

William & Mary Law School

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The Brief

Law School Newsletters

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### The Brief (Edition #9, May 2021)

William & Mary Law School

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# THE BRIEF

W&M LAW SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



WILLIAM & MARY  
LAW SCHOOL

EDITION #9 | MAY 27, 2021

## Class of 2021 Commencement at Zable Stadium



Under blue skies on Saturday, May 22, we celebrated our J.D. and LL.M. Class of 2021. It was our first in-person event in more than 14 months, and also the first in-person event at which Dean Spencer officiated. He also was on hand at the Law School later in the day to hand out official copies of graduates' diplomas.

[View Event Photos](#)

[Watch Commencement](#)

## Best Wishes to the Class of 2021!



**A Virtual Celebration for  
Our Graduates**



**Virtual Congratulations  
from Faculty and Staff**

On the eve of Commencement, we hosted a virtual celebration for our J.D. and LL.M. graduates, featuring Dean Spencer, faculty, students, and New York Attorney General Letitia James. The celebration also included special recognitions of **graduates, staff and faculty**.

**[Watch the Celebration](#)**

Faculty and staff (and select pets!) recorded congratulations and well wishes to the Class of 2021. Class members navigated professional and personal challenges with enormous grit and grace. We look forward to all they will accomplish as citizen lawyers!

**[Watch the Virtual Goodbye](#)**

## News



### **Professor Larsen Testifies on SCOTUS Fact-Finding**

Professor Allison Orr Larsen, director of the Institute of Bill of Rights Law, recently testified about her research before a Senate Judiciary Subcommittee hearing on Supreme Court fact-finding.

**[Learn more.](#)**



### **VA Coastal Policy Center Joins Nationwide State Resilience Partnership**

Earlier this month, the Center announced it has joined a new coalition of 15 organizations—convened by the American Flood Coalition and The Pew Charitable Trusts—to provide states with expertise on flood resilience issues.

**[Learn more.](#)**



**Thank You to Our Leadership Boards**

About 50 alumni lend their time and talents each year as members of our leadership boards to ensure that the Law School flourishes now and in the future. We thank the alumni who serve on the Marshall-Wythe School of Law Foundation and the William & Mary Law School Association for their support and encouragement which has meant so much to our students, staff and faculty, particularly amid the challenges of the past year. Both boards are saying goodbye to longtime, stalwart members and welcoming new alumni to their ranks. [Read more](#).

## SUPPORTING LEGAL EXCELLENCE



As the Class of 2021 joins our alumni family, we remain hard at work creating the most inspiring legal education possible. Please consider supporting our current students and welcoming the Class of 2024 by making a gift before the end of our fiscal year on June 30. Gifts to the Annual Fund, School of Law scholarships, law professorships, the Public Service Fund and so much more make a real difference. [Give Now](#).

You can also support Dean Spencer's "[Why We Can't Wait](#)" action plan through a gift to the [Dean's Visionary Fund](#), the [Reaching Back Scholarship](#) or [The Center for Racial and Social Justice](#).

If you have already made a gift to the Law School this fiscal year—thank you! Every gift truly makes a difference. Please [contact us](#) if you have any questions.

## Take a Student to Lunch - Summer 2021

### Calling all alumni to sign up today!

All alumni are encouraged to sign up for our "Take a Student to Lunch" summer program. This networking program matches alumni to current or incoming students, providing a great opportunity for the student to expand their W&M Law network. Alumni may choose to meet with student(s) in-person or virtually once the match is made via an email introduction.

To sign up, please [fill out this form](#). Sign up by June 15, 2021. Matches will be made during June, July and August. Contact [Liz Foster](#), Director of Alumni Affairs, with any questions.

