in Corporate America (2024) and one of the Top 100 Diverse Leaders in Technology (2022).

McAlpine earned her law degree from Suffolk University Law School and her BA in English from the University of Alabama.



Candidates for
LAW DEGREES

THE DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF JURIDICAL SCIENCE

Abdullah Abdulaziz Alamer

Jephnei Orina

THE DEGREE OF LL.M.

Frantz Andre

Dario Camacho

Blessing Ehiagwina

Jule Kristin Giegling

Michelle Hernet Kinya Kirima

Hafsa Mahmood

Farid Mammadov

Cristiane Martins

Jennifer Mateo Meran

Najada Mersini

Giorgia Piacenti

Robyn-Lyn Piermarini

THE DEGREE OF LL.M. IN GLOBAL LAW AND TECHNOLOGY

Olesea Ciugureanu

Thritsanu Vermulst

THE DEGREE OF LL.M. IN LEGAL INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY

Jimmy Cheng

Matthew Greeley

Vallari Joshi

THE DEGREE OF LL.M. IN TAXATION

Jacob David Feinberg

Caroline Margaret Manganaro

Paige Elizabeth Smith

Benjamin Joseph Tauber

Colby Vieira

Coral Nicole Zadrozny

THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF SCIENCE IN LAW: LIFE SCIENCES

Julia Aug

Catherine Irene Colt

Erin Pauline Doane

Olivia Kearns

Neel Patel

Cameron Rothstein

Julia Marie Shaver

- Master of Business Administration
- Master of Public Administration
- Master of Science in Criminal Justice Studies
- † Pro Bono Honors
- ‡ Cum Laude
- * Accelerator to Practice Program

- ▲ Business Law & Finance Concentration
- Health & Biomedical Law Concentration
- ◆ Intellectual Property Concentration
- ▼ International Law Concentration
- Legal Innovation & Technology Concentration
- Trial & Appellate Advocacy Concentration

THE DEGREE OF JURIS DOCTOR

SUMMA CUM LAUDE

Kaia Beckerman
Johanna Deborah Esko
Marissa Honens
Matthew Charles Jacobson
Thomas Keane
Claire Allison Leukhardt Lidston

Ayden MacLeod
■ M. Benjamin Parsons
Emily Riccio
Brett William Stirling
Colby Vieira

MAGNA CUM LAUDE

Megan Leigh Busby
Christopher S. Coughlin
•• Lindsay Cullum
Meredith Garrity
Jean Marie Gibson
John Patrick Gregorek
Zachary Harris Holmes
† Hannah Hubler
† Isaiah Hutchinson

▲ Daniel S. Jordan
Timothy Dennis Keiley
Gregory Anthony Mattiaccio
Anamaria Pananas
† Chaya Pearlman
Stephen Thomas Pelland
Mary Sauerland
† John Collins Slania
Julia Vitella

• Irina Abdrabboh
‡ Sarah Aikman
Laura Ryleigh Alcock
Grant Alexander
Emily Ann Allcock
Briana Anderson
Hilary Yvonne Anderson
‡† Lianne Huan Anderson
‡ Brianna Victoria Antonioli
Ricardo Ayala
Gor Bagumyan
‡◆ Sha Bai
Michael Gian Balestra
† Chloe Gabriella Balkind
‡ Stella Baskowski
Grace Becker
† Lara Cristina Belmeni Barake
† Caroline Ben-Levy
• Taylor Marie Berberian
‡ Samuel J. Bernstein

Marlena Berro
Brianna Lynn Bolen
Emily Catherine Boudreau
Jessica Braley
▲ Jessica Brandy Braley
‡†■ John J. Brandt III
■ Victoria Kazanjian Brewster
‡ Brooke Elizabeth Leilani Bridges
‡ Sarah Grace Brouillard
Gabriella Lydia Brown
Jack Burke
Hannah Rose Burns
Nicholas Joseph Buscemi
■ Katherine Jane Busiek
Aaron Byrne
Julian Byun
Lily Calderin
Christopher Robert Canino
Will Gaston Carden
Henry Carrington

