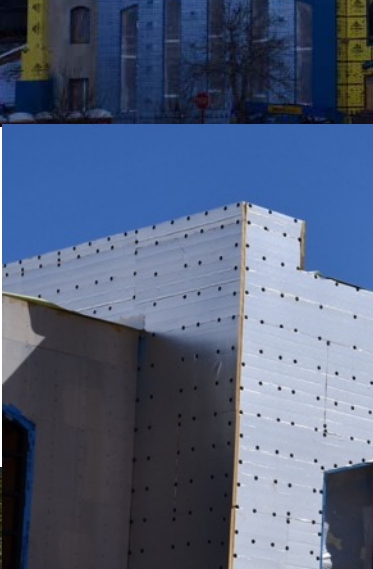




**UW College of Law**  
**COMMENCEMENT**  
MAY 11, 2024



# COMMENCEMENT

Buchanan Center for the Performing Arts

May 11, 2024



## **Processional**

“Trumpet Voluntary,” G.F. Williamson

## **Greeting**

Dean Klint W. Alexander

## **Class of 2024 Student Speaker**

Darby Margaret Clark

## **Outstanding Faculty Award Recipient**

Lauren McLane

Presented by Sofia Salgado Cisneros, President, John Burman Student Government

## **Graduation Address**

David Singleton

City of Cheyenne Municipal Court Judge

## **Presentation of the Graduating Class**

Dean Klint W. Alexander

Assistant Dean Lindsay A. Hoyt

## **Hooders**

Professor Lauren McLane

Professors James M. Delaney and Jacquelyn L. Bridgeman

## **CONFER DEGREES**

Kermit Brown

University of Wyoming Trustee

## **Closing Remarks**

Dean Klint W. Alexander

## **Recessional**

“Trumpet Fanfare,” G.F. Williamson

**Class photo immediately after ceremony.**

**Reception in the lobby.**

# DEAN'S FAREWELL MESSAGE

Dear Class of 2024,

On behalf of the University of Wyoming College of Law, I want to congratulate each one of you for completing law school and earning your *Juris Doctorate* (JD) degree! You should be proud of this achievement, and we applaud you for your commitment, hard work, and dedication to reach this point in your lives and careers.



The conferral of the JD degree means that you are now part of an exclusive club of legal professionals representing less than one percent of the world's population. The JD is the most flexible advanced degree, allowing you to practice and serve before the judicial branch of government and work in most other professions beyond the legal field. It also is a powerful license to enable you to make a difference in the world representing those who cannot defend themselves.

Today, the world needs more good lawyers and leaders who will fight to preserve our system of government, the rule of law, and our way of life. The challenges confronting us require innovative problem solvers and thinkers, and we are looking to you, Class of 2024, to step up in a meaningful and responsible way. I hope that you will remember your law experience fondly and commit to utilizing your legal knowledge and training received at UW to make the world a better place.

Congratulations again to all of you for this tremendous accomplishment, and good luck in your future pursuits!

Klint W. Alexander, Ph.D., J.D., M.Phil.  
Dean and Professor of Law

# LAW CLASS OF 2024

Kearstin H. Baros  
Ronald Beardslee  
John D. Beaumaster  
James Harvey Bell <sup>H</sup>  
Ingrid Bent <sup>DH</sup>  
Amari Yvonne Bertagnolli <sup>H</sup>  
Christopher Binger <sup>MH</sup>  
Margaret C. Boggs  
Mikala L. Bolkovatz  
Andrew F. Bowers  
Chris Boynton  
Heather Noelle Bradford <sup>H</sup>  
Paige Brimhall <sup>H</sup>  
Joe Budd  
Kyra Marie Burke <sup>DH</sup>  
Jesselyn Mae Burroughs  
Braylon Cardenas  
Hannah G. Clancy  
Darby Margaret Clark  
Fallon Evelyn Clay  
Jacob Collinsworth  
Katie Cook <sup>J</sup>  
Andrew M. Davis <sup>H</sup>  
Gabrielle Despain  
Kevin Doyle <sup>D</sup>  
Brandon Duckworth  
Shay L. Durrant  
Colton Edwards <sup>H</sup>  
Amber Renee B. Ferguson <sup>H</sup>  
Scarlett Forrest <sup>H</sup>  
Andrew Freeze  
Tristan D. Fross <sup>H</sup>  
Kate Blythe Gamble <sup>J</sup>  
Jordan Gless <sup>H</sup>  
Matthew Gradecki <sup>MH</sup>  
Amanda (Mandy) Green  
Miles Eusebio Guzman  
Madison I. Haddad  
James Michael Harkin <sup>H</sup>  
David Henrich <sup>H</sup>  
Bryce Hester <sup>M</sup>  
Benjamin B. Hoyer <sup>H</sup>

Leanne Joy Johnston  
Sarah Gloria Ann Kelley <sup>H</sup>  
Micah B. Kellogg <sup>M</sup>  
Ferha Khan <sup>H</sup>  
Tiffany Jo Killpack <sup>H</sup>  
Katherine D. Kleve <sup>H</sup>  
Damon G. Knechtel  
Margaret Laing  
Jared Lange <sup>H</sup>  
Kayla Ann Loukas <sup>J</sup>  
Gabriel P. Maldonado  
Carly Mansker  
Jackson Marcotte  
John "Jack" Martin <sup>H</sup>  
Samuel Glenn Mellema <sup>J</sup>  
Matt Misslin <sup>H</sup>  
Morgan Muhlestein  
Peter Nagel  
Kelsie Nieuwsma  
Soren Oberg  
Michael Partrick <sup>H</sup>  
Magdalena Pellatz <sup>H</sup>  
Lydia Pine <sup>DH</sup>  
Paige E. Realing <sup>J</sup>  
Iva Mackenzie Reckling <sup>JH</sup>  
Connor Rhyne  
Russell J. Rohlfing  
Alyssa Ashley Romero  
Ethan W. Simler  
Kaylee Sims <sup>H</sup>  
Konrad Snizek  
Alex Taylor  
Michael Christopher Tench  
Christine M. Tortorice  
Caitlyn Tucker <sup>H</sup>  
Amy Catherine Vangellow  
Cicali C. Vannoy <sup>H</sup>  
Benjamin Wall  
Alyson White Eagle  
Blake R. Williams  
Zoe A. Wilson  
Nathan Wise <sup>H</sup>

**H** Projected Honor Graduate: Projected to graduate with a 3.400 GPA or higher and complete 59 hours at the University of Wyoming College of Law. **D** December 2023 Graduate **J** Joint Degree **M** Military Service

Burman Student Government  
**OUTSTANDING STUDENT AWARD**  
Darby Margaret Clark



Darby Clark was born and raised in Casper. She attended college in Powell before finishing her undergraduate degree in graphic design at the University of Wyoming. After graduation, she worked as a marketing professional at an engineering/environmental consulting firm, where she provided graphic design services and social media and marketing expertise.

In the spring of 2019, her grandmother, Norma Jean Heil, and her grandfather, Roy Nathan Clark, passed away with varying levels of complications with their estates. At some point, her father, Ron Clark, said, “You or your brother [Quinn Clark] should have gone to law school,” and with that, she

proceeded to take the LSAT and apply to the University of Wyoming College of Law.

Her time in law school has been marked by service on the John Burman Student Government for all three years, leadership on the Women’s Law Forum, and she says countless late-night calls with her mother, Lyn Clark, and getting to know, love, and respect her classmates. “Law School has been the best decision of my life,” she says.

After graduation, Darby plans to return to her hometown of Casper, where she plans to join Williams, Porter, Day, & Neville as an associate. She plans to specialize in estate planning, tax, and contract work.

Burman Student Government

# OUTSTANDING FACULTY AWARD

Lauren McLane



Introduced by Sofia Salgado Cisneros, Burman Student Government President

Professor McLane came to the College of Law faculty in July 2018 after serving as a public defender, private practitioner, and innocence lawyer in Seattle, WA. She brought with her a substantial focus on practical teaching, emphasizing the need to better prepare law students for the actual practice of law while they are still in law school.

For her first five years at the College of Law, Professor McLane served as the faculty director for the Defender Aid Clinic, a student-led, faculty-supervised clinic focused on providing indigent criminal defense

representation in Wyoming. Professor McLane and her students appeared on behalf of clients in courts at all levels, including at the Wyoming Supreme Court numerous times. Professor McLane now serves in a more doctrinal role, teaching two of the College of Law's core courses—Torts to 1Ls and Evidence to 2Ls. In addition, Professor McLane continues to teach upper-level criminal justice seminars. Professor McLane's primary areas of research and scholarship are forensic science, policing, and mass incarceration in the criminal legal system.

# GRADUATION SPEAKER

David Singleton

City of Cheyenne Municipal Court Judge



David Singleton was raised in Cheyenne and attended Wyoming Technical Institute, where he earned an Associate of Applied Science degree in automotive technology. Judge Singleton earned a degree in political science with a minor in criminal justice at the University of Wyoming. His interest in law was piqued during a year spent working on political campaigns around Wyoming.

At the University of Wyoming College of Law, Judge Singleton met his long-time mentor, Professor Darrell Jackson, and became Professor Jackson's research assistant. His third year, he served as the student director for the College of Law Prosecution Assistance Program. In that role, he supervised student interns, drafted pleadings and briefs for county attorneys, and

argued twice before the Wyoming Supreme Court. Of all his law school experiences, he says the greatest was meeting his future wife, Kelsie Singleton.