## Get Involved

### June & July - Courses for High School and University

## Students

Sponsored by the Center for Legal and Court Technology (CLTC). Courses include Introduction to Law and the U.S. Legal System, Introduction to Artificial Intelligence & the Law, Introduction to Negotiations, Introduction to Evidence, Introduction to Torts, Introduction to Interrogations and Self-Incrimination, and Introduction to Search and Seizure. [Learn more](#).

## June 8 - 35th Anniversary of W&M GALA

Join the Crim Dell Association of LGBTQ+ alumni in honoring the 35th anniversary of W&M GALA, an independent nonprofit that became the foundation of the Crim Dell Association. On **June 8**, at 4 p.m. ET, Swem Library staff will host a virtual presentation about the library's W&M GALA collection. Additional anniversary events to follow on [June 15](#) & [June 22](#).

## June 17 – SW Virginia Region Office Hours with Dean Spencer

Alumni living in the southwestern region of Virginia are encouraged to join us on Thursday, June 17, at 5:30 p.m. ET, for a virtual evening of networking and conversation with Dean Spencer. [Registration is required](#).

## June 19 – William & Mary Juneteenth Celebration

### *Inaugural Campus-Wide Event!*

William & Mary will host a university-wide virtual celebration of [Juneteenth](#) for the first time featuring actress Morgan McCoy among other performers and speakers. Begins at 2 p.m. ET. Free and all are welcome.

## June 22 – West Coast Office Hours with Dean Spencer

West Coast alumni are invited to join us virtually on Tuesday, June 22, at 12 p.m. PST, to meet with Dean Spencer and network with other graduates. [Registration is required](#).

## July 25 - July 30 - Institute of Special Education Advocacy Summer Conference

Sponsored by the PELE Special Education Advocacy Clinic. [Learn more](#).

## October 7-10 – Class of 2020 Commencement

### *Save the dates—detailed information to come!*

The Class of 2020 will gather for a full, in-person Commencement experience over Homecoming & Reunion Weekend. [Read the announcement](#).

## Save the Dates!

More details and registration information will be available this summer for our fall conferences. They include:

- Supreme Court Preview (September 10-11)
- Brigham-Kanner Property Rights Conference (September 30-October 1)
- Tax Conference (November 11-12)



## Alumni in the News



**Col. Shane Reeves '03** has been appointed as 15th Dean of the U.S. Military Academy. The U.S. Senate confirmed his appointment in April after nomination by President Joseph R. Biden. [Read more.](#)



**Krista Newkirk '98**, currently the President of Converse College in Spartanburg, S.C., will serve as the 12th, and first female, President of the University of Redlands in Redlands, Calif., effective July 19. [Read more.](#)



**Evan Tucker '19**, an associate in Williams Mullen's Litigation Section, was named among the "Top 40 Under 40" Black Lawyers in Virginia by The National Black Lawyers. [Read more.](#)

# Please help or hire our recent graduates and law students

## OFFICE OF CAREER SERVICES

### Help or Hire a 2021 Graduate

Class of 2021 graduates plan to practice in 20 states—AK, AR, CA, CO, CT, FL, GA, MA, MD, MN, NC, NJ, NM, NY, OH, PA, SC, TX, UT, VA—and DC.

If you or someone you know is hiring for entry-level, temporary, part-time, or remote positions, [post a recent grad position](#) or request resumes from [Ramona Sein '97](#), Assistant Dean for Employer Relations.

### Recruit Students for Summer and Fall Positions

To post internships for students, please [click here](#).

### Request Alumni Career Resources

OCS is happy to assist alumni who are seeking employment. For access to Alumni Resources, [click here](#).



# PUBLIC SERVICE FUND



PSF has W&M Law School branded merchandise available online throughout the year on their Bonfire page, including adult apparel, onesies, tote bags and more. [Visit the PSF Gift Shop on Bonfire](#) to place your order. Questions? Email [giftshoppsf@gmail.com](mailto:giftshoppsf@gmail.com) or [publicservicefund@gmail.com](mailto:publicservicefund@gmail.com).

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