

# class notes

## ALUMNI NEWSMAKERS

### 1970s

Mississippi Senator **Hillman T. Frazier, JD '74**, was sworn in as the most senior member of the Mississippi State Senate in January. He will celebrate 50 years of state legislative service in 2025.

**Javier A. Lopez, JD '76**, has joined Vedder Price as a shareholder in the firm's Miami office.

**J. Michael Sconyers, JD '76**, has joined Murtha Cullina as of counsel in the firm's new Bantam, Conn., office. His practice centers on litigation, primarily title litigation.

**Capt. Milton L. Smith, JD '76**, has joined Greenberg Traurig LLP as chair of the space and satellite industry group.

### 1980s

**S. Craig Holden, JD '80**, an attorney at Baker Donelson, was named to the American Health Law Association's 2024 Class of Fellows.

**Philip B. Zipin, JD '82**, received the Lawyer of the Year Award from the Metropolitan Washington Employment Lawyers Association.

**Dennis LeVine, JD '83**, has joined Brock & Scott as the managing partner in the firm's auto bankruptcy, replevin, and impound group.

**Michael Heim, JD '87**, of Houston's Heim, Payne & Chorush LLP, was named the Houston Patent Litigation

Attorney of the Year in the 2024 edition of *The Best Lawyers in America*. He was also included among the country's top intellectual property attorneys in the 2024 *IAM Patent 1000* guide.

**Gail Friedberg Rottenstrich, JD '87**, was elected mayor of Fair Lawn, N.J., on March 12. Rottenstrich, who is the co-founder and CEO of ZAGO Manufacturing, was also recognized this year by *NJBIZ* as a Power 100, as well as by ROI-NJ as an ROI Influencer: Women in Business.

**David A. Cohen, JD '88**, a shareholder at Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck, was named a member of the firm's executive committee.

### 1990s

**Sharon Berlin, JD '91**, has joined Keane & Beane as a principal member. She represents private and public sector management in labor and employment law matters.

**Joseph C. O'Keefe, JD '91**, has joined Faegre Drinker as a partner in the firm's labor and employment practice group based in New York City.

**Anna Gomez, JD '92**, was nominated by President Joe Biden to serve on the Federal Communications Commission. She previously served in key roles at the National Telecommunications and Information Administration, including as acting chief.

**David Joy, JD '92**, has returned to his longtime professional home of Keller &

## ALUMNI PROFILE

# Reaching New Legal Heights

FOR MAJOR GENERAL **REBECCA R. VERNON, LLM '03**, A chance informational interview with a U.S. Air Force attorney changed the course of her career, and her life.

"The thing that struck me about our conversation was she expressed a genuine passion about legal issues, and she loved the people she worked with," said Vernon, deputy judge advocate general (JAG) for the U.S. Air Force. "I walked out of the interview thinking, if I can be that happy doing my job, count me in."

Several years into her JAG service, Vernon enrolled at GW Law as part of a JAG Corps program that allowed her to pursue an LLM in government procurement law. At GW Law, she won the Government Contracts Moot Court Competition and graduated with highest honors.

Decades later, Vernon is not only happy with her job—she assists the judge advocate general in leading thousands of attorneys and other staff who work for the Air Force JAG Corps. She is near the top of a legal hierarchy that provides counsel to the Air Force and Space Force in their daily missions.

"We practice labor, government contracts, environmental, criminal justice, and international law," she said. "Our practice encompasses all the laws needed to enable the Air Force and Space Force to perform their critical national security missions. Our client basically is the United States of America."

Heady stuff for someone who grew up on a New Hampshire farm, caring for cows, pigs, and chickens every morning. "Taking care of animals was the last thing a teenager in the '80s wanted to do,"

“OUR PRACTICE ENCOMPASSES ALL THE LAWS NEEDED TO ENABLE THE AIR FORCE AND SPACE FORCE TO PERFORM THEIR CRITICAL NATIONAL SECURITY MISSIONS. OUR CLIENT BASICALLY IS THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.”

— Rebecca Vernon

Heckman as a partner after 15 years with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

**Stuart Kupinsky, JD '92**, was appointed executive vice president and chief legal officer at Mercury Systems, Inc.

**Joerg Modellmog, LLM '93**, was awarded the Sustained Outstanding Civilian Award at a JAG Corps Judge Advocate Legal Services award ceremony. The award recognizes his 27 years of service as a JAG and

his contributions to solving a decade-long German taxation issue concerning U.S. forces stationed in Germany.