THE DEGREE OF JURIS DOCTOR

- *‡ James Carroll
- ‡ Julia Casey
Alexander Chaban
Max Chan
- † Stacey S. Charlot
Owen Brooks Chartier
- ‡ Kristin Chiu
Vernon Cisney
- † Elisabeth Manning Clagett
Maryjo Cline
- † Benjamin Cohen
Brandon Coimbra
Payton Colace
Tess Collins
- ‡■ Catherine Irene Colt
- * ‡ David Michael Colucci
Cody Corelli
Alexandria Elizabeth Cormier
- † Bailey Annabelle Cortright
Nancy Costigliola
Anthony Christopher Peter Coviello
Austin James Crabtree
Claire C. Craddock
Nicholas William Crocker
Charles Paul Crowley
Reviola Cuko
Vincent Michael Cuoco
Sarah Cusick
Sean Edward Daley
Nicholas Paul D'Amore
- † Khanh Thy Terrica Dang-Mertz
- † Alexia Maria Davos
- ◆ Jenna Elyse De Santis
- ‡ Jessica Daniela Del Duca
- ▲ Colin Campbell Denizkurt
William Dewey
Andrew Mark DiDuca
Erin Pauline Doane
Madison T. Donovan
- Maeve Doyle
- Alyssa Drake
- ‡ Grace Natalie Drost
Luke Dufresne
- ‡ Elizabeth Schneider Dunn
- ‡■ Laura Duran
- † Victoria Dutra
Tathagat Dutta Ray
Stephen Edelblut
Nina Elfakih
Jacob Engelstad
Nneamaka Esenwah
Gavin Ewing
Jacob David Feinberg
James Diego Ferstler
- † Matthew Fettig
Olivia Forman
Christina Marie Forte
- ◆ Rachel Simone Freeman
- ‡ Victoria Frick
Emma Gabel
Julia Anderson Gallop
- * Kellen Robert Gannon
Eva Gavin
Hannah Carole Gebhardt
Hannah Lee Gerrish
Madeline Elizabeth Giglio
Angie Gilces
- Zachary Gili
- Meredith Danielle Glick
Katelyn Marie Glynn
- ‡ Tyler Goddard
- ▲† Antoinette Golden
- ◆† Faye Golden
Charlotte West Golnik
Sarah Gonzalez
Olivier Gregory Gorneille
- ‡ Alec Grant
Victoria F. Gray

THE DEGREE OF JURIS DOCTOR

- Connor Mason Green
Morgan Catherine Grenier
‡ Julia Fortune Guthery
▲ Sara Elizabeth Habig
Carlina Hagger
Rayan Hamza
Maya Hancock Pezzati
Chase Harness
■ Spencer W. Harrison
■ Nicole Elisabeth Harvey
‡ Kiana Hawley
‡ Thomas Haynes
‡• John Heeran
Michael Hegarty
◆ Natalie Hendrick
Rebecca Herckner
David Hillman
‡ Derek Jason Hogel
Casey Eleanor Holmes
• Lawren Kincaid Huntley Holmes
‡ Jessica Hope
‡ Ethan Howarth
* Ayesha Hussein
Spencer Jallali
Stephanie Jean Pierre
‡ Josely Jimenez Villar
† Mercy Steele Johnson
Emilie Kahn-Boesel
Ethan Bruce Kams
† Karine Kanj
‡† Milagros Karamanos Mellino
‡ Samuel Katz
Zachary Keefer
Liam Keohan
Joshua Kim
‡ Peter Klapes
Nicholas Harry Koci
Katelyn Korzec
Alexandra Koullisis
Joslyn Marie Kowalski
‡ Aleksander Scott Kusik
Sylvia Labbe
Anthony Laflamme
Benjamin Laplant
Sara LaVancher
Andy Laverne
†▼ Sophia Grace Lefaiivre
Aaron Lessing
Elisha Lynn Little
■ Derek Loren
Mallory Christine Lozano
Jie Lu
Samantha Lupacchino
▼ Alyssandra Ayesha Maniri
Macabangon
Michelle Elaine Maffe
◆ Tyler Malachi
‡ Caroline Margaret Manganaro
‡ John Mannion
‡†■ Mackensie MiLyn Margaux
Austin Marinosci
Amanda Mae Mark
■ Mark Marotta
Brianna Michelle Marquinez
Olivia Dawn Marsh
*‡ Catherine Grace Martin
† James Anthony Martin
Mathias Martinez
Dana Nicole Mascari
▲ Evan Thomas Mason
‡ Samantha Mazzone
Meghan McDaid
■ Conner McGarry
▲ David James McGrath
‡ Jacqueline McLaughlin
Macie Marie McLean
Anthony Steele McLeod
‡ Dennis Thomas McPeck