After graduation, Judge Singleton went into private practice, representing a range of clients. He then joined the First Judicial District Attorney's Office as the HIDT (High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas) attorney prosecuting felony-level drug offenses in State and Federal Court and served as the Cheyenne City Prosecutor.

Judge Singleton has served on the Cheyenne Municipal Court since 2022 and for the last two years has also been an adjunct professor at the College of Law, teaching Civil Pretrial and Trial Practice.

# STUDENT RECOGNITION

## 2023-2024 Brimmer Scholarships

Brimmer Scholars exemplify dedication to excellence and service, as the award honors the career and service of Judge Clarence A. Brimmer. The selection committee includes representatives from College of Law faculty, the judiciary, the Wyoming Bar Association, former clerks of Judge Brimmer and members of the Brimmer family.



**Brimmer Scholar Amari Bertagnolli**



**Brimmer Scholarship Finalists**

James Bell, Heather Bradford, Amber Ferguson, and Nathan Wise



# STUDENT RECOGNITION

## 2023-2024 John Burman Student Government Executive Board and Representatives

President – Darby Clark

First Vice President – Paige Realing

Second Vice President – Chandler Helvey

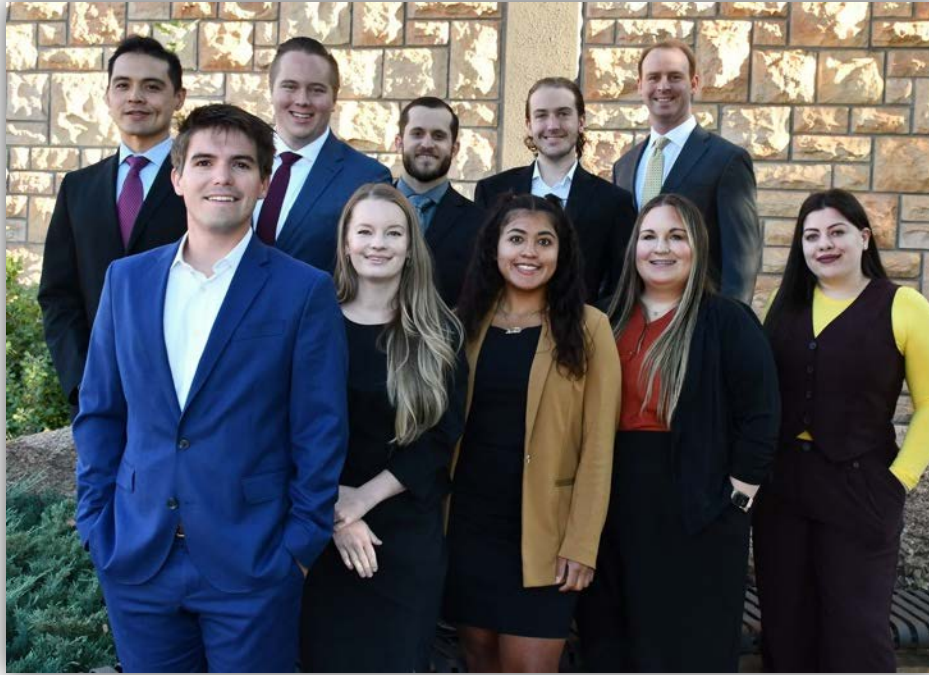
Treasurer – Jacob Lirio

Secretary – Sofia Salgado-Cisneros

Public Relations Representative – Andrew Bowers

Student Faculty Representative – John “Jack” Beaumaster

ABA/Public Service Representative – Kayla Loukas



### National Association of Women Lawyers Outstanding Law Student

**Hannah G. Clancy**

Awarded annually to a graduating student who contributes to the advancement of women in society; promotes issues and concerns of women in the legal profession; exhibits motivation, tenacity, and enthusiasm; demonstrates high academic achievement; and earns the respect of the law school community.

# STUDENT RECOGNITION

2023-2024 Clinic and Practicum Programs



Clinical Legal Education Association  
Outstanding Student

**David Henrich**

Awarded annually to recognize law students who have excelled in a clinical course in law school. An outstanding clinical student is selected by the clinical faculty of each law school.

## Civil Legal Services Clinic

Student Director –  
Matt Mislin

Outstanding Student –  
Bryce Hester

## Defender Aid Clinic

Student Director and  
Outstanding Student –  
Sarah Gloria Ann Kelley



## Family & Child Legal Advocacy Clinic

Student Director –  
Jesselyn Mae Burroughs  
Outstanding Student –  
Sofia Salgado Cisneros



# STUDENT RECOGNITION

2023-2024 Clinic and Practicum Programs



## Prosecution Assistance Clinic

Student Director –  
Kaylee Sims  
Outstanding Students –  
Leanne Joy Johnston  
and Jared Lange

## International Human Rights Clinic

Outstanding Student –  
Andrew M. Davis

## Legislation Practicum

Outstanding Student –  
Peter Nagel

## Business Planning Practicum

Student Director and  
Outstanding Student –  
Michael Partrick



## Local Government Assistance Practicum

Outstanding Student –  
Joe Budd

## Estate Planning Practicum

Student Director –  
Carly Mansker  
Outstanding Student –  
Chris Boynton

# STUDENT RECOGNITION



## 2023-2024 Editorial Board, Wyoming Law Review Volume 24

Editor-in-Chief – James Bell

Managing Editor – Jack Martin    Research Editor – Nathan Wise

Article Editors – Heather Bradford, David Henrich, Michael Partrick, Scarlett Forrest, Hannah Clancy

## 2023-2024 Legal Writing Teaching Assistants

Amari Bertagnolli, Ferha Khan, Jack Martin, Nathan Wise

## 2023-2024 Board of Advocates

Aleene Lydick, President

Davis & Cannon Natural Resources Law Moot Court Competition  
Jacy Rudloff

Richard E. Day Client Counseling Competition  
Emily Harmon and Lainee Jones

ABA Negotiation Competition  
Aleene Lydick

## Wyoming Trial Lawyers Association Voir Dire Competition

Brandon Duckworth and Gabe Maldonado

# LAW FACULTY

Klint W. Alexander	Dean and Professor of Law
Sam Kalen	Associate Dean and William T. Schwartz Distinguished Professor of Law, and Co-Director, Center for Law and Energy Resources in the Rockies, and Adjunct Professor, Haub School of Environment and Natural Resources
Lindsay A. Hoyt	Assistant Dean
Melissa Ballengee Alexander	Carl M. Williams Professor of Law and Ethics
Jacquelyn Bridgeman	Kepler Professor of Law
Kipp Coddington	Professor of Practice and Director, Energy, Environment, and Natural Resources Clinic, and Director, Externship Program
Danielle R. Cover	Professor of Law, Director, Civil Legal Services Clinic, and Wyoming Excellence Chair
James M. Delaney	Centennial Distinguished Professor of Law
Meredith Esser	Assistant Professor of Law and Director, Defender Aid Clinic
Stephen M. Feldman	Jerry W. Housel/Carl F. Arnold Distinguished Professor of Law and Adjunct Professor of Political Science
Jerry Fowler	Assoc. Professor of Law and Director, International Human Rights Clinic
Meara Hill	Assistant Librarian for Student Services
Darrell D. Jackson	Winston Howard Distinguished Professor of Law and Director, Prosecution Assistance Clinic
Tracey McCormick	Assistant Librarian for Public Services
Lauren McLane	Professor of Law
George Mocsary	Professor of Law, Director, Business Planning Practicum, and Director, Firearms Research Center
Shelby Nivitanont	Assistant Librarian for Scholarly Communications
Noah B. Novogrodsky	Professor of Law and Director, Center for International Human Rights Law and Advocacy
Dona Playton	Dyekman Professor of Law and Director, Family and Child Legal Advocacy Clinic

Tawnya K. Plumb	Director, Law Library
Tara K. Righetti	Professor of Law and Occidental Chair in Energy and Environmental Policies, School of Energy Resources and the Haub School of Environment and Natural Resources
Jason Robison	Carl M. Williams Professor of Law and Social Responsibility and Adjunct Professor, Haub School of Environment and Natural Resources
Alan Romero	Professor of Law and Director, Rural Law Center
Michael R. Smith	Professor of Law and Director, Legal Writing Program, and Director, Center for the Study of Written Advocacy
Temple Stoellinger	Associate Professor of Law, Haub School of Environment and Natural Resources and Co-Director, Center for Law and Energy Resources in the Rockies, Wyoming Excellence Chair

### **Emeritus Professors of Law**

Kenneth D. Chestek	Timothy G. Kearley	Dee Pridgen
Debra L. Donahue	Debora A. Person	Elaine A. Welle
Harvey Gelb		

### **Adjunct Faculty**

Keith Aurzada	Torvino Fodder	Rosie Read
Sharon Buccino	Brian Fuller	Dicky Shanor
Jessica Cordero	Catherine Hansen-Stamp	Kelly Shaw
Becky Farley	Dee Pridgen	David Singleton
Mathew Fink	Mario Rampulla	

### **Distinguished Visiting Faculty**

Douglas Moll

### **Golten Fellow**

Martha Jenkins

### **Director, Summer Trial Institute**

Shawna Mackey Geiger

# LAW STAFF

Tammy E. Ackerson	Law Library Specialist
Michell Anderson	Student Services Coordinator
Dave Bluemel	Registrar
Tim D. Crawford	Director of Experiential Learning
Ryan Harper	Senior Accounting Associate
Tazmine Haut	Senior Office Associate
Edward Havugimana	Executive Information Technology Specialist
Chavawn Kelley	Program Coordinator
Laurie Kempert	Executive Business Manager
Matthew Klein	Director of Student Academic Success
Marguerite L. Latta	Law Library Specialist
Lisa M. Nunley	Director of Admissions and Student Services

2023-2024

## OUTSTANDING STAFF AWARDS

Selected by the Graduating Class

### Edward Havugimana

Executive Information  
Technology Specialist



### Laurie Kempert

Executive Business  
Manager



# GRADUATION DEDICATIONS

## **Kearstin H. Baros**

To my parents, brother, sister-in-law, nephew, and close family members and friends, I am incredibly grateful for your unwavering love and support. I am so lucky to be sharing this moment with you all. Thank you for being there for me throughout this journey. I want you to know how much I love each of you. If not for you all, I would not be where I am today.