**Ethan R. O'Shea, JD '93**, of Hamburg, Rubin, Mullin, Maxwell & Lupin, was selected for inclusion on the 2024 Pennsylvania Super Lawyers list in the areas of employment and labor, and employment litigation.

**Adam Pearlman, JD '93**, and the firm he founded, Lexpat



Major General Rebecca Vernon, LLM '03, the top female attorney in the Air Force, with Senior Associate Dean Steve Schooner during her recent visit to GW Law to headline a Women in Legal Leadership event.

Vernon said. "But I believe it was instrumental in teaching me the value of hard work, and the satisfaction that comes with accomplishing goals."

Even when she was strapped into her dad's Cessna 180 as a child, she never saw her future in the Air Force. She just loved aviation. Today, when a plane flies overhead, she can't help but look to the sky. "It never gets old," said Vernon, who isn't a pilot. "I'm very lucky."

Vernon's professional success has been a steady ascent, due to hard work and a passion for her work. She has served in a number of roles, including director of military justice and discipline at Joint Base Andrews, Md.; staff judge advocate for combined joint special operations air component—Afghanistan; and assistant staff judge advocate (chief of legal assistance), 347th Wing, Moody Air Force Base, Ga., her first posting.

As the first woman deputy judge advocate general in the Air Force, she also feels a responsibility in her position to be both a role model and mentor to the many young lawyers she works with and law students she encounters.

"I encourage people to think about what their values are and then find some place that matches them," Vernon said. "That's why I ended up in the Air Force JAG Corps, and that's why I have stayed for nearly 30 years."

— Sarah Kellogg

Global Services, was selected by the UCLA Alumni Association as an honoree on the 2023 Bruin Business 100 list.

**Robert Johns, JD '94**, is the new executive director of Legal Aid of the Bluegrass based in Kentucky.

**Marjorie J. Just, JD '94**, a longtime principal attorney at Offit Kurman specializing in family law, was promoted to shareholder.

**Paul N. Alp, JD '95**, has joined Adams and Reese as co-leader of the firm's new aviation and aerospace team based in the Washington, D.C., office.

**David Jury, JD '95**, was elected a fellow of the College of Labor and Employment Lawyers. Jury serves as general counsel of the United Steelworkers International Union in Pittsburgh. He also is a board member of the Peggy Browning Fund, a nonprofit organization that provides fellowships to law

students pursuing careers in the fields of union labor law and workers' rights.

**James T. Asali, JD '96**, has joined Chamberlain Hrdlicka as senior counsel in the firm's corporate, securities, and finance group.

**Donna M. Byrne, JD '96**, a leading energy regulatory lawyer, has joined Troutman Pepper as a partner.

**Alan M. Freeman, JD '96**, has joined the senior leadership team at Uncommon Cures.

**Edgar D. Bueno, JD '97**, has joined Hunter Maclean as a partner in the firm's health care and litigation group.

**Lori S. Kovak, JD '97**, of Fox Rothschild was recognized in the *Daily Journal's* 2024 list of Top Intellectual Property Lawyers in California.

**Eric W. Leonard, JD '97**, is Cosen O'Connor's newest shareholder, joining the firm after serving as a Wiley Rein partner for over 25 years. He co-leads the firm's government contracts practice.

**Brooke P. Clark, JD '98**, was appointed general counsel of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**Regina A. DeMeo, JD '98**, has joined Markham Law in Bethesda, Md., as a principal. She was also recognized as a top family law attorney in both *Super Lawyers* and *Bethesda Magazine*.

**Shazmah Hakim, JD '98**, was appointed chief legal officer at Remington Hospitality.

**Kimberly Bullock Gatling, JD '99**, partner and chief diversity and inclusion officer at Fox Rothschild, was elected chairwoman of the North Carolina A&T Board of Trustees.

**Ingrid Hackett, JD '99**, was appointed chief legal officer at Curriculum Associates. She brings extensive leadership experience from more than two decades as a corporate attorney focused on high-growth companies including Home Depot, Coca-Cola, and Procter & Gamble.