THE DEGREE OF JURIS DOCTOR

- Sarah Ashlyn Medeiros
Leslie Medina
‡ Donovan S. Mefford
Emilee Patricia Mercuri
Sophia Mercurio
Violet Michel
Carter Steven Middaugh
Nicholas Robert Milano
Michael John Miller
Kendall Nadine Milligan
Regan Elisabeth Montefusco
Chaewon Moon
Alexander Moore
Jordan Marie Moore
† Elizabeth Sunday Moser
Crystin McKayla Mueller
‡ Sophia Grace Muggia
Aria Leone Murray
Taylor Marie Murray
▲ Ghassan Najjar
Ankita Narahari
Emily Rose Nelson
Jack Nelson
† Malaika Ngigi
Elizabeth Duyen Nguyen
‡ Thao Huong Nguyen
Megan Nicholson
John Nilles
▲ Casey O'Connor
Anne Marie S. Odney
*‡ Rebecca Elizabeth O'Keeffe
Clare O'Leary
Kelly Kinnane Henry O'Malley
† Samantha O'Neil
‡ Andrea Victoria Ortiz Hernandez
◆ David Ospina
D'Vaughn Ovince
Isabelle Nevin Ozkurt
Paul Pardo Cota
‡ Elizabeth Parker
Vraj Patel
Vivian Alexandria Phillips
Nicholas George Piandes
• Mei-Li Pike
Noah Lawrence Plafker
Caroline Potter
* Blessing B. Pour
▼ Jaimie Beatrice Pozzuto
Lindsay Pradiou
* Dylan Coale Prosser
Pavel Anatolyevich Puzerey
■ Jake William Quilty
▲ Lauren Reese Ramsey
Eva Renee Ravesi
‡ Sean Callahan Reagan
Sadie Louise Reese
†▲ Matthew Amgad Reiad
‡ Pusheng Ren
Roberto Reyes
◆ Farzana Rezvi
Christiana Marie Ricci
Robert Fedele Riccio
Thomas Richards
Stella Rigden
▲ Heloisa Rigonatti
Ann-Michelle Roberts
■ Emmett Armon Roberts
Maximus Rodrigues
‡ Vitya Romanov
‡ Deanna Rooney
* Erin Christina Rosa
Dennis Ryan
Matthew Ryan
Diana Saintil
Peter Dale Samson
‡ Lauren Kay Santilli
Katherine Coulson Saunders
Imisha Sayani

THE DEGREE OF JURIS DOCTOR

- ◆ Jack Riley Scarpa
Shannon Lee Schrafft
- ‡ Jenna Schroedel
Samuel Scott
- † Julia Grace Scozzari
Abigail Ruth Shah
- ◆ Kelsey Shaughnessy
Julia Marie Shaver
- ‡ Wyatt James Shea
Sophia Shekarchi
Yi Shi
Sofi Shlepakov
Ngaakudzwe Shoko
Matthew Brian Sim
Dante Simeti
- ‡ Mia Simopoulos
- † Kyshana Najae Sitton
Alexia E. Sivina
Alyssa Meishan Smith
Paige Elizabeth Smith
Lucas Frank Spagnuolo
Alexander Stanko
Jake Anthony Stano
Natalee Nicole Stanton
Katarina A. Stephenson
Emily Rose Summersby
- † Isabella Sung
Himasha Suwaris
Jessica Svagdis
Nicholas Michael Tagg
Yasmine Tahir
- ‡ Benjamin Joseph Tauber
- ‡◆ Esther Clara Teresinski
Ryan Christopher Thomas
- ‡ Hailey A. Toolin
Tyler Toothman
Alessandra Gomes Torres
Desiree Feliciano Torres
- * Julia Grace Traiger
- ‡▲ Michael James Tretter
- ◆ Johnson Thanh Truong
† Jocelyn Tsai
- † Jacqueline Turner
† Jessica Janel Valerio Florian
Emily Van Vlack
Danielle Audrey Veo
Ruby Wilhelmina Schien Verbitsky
Abigail M. Walsh
Caitlin Holt Walsh
Madison Kearns Walsh
Elizabeth Jane Wear
- ‡† Benjamin Spellman Westervelt
Maxwell White
- † Kylie Rose Williams
Mary Williams
- † Joseph Keith Wilson IV
- ‡† Elizabeth Wippler
Kendall Woodcock
Tyler Woolf
Daniel John Yardemian
Linda Yau
Coral Nicole Zadrozny
- *‡ Thomas Zachary Zogby