## **James H. Bell**

To my classmates, may your futures be filled with success, fulfillment, and endless opportunities to make your mark on the world.

To my family, thank you for all of the support and game nights.

To Bethany, thank you for everything; I couldn't imagine going through this without you.



## **Amari Bertagnolli**

Tim, my love, thank you for loving me and supporting me through all of my nonsense. I never would have made it without you. Thank you for finding my keys, wallet, shoes, and mental stability for me on a daily basis. I'm so glad you were silly enough to marry me.

Eamon, Orion, and Raven, thank you for always giving me a reason to keep going and snuggling me when I need it. Being your mom brings me so much joy and I will always work to be a parent you can be proud of.

To everyone else who has supported me, I'm so grateful to have such a wonderful group of people in my life and I love you.



## Christopher Binger

To my Mom and Dad, thank you for your constant support, and always picking up the phone. Thank you for teaching me how to become the person I am today.

Dad, thank you for all the hours spent in the car going to hockey games. Thank you for teaching me what it means to be a man, to be a husband and to be a father. Thank you for always being there to give advice, which over the years I have learned is much easier to actually follow. But also thank you for letting me make my own mistakes and being there to help me learn from them.

Mom, every single day from kindergarten to me being a senior in high school you had breakfast ready when I woke up and a lunch packed in my backpack. You always loved us unconditionally and had more excitement than I had during my successes. You were always there to step in when Dad was deployed, and you wanted nothing more than for me to be happy.

Without your love and lessons, I never would have ended up here today, and I could never thank you enough for giving me such a great childhood.

To my sister Kari, moving every couple years as kids you were the only friend that was consistently there. I think because of this we have a stronger bond than most siblings.

Thank you for always bringing me with you on adventures, even if it meant being embarrassed by me wearing a fuzzy steering wheel cover on my head or almost drowning while drinking a soda when we went to see Spiderman. You have always been a hero of



mine. Watching you succeed has been a constant motivator to always push forward. Also, you remember that time I got picked to be part of the Shamu Show at SeaWorld?

Lily and Alex, no matter what kind of day I have had, coming home to your excitement just to see me is the medicine to make everything better. Thank you for always making me laugh, whether it is Lily's lovely singing voice or playing with Alex's dinosaurs, you always bring a smile to my face. You will always be my Monkey and Monster.



To the love of my life, Kerriane, I don't know how you do it, honestly. I have never met someone so beautiful, so caring and so smart in my life. I think most agree that you are way out of my league and for my own sake I hope you don't figure that out. You have been my biggest cheerleader through all of this. You have always been willing to take the weight off my shoulders so I could study or do homework. You have dealt with the late nights, the early mornings, and my stress humming in my

sleep. You have always supported me in whatever it was I chose to do. You have always been there for me, and I have no doubt that I could never have done this without you.

## Mikala Bolkovatz

### Dear God-

Without God's direction and support during my difficult moments, I would not be where I am now. God has greatly blessed me, and I am forever thankful.

*Mark 9:23.*

### Dear Mom and Dad-

I want to thank you both for all the love and support I have had over the past three years. The work ethic and life principles that you two instilled in me at a young age have been the primary cause of my success in law school. I've been deeply impacted by my Mom's three words she says to me every day: **"You are enough."** If I have faith and believe in myself, I can accomplish anything. I can't express how grateful I am to have you both as my parents. Your love and support will stay in my heart forever. I love you, Mom, and Dad.

### Dear Mariah-

Thank you for supporting me during the most trying years of my life – law school. To have you as my twin sister is such a blessing. I appreciate your unwavering love and support so much.

I love you, Sister.



### Dear Chad-

I appreciate your unwavering patience when I'm preoccupied with my studies. I am so grateful for your love and support. I love you, Chad.

## Chris Boynton

My wife, Brittany, is the best and it's not just because she laughs almost exclusively at poop jokes. She isn't merely supportive, she's encouraging, she's selfless, compassionate, and confident in me even when I'm not. When we were in the planning stages of law school and learned that we'd be leaving our home, family, and friends, she was all in. When we faced obstacles along the way, like being stuck in the hellhole that is Gallup, NM for a week on our move to Laramie, she never let any of those obstacles get the best of her and never questioned our decision to come to Laramie for law school. It's almost like if adversity took human form, Brittany would look the dude over, size him up, then pull some sweet submission move on him that would dislocate three different bones before he could even think about tapping out. Then you'd look over at Joe Rogan commentating on the submission and he's got that dumb, blown away look on his face while bracing his fellow commentators on either side of him.

Meanwhile, I'm just on the front row shaking my head at the commentators for even doubting my wife for a second. Then I glance back at Brittany who's in the ring staring back at me. She nods at me and I nod back. Then she looks slightly to her left and behind me and nods. I look to see who she's sharing another nod with and it's none other than Sir Michael Caine sipping his drink at an outdoor Venetian cafe who nods right back at Brittany. I guess what I'm trying to say is, Brittany, thank you for being so supportive especially when it hasn't been any easy three years. I'm excited for our next chapter. And thank you for nodding at Sir Michael Caine, it was the right thing to do. I love you.

Scout, Jayden, Rockwell, and Morgan, thank you all for being so willing to go on a three-year adventure. Catcher, you only get credit for half the trip but you got me out of class for a week or two so we're cool. I love you all so much and don't think I could've made it this far without your prayers and tickle fights. Thank you! Love Dad



### **Andrew Bowers**

For my family, who taught me  
that a life of service to others  
is a fulfilling one.

### **Heather Bradford**

To my Isaac:

Thank you. Without you, I would not be here today. You took a chance and moved to someplace dark and cold and windy for a girl you liked. You have been my rock through law school, you always believed in me, and you always supported me. You held me through my disappointments and celebrated with me through my successes. You have always thought I could make it through law school, and now I have! You sacrificed some of your dreams, so I could have some of mine. Here's to our future together, I am so happy we got to start our life together in Saint Misery! 🤔

To my parents:

I love you both! Thank you for raising me to try my best and for always supporting me in my academic endeavors. I would not be the person I am today without you. You have always been proud of me and thought I was better than I am. Thank you for all the encouraging texts, all the times you visited (mom), and for always believing in me. You have been there for me every step of the day. Now I am fully equipped to steal the empire, so you better watch your backs.

Last but certainly not least . . . to my Baby Goose.

You are the best puppy in the whole wide world. You are my doggy shoulders to cry on, and you have always loved me unconditionally. Goose, you are my best nap buddy, and you always take my side when Isaac is mad at me. I tell you all my secrets and you always keep them. You have been there for me every day after law school. Thanks for being the best boy. (I fully expect Isaac to read this to you).

### **Paige Brimhall**

Thank you to my endlessly supportive family –  
I could not have gotten to this point without you all!

### **Joseph Budd**

To all my friends, family, and mentors  
– thank you.

## Kyra Burke

To Ingrid: This chapter in our friendship will always be one I am beyond grateful for. Thank you for not only becoming the ultimate study partner, but also never wavering from being my lifelong friend. Law school has been an unforgettable whirlwind that I couldn't have done without you, and I am so excited to see where our journeys lead us next!

To my dad: Thank you for your unwavering support throughout my law school journey. Knowing I have you behind me makes all the difference! I appreciate you always being there to listen to my experiences and to celebrate my accomplishments.



## Jesselyn Burroughs

Mom and Dad: A short dedication cannot express my gratitude for your love, unwavering support, wisdom, and sacrifices. Your gentle guidance and belief in my potential has shaped me into the person I am today. Your strength and dedication to our family make you the heroes of my story.



Daulton: Look at us. Who would have thought? Not me! I cannot thank you enough for encouraging me to pursue law school. You always believed in me, even when I didn't believe in myself. I love you so much, and it is a privilege to do life with you.

Shelby, Jeff, and Jack: You are not just my siblings, but my dearest friends. You have stood by my side through laughter and tears, triumphs and challenges. Knowing I have you all in my corner has given me the confidence to get to this day! Thank you for the laughter, love, and joy you bring me. I am a better person because of you all.

To my Grandma: When I think of strong women, I will always think of you. You are the heartbeat of our family, and I am endlessly grateful to have you as a guiding light in my life.