**Andrew R. Kopsidas, JD '99**, has joined the Washington, D.C., office of Blank Rome as an IP partner.

## 2000s

**Andrew Dahlinghaus, JD '00**, has joined the executive team of Skillz, a leading mobile games platform, as general counsel.

**Donald English, Jr., JD '00**, of national employment law firm Jackson Lewis received the 2024 Lexology Client Choice Award for excellent client care and service. He is the firm's Baltimore office managing principal and also serves as co-leader of the trials and appeals group and on the firm's board of directors.

**Hunter Goolsby, JD '00**, a former director of data science, strategy, and analytics at Troutman Pepper, announced that he has started his own consulting firm, Legal DNA Strategies LLC.

**Brandon H. Pace, JD '00**, was appointed general counsel of the Gemological Institute of America.

**Greg A. Brower, JD '02**, has returned to Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck as a shareholder in the firm's litigation department.

**Jeffrey MacHarg, JD '02**, was selected to the "Managing Partners to Watch Power List" by *North Carolina Lawyers Weekly*.

**Cynthia Beyea, JD '03**, was elected to partnership at Dechert.

Two GW Law alumni began hearing cases in May as newly appointed immigration law judges. Their unique paths to the bench were propelled by their GW Law education. We proudly present their stories.

## ALUMNI PROFILE

## A Passion for the Law

FOR JUDGE **BRENT D. JOSTAD, JD '10**, IT'S POSSIBLE TO DRAW a line from his early passion for the law—from mock trial competitions in high school and college, to GW Law's Cohen & Cohen Mock Trial Competition (he won!)—to his own courtroom at the Richmond Immigration Adjudication Center.

"The mock trials were a lot of preparation, but I always enjoyed being in the courtroom," said Jostad. "I knew I wanted to be a trial lawyer from an early age, so spending time in court was always fun. One year, I played both an attorney and an expert witness. I always liked being the lawyer more than playing the witness."

After graduating from GW Law, Jostad began his career as an assistant state attorney with the Miami-Dade State Attorney's Office, where he started with misdemeanors and moved up to felonies, handling everything from firearms and armed robberies to murders. "I wanted to be a criminal prosecutor, which is what I

**“AS A JUDGE, YOU CAN'T GO INTO A HEARING WITH A PARTICULAR OUTCOME IN MIND. YOU HAVE TO GO IN WITH AN OPEN MIND AND SEE WHERE THE EVIDENCE TAKES YOU.”**

— Brent Jostad

started out doing in Miami. I took criminal law, criminal procedure, evidence, and trial advocacy. I thought I knew where I was going."

In 2019, Jostad made a change and switched from criminal to immigration law. He spent five years as an assistant chief counsel with the Office of the Principal Legal Advisor of the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). He put his expertise to work there, serving on a team of more than 1,300 government representatives in immigration removal proceedings.

Today, he's seeing the courtroom from a different vantage point.



As an immigration judge, Jostad is part of a corps of judges under the Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR), an agency within the Department of Justice to adjudicate immigration cases.

"Every new position requires adjustment," said Jostad, who was appointed to the bench in May 2024. "The biggest change is shifting from an advocacy position to an impartial one. As a judge, you can't go into a hearing with a particular outcome in mind. You have to go in with an open mind and see where the evidence takes you."

Jostad said that his time on campus, both as an undergrad and in law school, were especially memorable with the friends he made and the experience of living in Washington, D.C. "The campus was beautiful," he said. "I loved being so close to everything. There were many nights when friends and I would do the monument walk. It was magical to see them lit up and be there essentially by ourselves at night. It was unique to Washington."

— Sarah Kellogg

**Kristen M. Foslid, JD '03**, was named the regional attorney in the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission's Miami district office.

**Elan Daniels, JD '04**, was promoted to counsel at Kramer Levin. He specializes in corporate restructuring and bankruptcy.

**Daniel A. Lebersfeld, JD '04**, has joined the litigation team at Genova Burns as a senior

associate based in the firm's Newark, N.J., office.

**Nathan S. Mammen, JD '04**, has joined Snell & Wilmer as a partner in the firm's intellectual property group based in Washington, D.C.

**Kristi L.R. Sawert, JD '04**, has joined Fish & Richardson, a premier intellectual property law firm, as a principal. She focuses her practice on representing life sciences clients,

particularly in biotechnology and pharmaceuticals.