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

LAW FACULTY OUTSTANDING STUDENT

Day Division

M. Benjamin Parsons

Evening Division

Isaiah Hutchinson

DANIEL J. FERN AWARD

Day Division

M. Benjamin Parsons

Evening Division

Claire Allison Leukhardt Lidston

LEO J. WYMAN AWARD

John J. Brandt III

PUBLIC CITIZENSHIP AWARD

Day Division

Peter Klapes

Evening Division

Anne-Michelle Roberts

PRO BONO SERVICE AWARD

Day Division

Bailey Annabelle Cortright

Evening Division

Isaiah Hutchinson

JOHN E. FENTON, JR. PUBLIC SERVICE AWARD

John J. Brandt III

Bailey Annabelle Cortright

Madison T. Donovan

Jacqueline McLaughlin

Alexander Moore

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

SEYMOUR SCHNEIDER PRIZE FOR EXCELLENCE
IN CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS

Thomas Keane

THE VIOLET ESTA BISHOP BOOK AWARD FOR
ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE IN CONTRACTS

Matthew Charles Jacobson

CLINICAL LEGAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION
OUTSTANDING CLINIC AWARD

Julia Grace Traiger

CLINICAL LEGAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION
OUTSTANDING EXTERNSHIP AWARD

Hannah Hubler

ROBERT SMITH CLINIC AWARD

Desiree Feliciano Torres

PETER J. MUSE, JD '81 AND FAMILY
TRIAL ADVOCACY AWARD

Spencer W. Harrison

LEGAL INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY AWARD

Conner McGarry

SUFFOLK UNIVERSITY MISSION STATEMENT

At Suffolk University we are driven by the power of education, inclusion, and engagement to change lives and positively impact communities. Committed to excellence, we provide students with experiential and transformational learning opportunities that begin in the center of Boston, reach across the globe, and lead to extraordinary outcomes for our graduates.

HISTORY OF SUFFOLK UNIVERSITY 1906–2026

For 120 years, Suffolk University has been transforming lives by preparing students for professional success, personal growth, and positive community impact. From its roots as a small evening law school with a handful of students, Suffolk has evolved into a major institution with strong ties to more than 90,000 alumni and employers throughout the world.

Building on the promise of its founding, Suffolk continues to anticipate and respond to the needs of a diverse student body. Students combine traditional classroom studies with experiential and immersive learning opportunities and career-shaping internships at influential institutions, and they forge strong, essential connections with academic and professional mentors.

Suffolk students benefit from their close proximity to the core of Boston's economy, including the key business, healthcare, biotechnology, higher education, and start-up industries that define the city. Collaborations with the Boston Celtics, the state judiciary, Boston City Hall, Boston Public Schools, Habitat for Humanity, the Museum of African American History, and many other entities immerse faculty members and students in groundbreaking scholarship and community engagement. Upon graduation, Suffolk students are well prepared to address complex challenges and make a difference in the world.

The University's reputation for excellence draws students from across the nation and world to its urban campus. Students come from a variety of economic and cultural backgrounds to foster a vibrant and close-knit environment, with programming that enriches not only the academic, but also the social and personal development of all students. In addition, they gain international experience through study abroad programs, global travel seminars, and service-learning trips.

Paying It Forward

From its earliest incarnation, Suffolk University has opened doors to students determined to better their lives through education.