To the Family Law Clinic: It has been an honor to work with and learn alongside such incredible people. Your friendship, steadfast support, and laughs have made the clinic a home away from home. I cannot wait to see the incredible accomplishments you will all achieve in your lives and careers. And to Dona, our fearless leader, your mentorship has shaped the lives of so many students. Your dedication to advocacy, work ethic, and ability to find the humor in stressful situations are lessons I will lean on as I begin my legal career



### **Hannah Clancy**

To my parents, you have my deepest appreciation and gratitude for everything you've sacrificed for me without ever expecting a thank you in return. Thank you both.

To Michael, your own accomplishments and successes have been a source of friendly competition and have motivated me to persevere beyond expectations.

Thank you to The Spence Law Firm, Hirst Applegate, the Civil Legal Services Clinic, and Judge Kelly Rankin for providing me with invaluable legal experience.

Thank you to my mentors whose sage knowledge, constructive criticisms, and unwavering support made law school possible: Richard Bryant, Cindy O'Dwyer, Jim Rooks, Dr. Matthew O'Gara, and Judge Mary Jane Knisley.

## **Darby Margaret Clark**

Mom and Dad — Words cannot and will never explain how grateful to you I am. Dad, a few years ago you said, “You or your brother should have gone to law school,” and I can honestly say, if you had never said that I would not be here today. Mom, you have been there literally every hour of every day—for me to cry, to yell, to babble about absolutely nothing—and I will spend the rest of my days thanking you for that. Thank you both for loving me through the good days and holding me through the bad days. This degree is as much mine as it is yours.

Quinn — My brother, my best friend. You make me so proud to be a big sister. You are just getting started in your life, and I hope that you never stop being the funny, caring, and strong-willed person you are. Thank you for living with me during my first semester of law school, I know it wasn’t easy, but I needed you there more than you know.

To my classmates — We did it! I can’t wait to see where everyone goes, and I can’t wait to congratulate you on your accomplishments. We have had the best of times, and the worst of times, but together we prevailed. I hope all your hopes and dreams will come true, and I hope you will look back on your time at the University of Wyoming with fondness.

To myself — I am so proud of you. You, who woke up at 4:00am on the first day of law school, just to read the wrong book. You, who shook with nerves before, after, and during every class that first year. You, who cried before Summer Trial because you thought you couldn’t do it. You have done something so hard, and you are going to help so many people in this life. I hope when you get sad and scared and overwhelmed that you will remember why you’re here and why you have done it all. And, as you turn 30 this June, take these words from Miss Taylor Alison Swift and persevere: “it was the end of a decade, but the start of an age.”

## **Fallon Clay**

I would like to acknowledge my loving and supportive family.  
My parents, Scott and Sheri Ramsey, and my brother Colt Ramsey.

## **Gabrielle Despain**

I just wanted to give a shoutout to my family. Thank you for all your help these last three years. Your humor, craziness, sarcasm, and support have been greatly appreciated during these dark times of law school. I love all of you! (Even if you are being ridiculous)

I also wanted to say thank you to the friends I have made in law school. I would not have passed Property without you!



## Brandon Duckworth

### To My Parents:

I am so grateful for your love and support. I feel very fortunate to have you all in my life and would not have reached this achievement without you. Your constant encouragement to chase my dreams and never settle is the reason I am here today. I can't thank you enough for all the sacrifices you have made to help me get here.

### To Kaylin:

I owe my success throughout the past three years to you. In the most stressful times of my life when I didn't think I had what it takes, your encouragement and positivity kept me going. You have selflessly supported me in every way during a time when I was often selfish. For that and so much more, I will be forever grateful. Thank you for standing by me through all the ups and downs. I love you!



## Colton Edwards

To my family, thank you for always being supportive of me. You all have always pushed me to do the best that I can throughout life but have been there to lift me back up during tough times. I always enjoyed being able to spend time with all of you during breaks and be able to relax after finals.

To my friends, thank you for making law school a fun time. I'm going to miss all of us getting together every week for law school Fridays, and the ski trips.

## **Amber Renee Ferguson**

**To Matt:** There are not adequate words. You pushed me to face my fears, took Wes on adventures as I tackled LSAT practice, then handled the kids and housework during my most demanding times in law school. Moreover, your thoughtful way of always bringing me homemade meals when I was too busy to eat reminded me that I am loved. You care for me when I don't care for myself. You are my rock, my person, my homebase. I couldn't fathom where I would be without you. I love you and am grateful every single day to be your wife.

**To my right-hand man, Wes Paul:** You are old enough to remember pre-law school Mom, and it was a massive change for you. Nevertheless, you showed unparalleled grace, support, and love to your sometimes unavailable or grumpy Mom. You helped me remember what is important, kept me grounded, helped me celebrate my victories, and kept me motivated in the face of losses. Always a driving force, I love you to the ends of the universe, Buddy-Bear.

**To my sweetie, Charley Elizabeth:** As I began law school, you were just 2 years old. Rather than letting it distance us, you adapted beautifully. Carrying your own papers and workbook, you even had your own pencil pouch. You found joy in highlighting your own book to "study" with me. You'd skip, not walk, everywhere with a contagious happiness, bringing light to what could have been very dark hours. Za-Zu, I love you more than you could ever know.

**To Mom, Dad, Niki, Shalyn, April, Kurt, & Kim:** Grateful to each of you for the love and support during law school and throughout my life. I love you!

**To Pete, Kathy, & Kelly:** Thanks for being cheerleaders and being there to watch the kids whenever we needed a hand. I married into the best family in the world. Love you all dearly!

**To Jackson & Jesselyn:** Firm Unity Forever!!

**Finally, to Megs, Dev, Cole, Jodi, & Dusty:** Grateful for the mentorship, support, and unwavering belief in me—even when I doubted myself. Proud to have you all as my forever work-family.



## Scarlett Forrest

To my parents: I wish there was a word that expressed 100X more gratitude than thank you, but I guess I'll have to settle. Thank you for your unwavering support these last three years, thank you for moving me across the country from Virginia to Wyoming, thank you for coming to visit every year and sharing my love for the Rocky Mountains, thank you for staying consistent as my whole world changed, thank you for immediately responding "I always thought you should be a lawyer" (even though you never told me that!) when I tentatively told you I wanted to change careers and pursue law school, I couldn't have gotten here without you both.

To Sammy and Savanna: thank you for also coming along for the ride, thank you for making me laugh and adding color to "family togetherness" time. I am so proud of both of you and the grownups you're becoming, and I can't wait to see what the future holds. And don't worry about trying to "fill my shoes." Savanna will always be the favorite, and I'm comfortable with that ranking.

To Tyler: thank you for encouraging/coercing me to take care of myself outside of law school, thank you for getting dinner ready (even if it's sometimes from Door Dash) when I'm too exhausted to get off the couch, thank you for coming to rescue me from multiple car *and* mental breakdowns, thank you for not running for the hills when I was at my worst and showing me new ways to be my best. I'm so excited to start the next law school-free phase of our lives together, with our mountain views and chubby cats.

To Emily: thank you for traveling across the country to be here with me today, it means the world to me. Thank you for sharing the heavy burden of being the funniest person in the room with me, it's really difficult to serve in such an unappreciated, public service role. Thank you for not getting **too** mad at me for moving so far away, I'm not sure what I would have done without our "real quick" (1 to 4 hour) phone calls, giggles, and ski trips. And thank you for being my ride or die for the past 20 years. And while that makes me feel ...so old... I also feel so fortunate to have shared everything from clarinet duets to traveling the world with you.



To Kelsie: I am so grateful that I sat next to you that first day of orientation and for the adorable meet cute story of our friendship that followed. Thank you for being my Laramie family, for *also* rescuing me from multiple car breakdowns, for our skiing and hiking (sometimes mis-) adventures, and for being such a solid cheerleader. I'm so proud of you and everything you've accomplished, and I can't wait to be lawyer ladies in Colorado together (and get our nails done more frequently).

Lastly, many thanks to the College of Law, the staff, the professors, and my classmates. This has been one of my most challenging and rewarding experiences, and I am so grateful our paths crossed in this small town in Wyoming. Thank you for making me sharper, more patient, more focused, more disciplined, and for pushing me to realize my full potential. Thank you for teaching me more about how the law, and by extension, the world works. While I'm not sure if becoming a lawyer will help me "change the world," it certainly changed me to be better prepared for the world, and for that I am forever grateful.

I'm a firm believer that the quality of your life depends on the quality of your relationships, so thank you all, because I'm doing pretty good.

### Andrew Freeze

To my wife, Katarina. Without your constant support and encouragement, I don't think I would have made it beyond the first few weeks of law school. You have been the epitome of what it means to hold down the fort at home as I have completed my education. I am forever grateful that you are my wife. I love you!

To my kids, Henley and Landon. You won't remember my law school years, but I want you to know that I am grateful for your presence always. Both of you have helped me to grow immensely as a person and as a dad during my time in law school. I am constantly proud of you both. I love you!



## Kate Gamble

To my Parents: Mom, thank you for teaching me to be outspoken, unfiltered, and to strive to achieve what is important and special to me. You “attended” law school with me and are relentlessly supportive of who I am. I attribute my work ethic through law school to your passion for your own work, and your endless commitment to helping animals in your community. I grew up watching you never let someone speak over you, take on a male-dominated industry in a foreign world with grace, use your intelligence as a shield and a sword, and protect those who cannot protect themselves. I hope to do the same. Dad, you once told me “you will waste your talents if you don’t become a lawyer.” Since then, you have helped me realize that my greatest asset is my voice and using it to be kind. Thank you for showing me Wyoming, its wildlife and landscapes, and supporting the realization that my purpose is to protect the environment. Your advocacy for wilderness and public land, and our time together in the mountains seeing bears and wolves is the reason I wanted to pursue environmental law.