**Thomas Janczewski, JD '05**, has joined Hansen Reynolds as a partner in the firm's Milwaukee office. He concentrates his practice on corporate transactional work and litigation.

**Debora M. Jones, JD '05**, was named chief operating officer at ProSearch.

**Javier Lopez, JD '05**, has joined

Vedder Price as a shareholder in the firm's Miami office. He focuses his practice on complex commercial and class action litigation cases.

**Jeny Maier, JD '05**, an anti-trust partner at Axinn, Veltrop & Harkrider, was named the firm's managing partner.

**Dawn Stern, JD '05**, is the new co-head of DLA Piper's government contracts group.

## ALUMNI PROFILE

## From Green Card to Immigration Judge

WHEN JUDGE **RAJESH K. MATHEW, MSL '20**, WAS APPOINTED to serve as an immigration judge in May 2024, it brought him back to a system he was all too familiar with. After all, he had experienced it himself.

"Going through the entire process from green card to citizenship, and having done all that on my own, I really became interested in immigration law and its complexities," said Mathew, who serves at the Hyattsville Immigration Court in Maryland. "Having gone through that process myself, I believe I have a unique perspective when adjudicating cases as a judge."

Born and raised in Germany, where his parents were civilians working with the U.S. military, Mathew came to the United States to attend college. "My entire family had green cards at the time," he said. "Since my siblings were already living in Chicago, I decided to move to Chicago after high school."

**“THE IMMIGRATION LAW CLASSES I TOOK AT GW SPARKED MY INTEREST IN IMMIGRATION LAW AGAIN... GW WAS DEFINITELY A BIG STEPPINGSTONE FOR ME.”**

— *Rajesh Mathew*

Mathew says his immigration law classes at GW Law rekindled an early interest in immigration. He attended GW as part of a special U.S. government program for attorneys with the U.S. Judge Advocate General's Corps (JAG) to deepen their legal knowledge.

"The immigration law classes I took at GW sparked my interest in immigration law again," said Mathew, who was in the U.S. Air Force JAG from 2013 to 2023. "I took two classes with Professor Paulina Vera that ultimately shaped my career progression. GW was definitely a big steppingstone for me."

For Vera, Mathew's success is a confirmation of the unmistakable draw of immigration law. "I highlighted the need for fair



and compassionate adjudicators as they can make a tremendous impact in the lives of non-citizens," said Vera, who supervises the GW Law Immigration Clinic and is a professorial lecturer. "My hope is that these lessons have resonated with Judge Mathew, who is the first of my alums to become an immigration judge."

Before his judicial appointment by the Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR), he served as an assistant general counsel with the Federal Bureau of Investigation. As a JAG attorney, he was stationed in a number of locations including Maxwell Air Force Base, Montgomery, Alabama; Ramstein Air Base, Germany; and Malmstrom Air Force Base, Great Falls, Montana.

It's his time in the military that Mathew feels is very much responsible for his professional path and his judgeship. Because of that, he encourages law students to be open to any and all opportunities that arise as they look to chart their careers.

"There are a lot of doors out there in the legal field," he said. "For students graduating today, I would encourage them to figure out what they really want and then walk through the doors that take them there."

— *Sarah Kellogg*

**Amanda K. Brown, JD '06**, has joined the New York office of Seward & Kissel as special counsel in the firm's maritime and transportation group.

**Luis E. Lorenzana, JD '06**, was named managing shareholder of the San Diego office of Littler, the largest global employment and labor law practice representing management.

**Brandy R. McMillion, JD '06**, was appointed to serve as

federal prosecutor for the U.S. District Court in the Eastern District of Michigan. Her appointment was confirmed by the U.S. Senate.

**Lisa M. Percopo, JD '07**, was promoted to partner at Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher. She focuses her practice on securities litigation.

**Sheuti Bhutani Arora, LLM '08**, was promoted to partner at BakerHostetler.

**Ryan Foley, JD '08**, a former Novartis senior corporate counsel, has joined Gibson Dunn as of counsel in the firm's antitrust and competition practice.

**Laura Vartain Horn, JD '08**, a former assistant U.S. attorney, has joined Kirkland & Ellis as a partner in the firm's intellectual property practice group.