Founder Gleason Archer Sr. hailed from rural Maine and worked hard to support his law school aspirations. He was fortunate in meeting a benefactor, George Frost, who paid for Archer's education and asked only that Archer pass his generosity along to others. Archer took this advice to heart and in 1906 began teaching law at his home

in the evenings. In founding Suffolk Law, he sought to provide a legal education for those who traditionally lacked the opportunity to study law.

The school now known as the College of Arts & Sciences was founded in 1934. Two years later, the predecessor to the Sawyer Business School welcomed its first students. All three schools were incorporated as Suffolk University that same year. In time, the University expanded from a night-school format to comprise a range of full- and part-time programs.

Commitment to Diversity and Public Service

For over a century, Suffolk has provided transformative educational opportunities to students of all backgrounds and circumstances, with women as well as Black, Asian, and Native American students finding a home in our earliest years when they were often turned away at other institutions. Embracing a diverse student population has always been at Suffolk's core, making it the rich institution it is today.

Suffolk has a long, well-established tradition of public service. Many alumni have been appointed to the judiciary and elected to public office at the state, local, and national levels; some began their terms in office while studying at Suffolk. And Suffolk alumni apply their skills to benefit their fellow citizens in nonprofits, the private sector, and public sector.

A Strong Alumni Network

When they graduate, Suffolk students join a proud and active alumni community, which features innovators and leaders in various fields around the globe. Suffolk alumni are deeply invested in the University and show their commitment by paying it forward, hiring students and graduates as interns and employees; coming back to mentor, teach, and share their experiences; and providing financial support.

Looking to the Future

Suffolk's defining feature is our abiding commitment to student success, a value shared not only by our dedicated faculty but also our administrators, staff, and alumni. This vibrant community sustains us as we look forward, strengthening our commitment to providing a dynamic, globally minded education, steeped in experiential learning, in the heart of downtown Boston.

ABOUT SUFFOLK UNIVERSITY LAW SCHOOL

For 120 years, Suffolk Law graduates have achieved extraordinary professional success. You can find our 24,000 alumni practicing in firms of all sizes, from Wall Street to Main Street. They are leaders in state and federal government; general counsel of global companies; judges, prosecutors, and criminal defense lawyers; and leaders in a wide range of other public interest and public service careers. Many use their degrees to succeed in related fields, such as business, education, and finance. Their collective imprint on the region and the country is remarkable: For example, more than 25 percent of Massachusetts judges and more than 40 percent of Rhode Island judges are Suffolk Law graduates.

Suffolk Law students learn essential practice skills in our highly ranked programs. They start off in our first-year legal research and writing class, which was recently ranked the fifth-best such program in the nation. During their last year of law school, students spend tens of thousands of hours on client advocacy through the school's clinical program, which was recently ranked fourth in the nation. Our supervised student attorneys take on a wide range of cases, from eviction defense and immigrant justice to intellectual property matters for small businesses and inventors.

Between their first and last years at Suffolk Law, students have access to highly regarded competition teams and negotiation training. In fact, Suffolk Law is the only law school in the country with four *U.S. News* top-35-ranked legal skills specialties—clinics, dispute resolution, legal writing, and trial advocacy—for 11 years in a row.

Suffolk Law is also consistently ranked among a handful of the most innovative schools in the nation, offering bold educational and career-focused initiatives. For example, *National Jurist* has ranked Suffolk Law's legal tech program as the best in the nation on multiple occasions. Whether it comes to traditional practice skills or the cutting-edge training that lawyers need to succeed in the 21st century, Suffolk Law is a national leader.

Scan the QR code to learn more about Suffolk Law.



ABOUT THE COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES

Suffolk University’s College of Arts & Sciences (CAS) prepares students to adapt and thrive in a rapidly changing world. Through hands-on education, service learning, and internships with top employers, our students develop the tools they need to become lifelong change-makers in their fields and communities. Drawing on their deep roots in the humanities, creative arts, and social and natural sciences, our expert faculty empowers students to examine issues from multiple perspectives, so they can find innovative solutions and implement them.

Did you know: CAS has recently launched programs in flourishing areas such as AI and Spanish for business, healthcare, and legal professionals.

Scan the QR code to learn more about the College of Arts & Sciences.