You taught me that everything is connected, everything has value, and everything is worthy. I was lucky enough to see nature through your eyes and will carry on your love for wild spaces. Because of you two, I learned to never be quiet, never follow, and never be anything but unabashedly myself. Thank you. I love you.

To my Agate: You taught me what it means to be gentle. You helped me be gentle on myself during this process, gentle on others, and gentle on the world, even when I didn’t think it deserved it. I am so proud of who you are, and who you have encouraged me to be. You helped me realize that there is other wisdom than that found in a textbook, and that there are other ways to learn than just academia alone. You’ve shown me that compassion and curiosity is the recipe for everything good. I promise to approach the world and my work in a way that will make you proud. I love you.

To my Max: Thank you for being kind, patient, and endlessly loving. You dealt with the brunt of my anxiety during law school, and instead of getting frustrated, you sat with me, listened to me rant about incomprehensible case excerpts, helped me understand the rule against perpetuities, and did everything for me that I could not do for myself. When I look back on these last three years, I am so happy that most of my memories are of you, and those memories are not clouded by the stress of school. Because that is what you do— you make everything beautiful. Thank you. I love you, Nugget, and sometimes BabyKat.

Thank you, Mom, Dad, Agate, Max, my Oma and Opa, my grandmother, and all the women who joined me in this experience.

## Jordan Gless

To my mom and dad: Thank you for your unwavering support and perfect love. I don't know what I have done to deserve such incredible parents, but I am overcome with gratitude for your belief in me and the interminable list of things you do to support my dreams. This achievement truly would not have been possible without your efforts; I am honored and privileged to come from such loving people as you.

To Ozzy: My dear, thank you for so many things. For listening to me, for feeding me, for holding me, for entertaining me, for grounding me, for validating me, I am forever grateful. You have made this chapter of my life better than I could have imagined, and you give me hope for a brighter future. What a gift it is to love, and be loved, by you.

To my friends: You are all like family to me. I love and appreciate you all so much for everything you have done for me over the years, for all the happiness you create. Your compassion, intelligence, strength, and humor inspire me every day. I would not have made it this far without you. My friendships are truly my favorite thing about myself, and I am so lucky to have you all in my life.

## Matthew Gradecki

To my wife, Lexi – Thank you for everything you have done to support our little family over the past years while I took the time to go learn and prepare for another career. You have supported me through everything with unwavering love, encouragement, and inspiration. You have taken on more than your fair share of work to keep us going. I could not have been successful in this endeavor without you. I am overjoyed to begin the next chapter of our lives together, with all the adventures that are coming, and to finally have the tools to begin to repay you for everything you have done for me and fulfill my promise to build my dreams around yours. I love you now, forever, and always.



### **Amanda (Mandy) Green**

Thank you to my family: my sister—Haley, my parents—Linda and Taz, and my grandparents—Joan and Fred. I reach this milestone because of your support and encouragement. Thank you for always believing in me.

### **David Henrich**

To my Parents, thank you for all of your support and for all that you have done to turn me into the person I am today. To the Girtz family, I cannot thank you enough for all the assistance, help, and support you have provided me the past three years. I love you all.

### **Leanne Johnston**

Donna, thank you for encouraging me to apply to law school and for your support throughout. Noah and Victoria, thank you for your love and kindness throughout the years. And thank you for sharing a bottle of Prosecco with me when we found out that I had been accepted to the University of Wyoming! Ian, thank you for being my inspiration and role model. Cara, thank you for your kindness. Dad and Maggie, thank you for your love and support. And last but not least, Isaiah, thank you for being my rock and for believing in me. I love you all with all my heart and soul.  
Love, Leanne

### **Bryce Hester**

To My Parents: There are many people who deserve my appreciation and thanks today, but none as much as the two of you. It is impossible to acknowledge everything you have done to help me get here. However, the greatest support I had over the past three years was knowing that you were there for me every step of the way. I love and appreciate both of you and could not have done it without you. Thank you.

### **Benjamin Hoyer**

I owe thanks to many people for this day, chief among them are my parents, my brother, and of course, the love of my life, Sarah. Thank you for your support, inspiration, and love.



## **Ferha Khan**

To my husband: Thank you for supporting me these past three difficult years. You have handled my every mental breakdown with immense grace and kindness. I couldn't be more grateful for your companionship the past five years. To my family: Thank you to my parents for the sacrifices you have made. I hope this achievement brings you pride in the way you raised us. To my four younger siblings, I hope I have set a good example for you all to follow.

## **Sarah Kelley**

To my all of my precious cousins, my aunts and uncles, my Mamaw Margaret and Grandma Judy, Hauna Joy, the Bolens and the Allards – thank you for getting me here. Thank you for getting me through, always. I love you all so much.

To my sweet Dradon, thinking about your dedication to me these last sixteen years humbles me to my core. Thank you for seeing me. For understanding me. Thank you for believing in me when I felt like there was nothing left to believe in. You have always been one of my greatest teachers and truest mirror. You have held me up, helped me study, cheered me on, had my back, made me laugh, and reminded me of my purpose when I thought I had nothing left to give. I could have never gotten to this moment without you. I love you. Like crazy. Forever.

To my Rachie and Daniel Beau, thank you for fueling the flames of my fiery spirit and never letting me give up. For helping me find my voice and protect my heart. For holding me accountable to my values, words, and actions. For celebrating every big and small thing. For dancing with me, dreaming with me, and showing me the way. I look at you both with stars in my eyes. I am so honored to be your sister. Hug, hug... kiss, kiss...

To my Mama and Papa, there are no words to express everything I feel about being your daughter. You are the greatest gifts of my life. Thank you for every sacrifice, seen and unseen. For creating a home that taught we have an obligation to our community. For showing me what it looks like to be brave. For teaching us what it means to truly be rich. Thank you for loving us and believing in us so fiercely. We owe it all to you. You are my heroes. I love you up to the sky and past the silver moon.

Finally, to my grandmother Gloria and grandfather Brian. It might not be how we thought you'd see it, but you two have the best seats in the house today. I know how proud you both are. I can feel it.

Grandpa, I hold every debate, philosophical conversation, and inquiry into universal love with you so close to my heart. You fortified my skills at standing up for myself and for others, valued my opinions and experiences, and challenged me harder than any class I could ever take. Thank you. I love you and miss you so much.

Mi querida abuelita, the best parts of me come from you. You are the most beautiful person I've ever known. The best person. It is an honor to be your granddaughter and to share your name. To be born from your fire. Thank you for your eternal protection and prayers. I will seek your guidance and light forever. Te amo mucho GG.



## Micah Kellogg

To Mom, Dad, Orion, and Ariel, thank you for your encouragement and support throughout my life. To my friends, the memories we made were the best part of law school, and I look forward to seeing what you accomplish in the future.



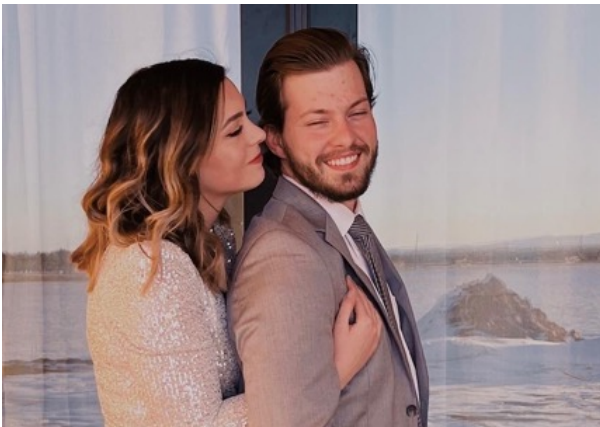
## Tiffany Jo Killpack

My incredibly loving husband, Ryan: you have seen the absolute worst of my law school experience. Every bad day, every moment of peak exhaustion, every second of stress, self-doubt, and second guessing—you have been right there to see the ugliest of it all and love me through it.

On the night before one final, after I had been outlining for 14 straight hours in a camping chair in our living room, you finally fell asleep on the couch in front of me, after a full day of patiently handling my panic, setting glasses of water down next to me, and feeding me snacks so I didn't have to stop typing.

While studying for my first-ever closed book exam in Civ Pro II, you endured *relentless hours* of me singing along to the parody songs I had written to memorize rules and standards, without complaining or telling how weird I was for singing in the bathtub to study or telling me how awful it all sounded. To me (and to you who had to hear them about 246 times), "Positions" by Ariana Grande will always be "Depositions," "September" by Earth, Wind, and Fire will always be "Interpleader," and "Y.M.C.A." will always be "J.M.O.L." Thank you for letting me absolutely ruin such incredible songs for you.

You put up with (and maybe enjoyed a little) me referring to you as “Your Honor” for an entire day before my oral argument, because I was terrified that I would address my “judges” the wrong way and tank my grade.