**Helen Lee, JD '08**, a trusted advisor to financial institutions

and fintech companies, has joined Troutman Pepper's corporate practice group in New York as counsel.

**Kathleen R. Salsbury, JD '08**, a member of Baker Donelson's health law group, was elected a shareholder of the firm.

**Jonathan S. Satinsky, JD '08**, was promoted to general counsel, Catalyst Technologies and Platinum Group Metal Services, at Johnson Matthey.

**David Williams, JD '08**, was named chair of the investment management practice group at Faegre Drinker. He also serves on the firm's diversity, equity, and inclusion committee and is a member of the Chicago hiring committee.

**Trent Bowen, JD '09**, was selected to serve as counsel for the Naval Undersea Warfare Center in Keyport, Wash.

**Erin E. Hertzog, JD '09**, has joined Manatt, Phelps & Phillips as a partner in the firm's health care and life sciences industry practice.

**Utibe Ikpe, JD '09**, a partner at Meland Budwick, received the National Bar Association's 2023 "40 Under 40 Nation's Best Advocates" award.

**Ricardo J. Pineres, JD '09**, has joined the United States Senate Federal Credit Union as chief risk officer.

**Arsenio Rodrigues, JD '09**, is now a shareholder at Stern & Eisenberg. He is the firm's New York managing attorney, overseeing all facets of the New York office's day-to-day operations.

## 2010s

**James M. Brower, JD '10**, was elected to partnership at Morrison Foerster. He is a member of the firm's litigation department and national security group in Washington, D.C.

**Chris R. Marando, JD '10**, has joined Perkins Coie as a partner. He practices in the firm's intellectual property and patent litigation group in Washington, D.C.

**Aaron R. Modiano, JD '10**, has joined Lewis, Longman & Walker P.A., one of Florida's largest environmental law firms, as a senior attorney in the firm's West Palm Beach office.

**Trevor R. Salter, JD '10**, a financial services attorney, has joined Troutman Pepper's Washington, D.C., office as a partner in the firm's corporate practice.

**Kristen W. Broz, JD '11**, was selected to join this year's class of fellows of the Leadership Council on Legal Diversity.

**Christopher P. Healey, JD '11**, a registered funds practitioner, has joined Davis Polk as a partner in the firm's investment management practice in Washington, D.C.

**Meredith M. Ralls, JD '11**, was promoted to senior assistant commonwealth's attorney for Fairfax County, Va. She focuses on prosecuting child exploitation crimes and crimes committed by juveniles

**Kwan-Ho "Alex" Chung, JD '12**, has joined Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton LLP as a partner. He practices in the firm's intellectual property practice group and life sciences industry team in Washington, D.C.

**Richard A. Crudo, JD '12**, a member of Stern Kessler's electronics practice group, was named a director at the firm. He was also recognized as "One to Watch" by *Best Lawyers*.

**Scott Gilmore, JD '12**, was promoted to partner at Hausfeld. He handles complex and cross-border cases in U.S. and international courts.

**Jack Hobaugh, LLM '12**, a shareholder at Brownstein, was appointed chair of the Denver chapter of the International Association of Privacy Professionals' KnowledgeNet.

**Matt Kirsch, JD '12**, was elected to partnership at Arnold & Porter. He is a member of the real estate practice in the firm's Washington, D.C., office.

## ALUMNI PROFILE

# At the Center of Power

FOR MUCH OF THE LAST DECADE, **ALEX HASKELL, JD '11**, HAS had more than a front row seat to history. He's been knee-deep in the complex political and legislative relationship between the White House and the U.S. Congress.

First, he served as counsel for the U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee, where Haskell participated in both impeachment proceedings against former President Donald Trump, two U.S. Supreme Court confirmations, an investigation into Russian interference in the 2020 election, and inquiries about Trump's response to the pandemic.

"The day I got the offer, Justice Anthony Kennedy retired, and I spent the first three months working on the Brett Kavanaugh confirmation," said Haskell. "During my time on the committee, there was a parade of fairly dramatic events. There were calmer waters at times, during which I worked on a variety of policies, but most of my tenure was spent on those bigger ticket items."

Then, in January 2021, he moved from the proverbial frying

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— Alex Haskell

pan into the fire. He became a senior deputy associate counsel in the White House, helping vet a tsunami of President Biden's early appointees requiring Senate confirmation—from Cabinet secretaries to a Supreme Court justice. He was on the vetting team for more than a year.