ABOUT THE SAWYER BUSINESS SCHOOL

Suffolk University’s Sawyer Business School (SBS), named in honor of Boston-based entrepreneur and University benefactor Frank Sawyer, has been at the forefront of education in innovation and entrepreneurship. The school offers a rigorous, practical, and comprehensive business education—with purpose. Our unrivaled position at the nexus of Boston’s private, public, and nonprofit sectors provides students with unparalleled access to the city’s financial and innovation clusters, seats of government, nonprofit organizations, and world-class healthcare institutions. Leveraging our distinctive location, multidisciplinary programs, world-renowned faculty, and immersive educational experiences, we empower our graduates to become change agents who positively impact society at the local, national, and international levels.

Did you know: SBS is the only U.S. business school simultaneously accredited by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB); the Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs, and Administration (NASPAA); and the Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Management Education (CAHME).

Scan the QR code to learn more about the Sawyer Business School.



ACADEMIC ATTIRE AND SYMBOLS

The academic attire worn during commencement originated in medieval universities. The long black gown was worn for warmth and to conceal food—and sometimes wine—to be consumed during lecture recesses. The hood, which is the most colorful portion of the attire, was used as an alms sack or to protect the wearer’s wig from the elements.

The velvet trimming of the doctoral hood signifies the academic area of the degree, and the hood lining reflects the official color or colors of the college or university conferring the degree. The gown for the doctor of juridical science is black with purple velvet trim and three bars of purple velvet across the sleeves; a purple stole is also worn. The gown for Suffolk Law’s master of laws recipients is black with purple velvet trim and three bars of velvet across the sleeves. The gown for Suffolk Law’s juris doctor degree is black with a hood that has a purple lining. Graduates were given a choice between wearing a mortarboard (squared hat) or tam (six-sided hat) for the ceremony, and the choice simply represents individual preference.

The colored cords worn by some graduates signify that they have been awarded graduation honors.

Gold: *summa cum laude honors*

Silver: *magna cum laude honors*

Bronze: *cum laude honors*

Blue, gold, purple: *concentration honors*

White: *pro bono honors*

Other colors represent achievement or participation in one or more of the Law School’s over 50 student organizations and programs.

The marshal leads the procession carrying a mace. The mace originally was a weapon, and its ceremonial descendant confers an air of authority on those leading formal processions.

The Suffolk University seal features the University motto, *Honestas et Diligentia*, or Honesty and Diligence, and the founding date, 1906. The image is composed of a standard and torch flanked by single stars; Beacon Hill is pictured in the background.



LAW SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION

Andrew M. Perlman, BA, JD, LL.M.

*Dean, Suffolk University Law School; Vice President for Academic Innovation;
Professor of Law*

Patrick Shin, AB, JD, PhD

Vice Dean of the Law School; Professor of Law

Sarah R. Boonin, BA, JD

Associate Dean for Experiential Learning; Clinical Professor of Law

Kim McLaurin, BS, JD

Associate Dean for Academic Affairs; Clinical Professor of Law

Ann McGonigle Santos, BA, JD

Dean of Law and Graduate Student Affairs

Gerald M. Slater, BA, MA, JD

Dean of Professional and Career Development

Anthony J. Orlando, BA, EdM, JD, MELP

Dean of Admission

Gabriel H. Teninbaum, BA, MM, JD

*Assistant Dean for Innovation, Strategic Initiatives & Distance Education;
Professor of Legal Writing*

Bridgett Sandusky, BA, JD

Assistant Dean for Graduate Law Programs

Brian Vaughn Martel, BA, JD

Assistant Dean of Professional and Career Development

Tori Hall, BA, MEd

Director of Admission

Janine LaFauci, BS

Senior Director, Administration and Faculty Services

Michelle Dobbins, BA, MBA

Senior Director for Recruitment Operations

Nicole Barrett, BS

Director, Office of Academic Services

Kerimal Suriel Guerrero, BS, JD

Assistant Dean for Law Student Affairs

Hillary F. Peterson, AB, JD

Director for Alumni Networks & Private Practice Advising

Sarah J. Solomon, BA, JD

Director for First Year Programs, Judicial & Private Practice Advising

UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATION

Marisa J. Kelly, BA, MA, PhD

President

Rick Oches, BS, MS, PhD

Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs; Provost

Andrew M. Perlman, BA, JD, LL.M.