You flew almost 6,000 miles with me to the other side of the world, because I wanted so badly to do the Chile course, but I refused to go alone. You hung out in a hotel room in Santiago every day, waiting for my classes to be over so we could explore, make once-in-a-lifetime memories, and see how Chileans do Carl’s Jr. (They do a really good job.) You didn’t tell me that I was absolutely insane, delusional, or a little bit unhinged for starting a business in the middle of law school. You just sat back, supported me, and smelled a LOT of candles,

while asking me if I had any reading to do for the next day. (I did, and I did not do it. But thank you for asking.)

We would be here all day if I tried to remember every single kind, patient, and supportive thing you have done to help get me through the last three years. I couldn’t be prouder now in the beginning of your own law school journey, struggling yourself but continuing to support me. You have supported every dream I have ever had, every step of the way, and I cannot begin to tell you how much I love and appreciate you.

My amazing family: thank you for planting the seed for all of this by constantly telling me as a kid that I argued too much and that I should be a lawyer when I grew up (ta da!). Thank you for always stressing the importance of education and being my best self, instilling in me a lifelong love of learning, and always being there as a sounding board for my craziest ideas (“So I started googling about law school...” “What if I started selling candles?” “I think I really want to go to Chile for this class.”) Each of you are such examples to me of hard work, perseverance, and love, and I am so grateful for the ways that you have all supported me during this time of my life.

Thank you for reminding me that this struggle was only temporary and going to be worth it (Dad), for helping me keep my head on straight (Mom), for bringing me brownies while I studied (Chris), letting me do heaps of laundry at your house and being my best friend (Heather), showing me how to be patient and kind (Jakobi), and taking me in and loving me like your own (Byron and Allison).

Thank you for always checking in on me and for loving me in ways that only a family can. I have so much more that I could say—I am almost a lawyer, after all, and we never run out of things to say—but just know that I love you all so much. Thank you for everything!

*You went to every Law Ball with me, even though you detest both dancing and well-done steak.*

*You made sure that I was still alive through two weeks of Summer Trial Institute. Enough said.*

## Katherine Kleve

*"Saruman believes that it is only great power that can hold evil in check. But that is not what I have found. I've found it is the small things, everyday deeds of ordinary folk that keeps the darkness at bay. Simple acts of kindness and love."* - Gandalf, *The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey*

To My Parents, David and Molly: You set me up for success before I was ever born. In doing so, you gave me a gift not everyone has the luxury to receive – the freedom to choose my own path and direct my higher education and future career as I see fit. I would not have made it as far as I have without your constant love and support. This day of triumph is as much yours as it is mine. Thank you.



To My Sister, Karen: We have chosen to walk different roads in life, but I believe that is to neither of our detriments. Your differing experiences in the realm of education kept my sense of perspective intact on this journey. Our 3-hour long phone calls about our shared love of fantasy always helped maintain my creative spark when I didn't have time to pursue my creative writing hobby or read my favorite fantasy books due to the rigors of law school. For that, I thank you.

To Shelby and Marye: Random chance may have assigned us as roommates in August 2023, but I will always maintain fate sent you both to me in my last year of law school. Your constant questions about my legal studies helped me learn my class material and prepare for my exams, and you always knew when and how to distract me with a comedic joke or an inspirational bell pepper to relieve some of the stress. Our camaraderie formed around game nights, horses, and baking has built a close friendship that I believe was instrumental to my success today, and it will continue to influence my success in the future. Thank you both for making my last year of law school so bright and full of light.

To My Mentors: Some of you were my teachers; some of you were not. But one and all, you each passed to me wisdom and knowledge built from experience, something that does not come from the classroom. No matter how much coursework and studying I have done to get here, it is *your* lessons which influenced the "how" and "why" that set me on this journey to begin with, and constantly remind me of the purpose underlying my choice of law as a career. Know that I will continue to treasure your shared wisdom for years to come as I take the next step forward in life.

## Damon G. Knechtel

For my family, friends, partner, and everyone else who offered encouragement along the way, it's finally over! All of your love and support have made this journey possible. Thank you for believing in me.

## Jared Lange

To my dearest Cheyenne: As I stand at the threshold of a new chapter in my life, I am filled with immense gratitude and love for you, my steadfast companion. From moments of self-doubt and triumph, you have been my rock, my confidante, and my inspiration. Your unwavering belief in me has been a beacon of light, guiding me through the challenges of law school and reminding me of the importance of perseverance and dedication. Your patience, understanding, and encouragement have been instrumental in shaping my growth as a student, a future lawyer, and as a person. As I reflect on the countless sacrifices you have made, I am reminded of the depth of your love and commitment.



Your unwavering support has not only fueled my academic pursuits but has also enriched every aspect of my life. Cheyenne, this achievement is as much yours as it is mine. I dedicate this milestone to you, my beloved wife, with profound gratitude and a heart full of love.

To my mom: You have been a constant source of comfort, guidance, and unwavering support. Through every stumble and success, you have been there, cheering me on with a heart full of love and a spirit overflowing with pride. Your unconditional love has been a source of solace and inspiration, reminding me of the beauty and power of maternal devotion. I carry with me the lessons you have imparted, the values you have instilled, and the love you have so generously given.

To Nathan and Andrew: Your drive, intelligence, and relentless pursuit of excellence have been both an inspiration and a challenge to me. Your success is not just a possibility but an inevitability, and I am grateful for the push you've given me to reach for greater heights. I have no doubt that your futures are bright, and I look forward to witnessing your accomplishments with pride.

To Soren and Jordan: In a world that often moves too quickly, you both have taught me the value of slowing down and cherishing life's simple pleasures. You taught me that law school is only a temporary part of my life and that friendship means much more. Our weekly trivia

sessions, filled with laughter and Soren's shenanigans will be memories that I hold dear. Thank you for being my friends.

To Isaabella and Keegan: Our journey together has been a testament to the enduring power of friendship. Through the ups and downs, you have shown me that true bonds withstand the test of time and distance. I am grateful for the memories we've shared. Thank you for teaching me the beauty of lasting friendships.



## Kayla Loukas

To my Mom, Dad, and Brother – Thank you for all your support the past three years. This has been one of the most difficult journeys, but you have always been there for me. I cannot think



of too many other people willing to drive the 11,984 miles and fly the 9,247 miles just for me. Without you, I would have never been able to fulfill my lifelong dream of being a Cowgirl!

To my friends - Thank you for helping me along the way! From chatting in the library to the late-night study groups, you helped me make it through! I am so excited to see where our careers take us and to stay updated along the way. Congratulations to the Class of 2024!

**Carly Mansker**

**To my incredible support system, Mom and Dad —**

You've been my rocks through this wild ride. Your never-ending confidence in me has been my guiding light through every challenge and triumph. You lift me up, you keep me humble, and most importantly, you listen — to every spiel, anecdote, and achievement. I am endlessly grateful for your infinite support, patience, and understanding. Thank you for always believing in me and pushing me to be the best version of myself. I couldn't have done it without you.

**To my cherished friends, Codi and Jes —**

Your presence in my life has been a gift beyond measure. Through every twist and turn, you've stood by my side with unwavering loyalty and kindness. Your laughter and constant support have made the burdens lighter and the joys more meaningful. Together, we've weathered many storms and celebrated even more victories. I can't wait to continue creating memories that will last a lifetime with each of you.

**To my amazing classmates, Lydia and Shay —**

Whether we were venting our frustrations or dashing for coffee between classes, you've been my sanity in the madness of law school. Your laughter, friendship, and support have meant the world to me. I couldn't have sat next to a better pair of women on that terrifying first day — here's to the countless memories we've made and our bountiful futures ahead.



**To everyone who's been there for me, near and far —**

Thank you doesn't quite cover it. Your faith in me has kept me going on this crazy ride, propelling me toward this achievement. Please know that your friendship and encouragement mean the world to me and that I continue to carry your love and support with me as I enter this next chapter.

With love and gratitude,  
Carly

## Jackson Marcotte

**To Mom and Dad,** I am certain that this day would not have been possible without both of you. For as long as I can remember, you have been more than willing to let me chase my dreams, never questioning me but always choosing to support me and be my biggest fans. Whether it was traveling across the country for my games, sending me care packages during finals, or simply checking in with a text, I have always felt your support. You were always the first to answer a phone call, offer help in a pinch, or just listen. I am forever grateful for the sacrifices you've made for me, allowing me to be where I am today.

**To my siblings,** I will always remember and cherish our late-night text over the last three years, filled with my attempts to express my many emotions through Nick Miller memes. Thank you for all your support. "New York. Long Island. Billy Joel." - Winston Schmidt.

**And above all, to Katherine,** Words could never fully capture what you mean to me and the significance of your support over the last three years. Each day brought new challenges, and your ability to face them head-on without hesitation was incredibly inspiring. You were the reason I was able to achieve all of this; every day, I just wanted to make you proud. I'm so excited to embark on our next chapter together. I love you!



## Sam Mellema

First, I would like to thank my parents for the constant love and support for these many years of school. I love you both!

To all my siblings: Micah, Kaylie, Ben, Leah, Jacey, Sophie, and Season. Thank you all for constantly pushing me to be better. Love you nits to bits!

To my grandparents, thank you all so much for the support and guidance you have given to me through school.

To all my other family and friends too numerous to name, thank you all so much for helping me get to today.

Finally, thank you to all my classmates. I could not imagine getting through these years of law school without the help and support from each and every one of you. Good luck to you all in your future careers. You will all do great and amazing things!