For the nearly two years that followed, Haskell served as a special assistant to the president and the chief of staff in the White House Office of Legislative Affairs. In that role, he helped win legislative support for Biden's prominent initiatives such as the CHIPS and Science Act, the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act, the Inflation Reduction Act, the Respect for Marriage Act, and the PACT Act.

"The privilege of getting to work at the White House and in the West Wing, and to be part of the energy and the intensity of the place, was a dream," said Haskell. "You get to work on the most pressing issues in the country - oftentimes the world."

Haskell couldn't have known where he would land when he arrived at GW Law. He was raised in Los Angeles by parents who

**Christopher Lutz, JD '12**, has joined Jones Walker as a partner. He is a member of the tax practice group based in the firm's Washington, D.C., office.

**Ross D. Margulies, JD '12**, has joined Manatt, Phelps & Phillips as a partner in the firm's

health care and life sciences industry practice.

**Evan R. Minsberg, JD '12**, was elected to partnership at the Financial Services Group and co-chairs the firm's digital and interactive media industry group.



were very active in and cared deeply about politics. While he thought about working in politics and government, he didn't have a concrete plan to do so. Instead, he waited for the right moment, working as an associate with Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP and clerking for the U.S. District Court Judge Amit P. Mehta.

"Long-term planning can be kind of futile if you want to work in politics and government, because you don't know who is going to be in power at any given moment," said Haskell. "You can say you want to work in the White House, but you can't know when the opportunity will arise, and then sometimes it does."

Leaving the White House in mid-2024, Haskell moved to New York City, where he serves as head of global affairs for ElevenLabs, an audio-focus AI company. In his new role, he oversees policy, government relations, regulatory affairs, and communications for the rapidly expanding company dedicated to pushing the frontiers of voice AI.

He said he's enjoying the shift from the public to the private sector. "I tried to turn myself into somebody that understands government broadly, from a lawyer's perspective, a courtroom perspective, a Congress perspective, and a White House perspective. I'm hopeful these experiences will allow me to add value outside the government in a range of impactful ways."

— Sarah Kellogg

**Martina Polasek, LLM '12**, was elected secretary-general of the International Center for Settlement of Investment Disputes in April.

**Reed Ryan, JD '12**, has joined the Asphalt Pavement Alliance as executive director. Reed

previously served as executive director of the Utah Asphalt Pavement Association and recently completed his term as president of the State Asphalt Pavement Association's executive committee.

**Mollie Simons, JD '12**, was

appointed by California Governor Gavin Newsom to serve as legal advisor for the California Public Employment Relations Board. She is a partner at Leonard Carder and has served as a pro bono attorney for the Centro Legal de La Raza Asylum Project since 2018.

**Jocelyn Weisner, JD '12**, was promoted to counsel at Arnold & Porter. She is a member of the product liability litigation practice in the Washington, D.C., office.

**Thomas Yeh, JD '12**, was promoted to partner at Latham & Watkins LLP in Los Angeles. He is a member of the firm's intellectual property litigation practice and litigation and trial department.

**Melissa L. Farrar, JD '13**, was promoted to partner at Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher.

**Sam Knowles, JD '13**, was recently promoted to co-head of DLA Piper's government contracts group.

**Carla (Voigt) Castello, JD '14**, was promoted to shareholder at Babst, Calland, Clements & Zomnir. She practices in the firm's litigation, emerging technologies, and employment and labor practice groups in Pittsburgh.

**Adam R. Diamond, JD '14**, was promoted to member at Clark Hill. He practices in the firm's Houston office.

**Christopher M. Gallo, JD '14**, was promoted to director at Stern Kessler. He is a member of the firm's biotechnology and chemical practice group.

**Chris Gloria, JD '14**, was elected partner at Morrison Foerster. He is a member of the transactions department and the patent strategy and prosecution group, based in Washington, D.C.

**Matthew R. Mollozzi, JD '14**, an attorney at Moore & Van Allen, was named to the 2024 Lawdragon 500 X - The Next Generation list.

**Saurabh Prabhakar, JD '14**, was named counsel at Debevoise & Plimpton. He is a member of the firm's intellectual property litigation group based in San Francisco.