*Dean, Suffolk University Law School; Vice President for Academic Innovation;
Professor of Law*

Edie Sparks, BA, MA, PhD

Dean, College of Arts & Sciences

Amy Z. Zeng, BS, MS, PhD

Dean, Sawyer Business School

David J. DeAngelis, BS, MPH, EdD

Associate Dean of Students

Thomas Dorer, BA, MEd, JD

General Counsel

Laura Ferrari, BS, MBA/JD '96

Vice President, Student Affairs

Kenneth Ferreira, BA, MBA

*Assistant Vice President, Student Financial
Services*

Gary Fireman, BA, MA, PhD

Associate Provost, Assessment; Chief Data Officer

Peter Fowler, BA '97, MEd '06

Assistant Provost, Retention

Greg Gatlin, BA, MS

Vice President, Communications

Donna Grand Pré, BA, MBA

Senior Vice President, Enrollment

Kerimal Suriel Guerrero, BA, JD '23

Assistant Dean, Law Student Affairs

Dennis F. Harkins, BSBA '15, MPA '17

Assistant Dean of Student Affairs, Operations

Rachael Kipp, BS, PhD

Associate Provost, Academic Planning and Accreditation

Karin Klim, BS

Vice President, Advancement

Boris Lazic, BA, MS

Chief Operating Officer

Sharon Lenzie, BA, MS

Assistant Dean of Student Academic Affairs; University Honors Director

Barbara Matez, BA, MBA

Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer

Amanda L. McGrath, BA, MS, EdD

Dean, Undergraduate Student Affairs

Dave Merry, BS, MA, EdD

Associate Provost; Executive Director, Center for Career Equity, Development & Success

Mark Nestor, BS, MS, EdD

Chief Information Officer

Ann McGonigle Santos, BA, JD

Dean, Law and Graduate Student Affairs

Alison Sherman, BA

University Registrar

Joyya P. Smith, BA, MEd, EdD

Vice President, Diversity, Access & Inclusion

Cherina Wright, BA, MBA/JD '17

Assistant Vice President, Student Affairs

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Officers of the Board

Robert C. Lamb, Jr.

Chair

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LETTER FROM THE DEAN

Dear Suffolk University Law School Class of 2026:

On behalf of the Law School's faculty, administration, and staff, congratulations on your graduation! You and your loved ones should take great pride in what you have achieved. From tackling the hard work of your legal education to navigating life's many challenges while pursuing your degree, you have demonstrated the kind of determination that has distinguished Suffolk Law graduates for generations.

Your class has had to think harder than most about what it means to practice law. You entered during a period of unusual change in the profession and the world, and you have grappled with those developments with the seriousness they deserve. You will be better lawyers for having done so.

You are ready to take your place among our 24,000 alumni who regularly tell us how Suffolk Law transformed their lives and careers. I encourage you to seek their support and friendship in the coming years and to stay connected to your classmates and alma mater, whether by joining us for alumni events and educational programs, using our career counseling services, or simply telling us about the milestones ahead.

We look forward to hearing about your future successes, and we hope you will remember your time at Suffolk Law with the same fondness and appreciation that we have for all of you.

With heartfelt congratulations and admiration,



Andrew Perlman
Dean, Suffolk University Law School
Vice President for Academic Innovation
Professor of Law

IN MEMORIAM

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF ACADEMIC SUPPORT

PHILIP KAPLAN, JD '88

1962–2026

Philip Kaplan, JD '88, associate professor of academic support at Suffolk University Law School, passed away in March.

A member of the Suffolk Law faculty since 1997, Kaplan was devoted to helping his students succeed, and he made it fun. Students saw his commitment to their success, and they loved him for it. His colleagues valued his legal knowledge as well as his kindness, humor, and decency.

Kaplan earned his undergraduate degree in business economics from Bentley University and, after graduating from Suffolk University Law School, spent nine years practicing law in Boston before returning to his alma mater in 1997. He initially taught in the Legal Practice Skills Program and eventually became a professor in the Academic Support Program.

He thought of Suffolk as his home, professionally and personally. In the words of Law School Dean Andrew Perlman, “Suffolk was his family, and we thought of him the same way.”