## **Matt Misslin**

To Jessica, Daxton, Jaren, and Brinley. Thank you for bearing with me through the last three years, for bearing the load and supporting me through the stress and the joy, the uncertainty and the success. I love you all and cannot wait to give you back the time we missed over the last three years.

## **Kelsie Nieusma**

To my husband: Thank you for embracing this journey with me and making law school such a positive experience. You have been my biggest supporter over the past three years and for that I am eternally grateful. I am so excited for wherever life takes us next and to have the opportunity to support you as you have done for me. I love you endlessly, Zachary J.



## **Soren Oberg**

To my Dad and Mom who have done so much for me. I wouldn't be here without your unwavering support and love. You raised me to be the person I am today, and I appreciate always having a place to go for the holidays or when I'm just homesick. You allow me to forget about the struggles of law school for a little while.

To Quinn and Zoe, thank you for being the best siblings I could've asked for. You've been my lifelong best friends, and I appreciate all the time I've got to spend with you over the years from Nuggets games to just hanging out.

To Jared, who quickly became one of my best friends and helped me engage with the law more and has given me many memorable moments. I know you'll be a great passionate attorney.

To the many friends I've met at law school that made this journey bearable through the many fun events, tailgates, and trivia nights. I appreciate and love all of you. I know you'll all make great attorneys.

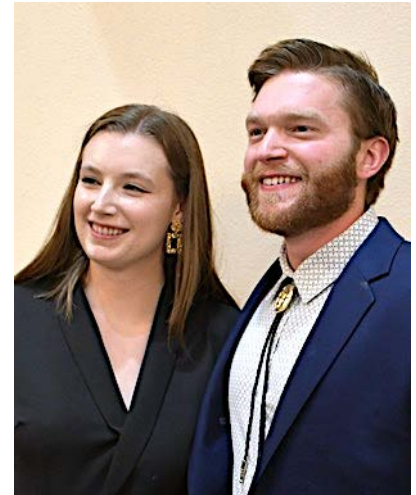


## Michael Partrick

To my mom and dad: thank you for the unwavering support and encouragement, not just in law school, but throughout my life. I would not be where I am, or the man I am today, without the lessons you have taught me about hard work, perseverance, and sacrifice.

To Hannah: Thank you for supporting me and cheers to our upcoming adventures.

To all of my friends and the beautiful souls I have met here in Laramie: thank you for keeping me sane and making law school fun.



## Paige E. Realing

Logan: There are no words I could say or sentences that I could write that could ever truly demonstrate the amount of gratitude and reverence I have for the way you have navigated this journey with me. Every time I felt like I was looking up at a mountain with no hope of reaching the top, you showed up, took my hand, and climbed with me inch by inch. On days where I could only give 10%, you gave 90% without a second thought, without a cross word. You represent the concept of true partnership and selflessness in marriage, and I couldn't be more grateful to share this life with you. Even if I got a million more years with you, it still wouldn't be enough time. We earned this, this is for us.

"Against all odds Honey, we're the big door prize."

Ma & Dad: Thank you for beating the odds and creating a safe, supportive home in which to grow up. Ma, thank you for answering every call and fielding every impending breakdown with ease. Dad, thank you for always being there with a tight hug and some wise words.

My Family: There are too many of you to mention by name, and what a wonderful problem that is to have. Thank you for cheering me on and loving me deeply. "Always remember there was nothing worth sharing like the love that lets us share our name."

The Farm: None of you can read, but I would be remiss if I didn't recognize the balls of fur that bring me so much comfort and peace day in and day out. Ellie, Nox, and Bennie, I promise there will be more walks from here on out. Pugsley and Morty, I promise there will be plenty more stacks of paper to sit on. Gwen, the mountains are ours.

The Family Clinic: Some of my favorite times in law school were spent being here way too late and laughing way too loud. Alex and Jesselyn, I have so much respect for you both. I'm honored to have worked alongside each other and can't wait to watch you take your places in the courtroom. Dona, thank you for putting up with me, believing in me, and guiding me. I wouldn't have made it without you.

## Alyssa Romero

Mom: I love your caring soul and always loving me. Your support and love carried me through some difficult times. I am lucky to always have your love.

Dad: Your work ethic and wisdom always inspired me to go into this career. You taught me to think for myself, and always encouraged me to do well in school. I am glad you are on my team.

To the rest of my family: Thank you for always picking up my calls, checking in on me, and feeding me. I wish I could have visited you all more but thank you for understanding.

To all of the friends in school that I have met in this journey, you are my lifelong friends. I love you like my family. I literally couldn't be here without you.

To Lauren: Thank you for never telling me what I wanted to hear, but what I needed to hear.

To JPK and my mentors (Heidi/Matt—Go UW!, Tiffany, Eric): I could not have gotten through my first year without you all over at JPK. Thank you for your patience and the experience you passed along to me. I aspire to be a great advocate like you all showed me how to do.

To my grandmas: Your encouragement is never forgotten.

Justin: Thank you for being there for Anberlynn when I had to focus on school. You and your grandpa believed I could do this. I am not sure I would have even tried without either of you.

Most importantly, to my beautiful daughter Anberlynn: Thank you for motivating me to further my education in hopes that you have a good life and motivating me to be a role model for you. You can do anything you set your mind to no matter how difficult it may seem. You make every struggle worth it. I wouldn't change it for the world, and I look forward to the future with you.



*You all continued to believe in me and love me even when I did not myself, thank you.*



## Ethan Simler

To My Parents, Jolyne and Ed,

Throughout this journey, you have been my unwavering pillars of support, providing guidance, encouragement, and boundless love. Your sacrifices and endless belief in my abilities have paved the path for me to achieve this milestone. I dedicate my law school graduation to you, Mom and Dad, with deepest gratitude and admiration. Your unwavering faith in me has been the fuel that propelled me through the challenges, and today, as I stand on the threshold of a new chapter, I carry your values and teachings in my heart, forever indebted for your unwavering love and support.

To My Wife, Kimi,

Not only are you my gorgeous wife, but also my closest friend. Your unwavering love, patience, and understanding have never gone unnoticed or taken for granted. Your sacrifices and encouragement have been the guiding light that led me through the sleepless nights and long hours of learning ever-confusing law. I dedicate my law school graduation to you, as a testament to your unwavering support and belief in my dreams. You have been my rock, my confidante, and my biggest cheerleader. As I begin this next chapter of my career, I do so with you by my side, knowing that together, we can conquer any challenge that comes our way.



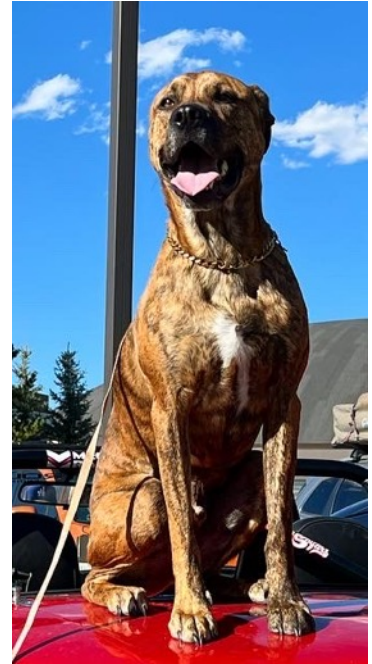
To my Friends, Cicali, Damon, Russell, Jake, Jack, Zoe, and Clair,

In the tapestry of life, friends are the vibrant threads that add color and joy to our existence. You have been more than friends; you have been my companions and my source of strength throughout this arduous yet rewarding journey. Your unwavering support, laughter, and camaraderie have made the toughest days bearable and the happiest moments even more memorable. With heartfelt appreciation for your friendship, loyalty, and unwavering belief in

me, I say thank you. Your presence in my life has enriched it beyond measure, and as I step into the future, I carry your friendship as a cherished treasure, forever grateful for you.

To My Loyal Companion (and real best friend), Jerry,  
As I reflect on the past 3 years, I cannot help but acknowledge your steadfast presence and loyal companionship. Though you may not comprehend the intricacies of legal theories or the complexities of case law, your unwavering companionship has provided solace, joy, and a sense of balance amidst the demanding rigors of academia.

In moments of triumph and moments of despair, you were there, offering unconditional and unapologetic love without judgment or reservation. Your wagging tail and eager eyes served as a constant reminder to embrace the present moment, to find joy in the simplest of pleasures, and to persevere through the challenges that lay ahead. Your boundless enthusiasm for life served as a source of inspiration, reminding me to approach each day with optimism and resilience.



### **Kaylee Sims**

To my family: Thank you to all of you for your encouragement, prayers, and love over the last three years. I am so blessed by the many ways each of you have shown me support. My family has always been a light in my life, and I am continually encouraged by the strength, determination, and love I see in each of you. Mom & Dad, thank you for supporting me on this crazy adventure, for continually believing in me, for helping me get up when I thought I couldn't, and teaching me I always have more in the tank. I wouldn't be here without you.

To my sister: There is no way I could have finished law school without our daily facetime calls. You have always been the best example in my life, and although our adventures over the last three years couldn't have been more different, the sacrifices you make for your family, your servitude, and your constant strength, encouraged me every single day. Thank you, sis. I love you.

To Joel: Thank you for your unconditional love and support over the last three years. This time in law school has not been easy, but you have been there with me through the worst of it. Thank you for your inspiration and encouragement, supporting my journey even when I had nothing to give in return. You never let me give up or lose sight of the bigger picture. After all the miles, late nights, early mornings, and weekend trips, I cannot wait to start this new chapter of life with you.