**Antonio J. Rivera, JD '14**, was promoted to partner at ArentFox Schiff.

**Derrick Rowe, JD '14**, was promoted to partner at Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati. He focuses his practice on patent prosecution and counseling in the firm's Washington, D.C., office.

**Mohammad M. Shouman, JD '14**, has joined the U.S. Coast Guard as an officer and judge advocate general (JAG). Shouman was also recently recognized by the Arab American Foundation on their 40 under 40 list.

**James O. Springer, JD '14**, was promoted to partner at Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher. He advises public and private companies, private equity firms, boards of directors, and special committees in connection with a variety of complex transactional matters.

**Brian J. Stevens, JD '14**, was promoted to partner at ArentFox Schiff. He specializes in patent law.

**Jasjit S. Vidwan, JD '14**, was elected to partnership at ArentFox Schiff. He concentrates his practice on patent litigation, prosecution, and counseling.

**Yieyie Yang, JD '14**, was elected to partnership at Finnegan, Henderson, Farabow, Garrett, & Dunner, where she specializes in complex patent litigation.

## ALUMNI PROFILE

## In-House Powerhouse

**ALICE ELDRIDGE, JD '91**, CAME TO GW LAW FOR MANY OF THE reasons law students choose the law school: its reputation, its proximity to the U.S. government, and its location in Washington, D.C., which turned out to be a great introduction to city life.

Only later on, after she was deeper into her career, would she realize she had inadvertently attended the best law school to later spend a life working on government contracts and serving in the legal departments of global aerospace, defense, and security powerhouses.

"The fact that I had taken a fair amount of international law classes and been exposed to contracts, which is a big part of the GW Law curriculum, actually ended up helping me as I went into my in-house career and started working for multinational corporations," said Eldridge, senior vice president, general counsel, and secretary of BAE Systems, Inc.

Eldridge enjoyed her time at GW Law, and it was made all the more manageable by serving as a resident director her second and third years. It helped temper the rigors of law school, and it kept her living downtown to better enjoy the academic and social life. "It gave me a mental break from being fully focused on school," said Eldridge.

Graduating on her 25th birthday, Eldridge had a pretty good

**“BEFORE I WENT TO LAW SCHOOL, I MET WITH THE GENERAL COUNSEL OF THE DIVISION OF IBM THAT MY DAD WORKED FOR. AFTER THAT, I KNEW I WANTED TO GO IN-HOUSE.”**

— Alice Eldridge

sense of how to plot her career path: start with respected law firms to embellish her credentials and then move in-house to work for an international company. In the years after graduation, Eldridge worked as an associate with both Howrey & Simon and Davis, Graham & Stubbs.

"Before I went to law school, I met with the general counsel of the division of IBM that my dad worked for," said Eldridge. "After that,



I knew I wanted to go in-house. I didn't really know what area or industry, but I knew I wanted to be an in-house lawyer."

Eldridge's first in-house stint was with Lockheed Martin, where she served in multiple roles including general counsel for the systems integration and tactical systems divisions and vice president of ethics and business conduct, overseeing the company's ethics program.

Eldridge said one of the most fulfilling aspects of her role is serving as head of ethics. "You get a view of a company's culture and—it sounds a little high-minded—how important it is to have employee justice," she said. "It is important to make sure people have a place where they can bring their concerns and know they're going to be heard, and the concerns handled."

At BAE Systems, Eldridge finds among her colleagues a respect for the gravity of their work and the commitment to their mission. "If you're going to have a company be responsible for creating equipment that men and women take into battle, I feel better knowing it's being done by a responsible company that puts a lot of time and energy into ethics programs and giving back to the community."

— Sarah Kellogg

**Leela K. Baggett, JD '15**, was named principal at Powers Pyles Sutter and Verville, where she specializes in healthcare law.

**Eric J. Chang, JD '15**, has joined the Department of Justice as an assistant United States attorney in the Eastern District of California.

**Griffin Foster, JD '15**, was elected to partnership at Faegre Drinker.

**Richard A. Loube, JD '15**,

was elected principal at Miles & Stockbridge.

**Crystal Tully, JD '15**, has joined Wiley Rein LLP as a special counsel. In her previous role as general counsel for investigations and nominations with the Senate's Armed Services Committee, Tully helped draft the National Defense Authorization Act and helped pass several landmark bills such as the CHIPS and Science Act and the Secure and Trusted Communications Networks Act.

**Cristina I. Vessels, JD '15**, was promoted to counsel at Venable. She focuses her practice on matters related to nonprofit organizations.

**Sylvia Yi, JD '15**, has rejoined Bass, Berry & Sims as counsel in the firm's government contracts practice based in Washington, D.C. She previously served as an in-house senior attorney with IBM.

**Megan Yung, JD '15**, has been appointed chief strategy

officer and general counsel at Eterna Therapeutics, a life science company.

**Neha Dhindsa, JD '16**, was promoted to counsel at Venable. She focuses primarily on international trade and customs, and maritime and transportation issues.

**Michael J. Foley, JD '16**, has joined Holy Cross Hospital and Trinity Health as assistant counsel.

**Racquel A. Muindi, JD '16**, an associate at Ballard Spahr LLP in Los Angeles, has received this year's Associates Advisory Board Pro Bono Attorney Award from the Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles in recognition of her service to clients in need.

**Nicholas Cerulli, JD '17**, was elected to partnership at Finnegan, Henderson, Farabow, Garrett & Dunner.

**Jonathan Cornfield, JD '18**, has joined McGlinchey Stafford as an associate in the firm's Washington, D.C. office.

**Katelyn B. Cramp, JD '19**, has joined Fox Rothschild as an associate in the firm's litigation department in Denver.

## 2020s

**Victoria M. Manfredonia, JD '20**, has joined the San Diego office of Hahn Loeser & Parks LLP as an associate in the firm's litigation practice.

**Eric Stocking, JD '20**, has joined the Chambliss law firm in Chattanooga, Tenn., as an associate in the firm's estate planning and business practice areas.

**John B. Allen, JD '21**, has

joined the Salt Lake City office of Spencer Fane as an associate in the firm's litigation and dispute resolution group. He focuses his practice on intellectual property rights.

**Heewon Lee, JD '21**, has joined the Los Angeles office of Blank Rome LLP as an associate in the general litigation practice group.

**Isabel C. Mulino, JD '21**, has joined the Tulsa office of GableGotwals as an associate. Her practice focuses on commercial litigation and governmental relations.

**Julia B. Heasley, JD '22**, has joined Fox Rothschild in Princeton, N.J., as an associate in the firm's family law department.

**Eric M. Levine, JD '22**, has joined Tonkon Torp LLP as an associate in the firm's litigation department. He joins the firm from the Office of the Attorney General for the District of Columbia, where he was a Charles F.C. Ruff Fellow in the Office of the Solicitor General.

**Lauren A. Cyriac, JD '23**, has joined the New Orleans office of Jones Walker as an associate in the corporate practice group.

## in memoriam

**Theodore J. DiLorenzo, JD '52**, July 2, 2024

**Olga D. Murray, JD '54**, Feb. 20, 2024

**Alan S. Loesberg, JD '56**, June 15, 2024

**Edwin J. Monsma, JD '56**, July 15, 2024

**Harold W. Adams, JD '60**, Dec. 30, 2011

**Justice Paul L. Rudman, JD '60**, Jan. 4, 2024

**William E. Watson, JD '61**, June 23, 2024

**John B. Beemer, JD '66**, Aug. 24, 2023

**Edward Tupling, JD '66**, May 12, 2023

**The Hon. Paul Chernoff, JD '67**, July 15, 2024

**Sidney B. Williams, Jr., JD '67**, May 5, 2024

**Jack W. Hanson, JD '68**, Jan. 13, 2024

**Arthur "Buddy" A. Lemann III, LLM '68**, Dec. 30, 2023

**Joel P. Dictrow, JD '69**, July 6, 2024

**James A. Williamson, Jr., JD '74**, Feb. 11, 2024

**Mary M. Levy, JD '76**, July 31, 2024

**Christopher Laskowski, JD '05**, Jan. 7, 2024

**John H. Curry, JD '07**, April 5, 2024

**Claire Duggan, JD '13**, July 10, 2024

## FACULTY

**Professor Barkley Clark**, July 29, 2023

**Colonel Francis A. Gilligan**, July 6, 2024

**Professor Susan Jones**, April 29, 2024

# class notes

## ALUMNI NEWSMAKERS

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