## Alex Taylor

To my wife Celeste: I could never have reached this moment without you. Thank you for never giving up on me, having patience through all the late nights, and for choosing to stand by my side. Thank you for moving across the country with me so I could pursue my dreams. You are my rock and the most remarkable person I have ever met. I dedicate this achievement to you. I love you!

To my mom and grandparents: Thank you for supporting me all these years. You always have had faith in me and have helped me become the man I am today. Thank you for being here for me. I love you.

To my Avery County family: What more can I say than what you already know. Through all the trials and tribulations, you never faltered. You always believed in me, supported me, and most importantly, made time for me. Thank you for everything. I love you.

To the friends I have made in law school: What a time we have had. Thank you for all the laughs, late nights, foolishness, and encouragement along the way. I have made so many unforgettable memories and I will cherish them and you all, always. I am forever grateful.



## Caitlyn Elizabeth Tucker

I would like to make this dedication to my mother, Stephanie, my father, Roger, my sister, Chelsea, my best friend in the whole world, Shaelee, Brinae, my good friend and mentor, Alyson and Sarah, my law school friends who will become lifelong friends, and every other friend and professor I have discovered through this journey who has inspired me to be a better professional and human.

Mom and Dad, thank you for instilling in me the work ethic and drive necessary to pursue a career in the legal profession. You are two of the most hardworking people I know. You are so kind, so generous, and so loving. I will forever be grateful to have been raised by you. I genuinely could not have done this without you, and a paragraph dedication will never be long enough to express my gratitude and love for you both.

Chelsea, thank you for always supporting me and loving me, even through my meltdowns. There is no one who can make me laugh like you do, and laughter truly is the best medicine. I am so happy that we have always had each other. I love you so much. Additionally, thank you for bringing Sadie into this world because she is a light in my life.

Shaelee, I am so grateful to have taken on this journey with you. Ever since high school, where we started the "Helping Hands of Pinedale" club, we have been inseparable. You are a once in a lifetime friend and I am so glad that we found each other. You have seen me through so many ups and downs and have always been there when I needed someone. I hope you know how great of a friend and support you truly are. I am excited to see what our journey will look like next.

Brinae, I truly could not have made it through these last three years without your friendship, support, guidance, and mentorship. I am so grateful to have gotten the chance to live together, study together, celebrate together, and do everything else we have done that made law school fun. You are an amazing friend and person.

Alyson and Sarah, I am so happy to have met you. It has been so nice to find kindred spirits during this experience. Of everything, I have enjoyed our laughter together the most. You both have made a wonderful support system and I know that we will now be lifelong friends. If law school has gifted me anything, it has been you two.

To you all, I thank God for you every day. You make this life worth living and have helped make achieving this degree attainable for me. I hope you know how much I appreciate you.



## Amy Vangellow

I want to thank my family and friends for their encouragement and support through this journey, it's been nuts! I'd like to specifically acknowledge my son, Titus, who as a 6-year-old, was so brave to make the trek with me and our dogs, Lenny and Georgia, across several states so I may pursue my law degree. He left behind the only family and friends he'd known to live in a brand-new place and figure things out as a first grader who experienced kindergarten online due to Covid. It was a huge sacrifice. I so appreciate his resilience, consistent love, and support of his mom no matter what...I love you so much Titus!!



I'd like to acknowledge my mom, Diana, and my sister, Lisa, who have supported me in so many ways, including making trips to Laramie several times during finals to assist me with my son, cooking, and housework, so I could focus on studying and tests. I really appreciate you both so much – thank you!

I'd also like to acknowledge my stepfather, Jeff, my brother, Michael, and my close friends, for being encouraging and supportive through it all. Thank you! My dogs Lenny and Georgia who passed away mid-spring semester of 2022 deserve acknowledgement as well – they were so incredibly loving, and truly helped both me and Titus through some of the most difficult times on this journey. We love and miss you both.



## Alyson White Eagle

Jayde and Wynter,  
My babies. Thank you for your patience, resilience, and understanding as I navigated us through law school. I'm sorry that you had to make sacrifices with me and for me these past 3 years. Thank you for the moments of love and laughter through some of the hardest years of my life. As you see me graduate with a law degree, I hope you know that you are capable of anything and everything you want to do in this life. I hope you follow your dreams no matter how scary it may seem. I hope you know that everything I do, I do for you.

Mom,  
Thank you. Thank you for picking me up and carrying me through this journey. Thank you for leading the way. Thank you for teaching me the value of education. Thank you for reminding me of my strength and for never allowing me to forget who I come from. Thank you for raising me to love our people and to love who I am. Thank you for modeling to me and my girls what a strong Arapaho woman looks like. I couldn't have done this without you. Biixoo3e3en No'oo, I am who I am because you raised me.

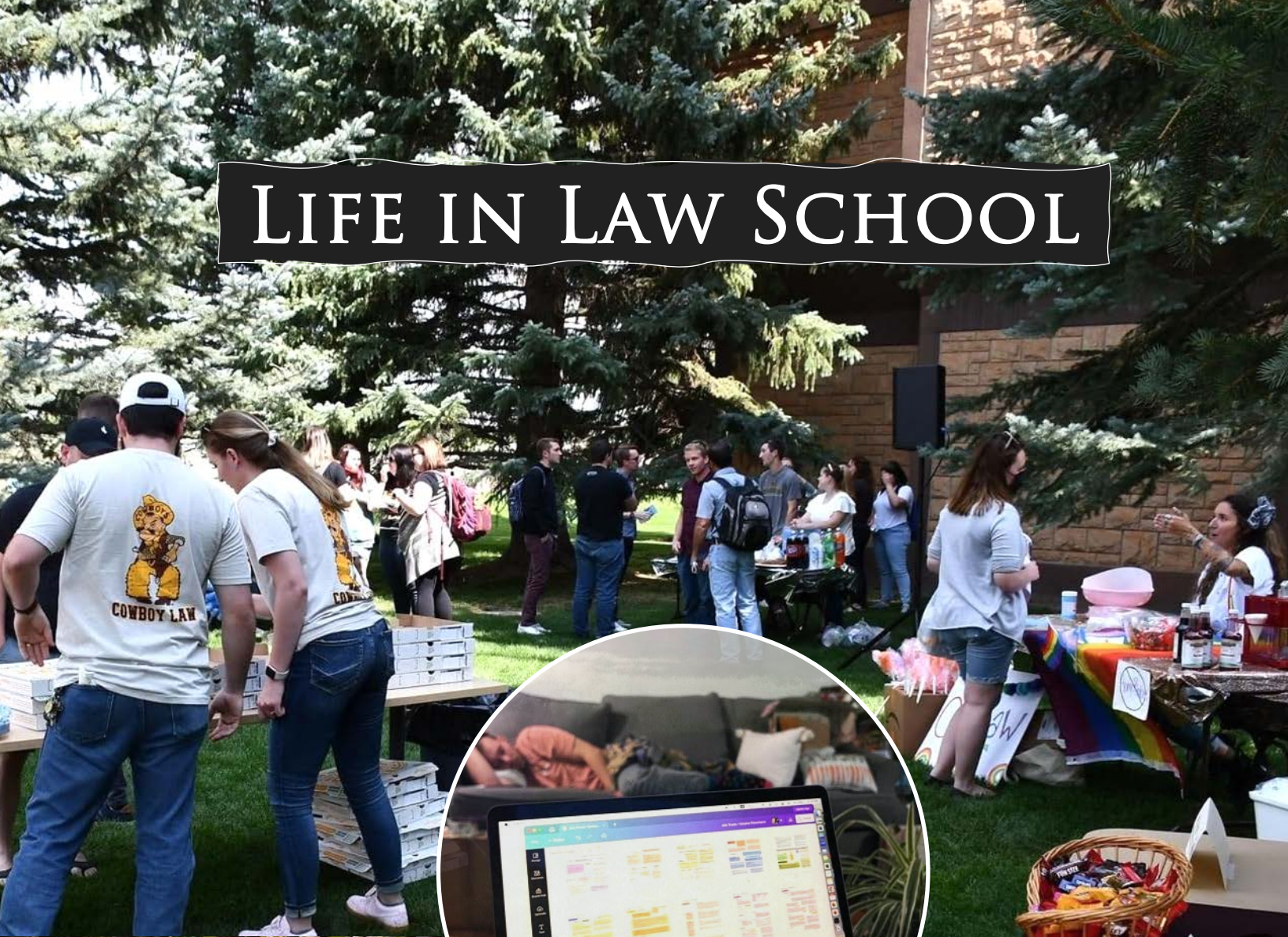
Neiwoo Laverne,  
I love you grandma. Thank you for keeping me grounded on this journey. Thank you for your prayers. Thank you for passing your fierceness on to me. Thank you for showing me how to be fearless. I love you. I hope I made you proud.

Caitlyn, Sarah, Alyssa, and Jordan,  
My law school besties. I would not have survived this experience without you. Thank you for carrying me when I was struggling. Thank you for listening to me cry. Thank you for lifting me up. Thank you for all our moments of laughter and joking. You are some of the strongest women I know. I hope that I filled your cup the same way you filled mine. I love you all.





# LIFE IN LAW SCHOOL





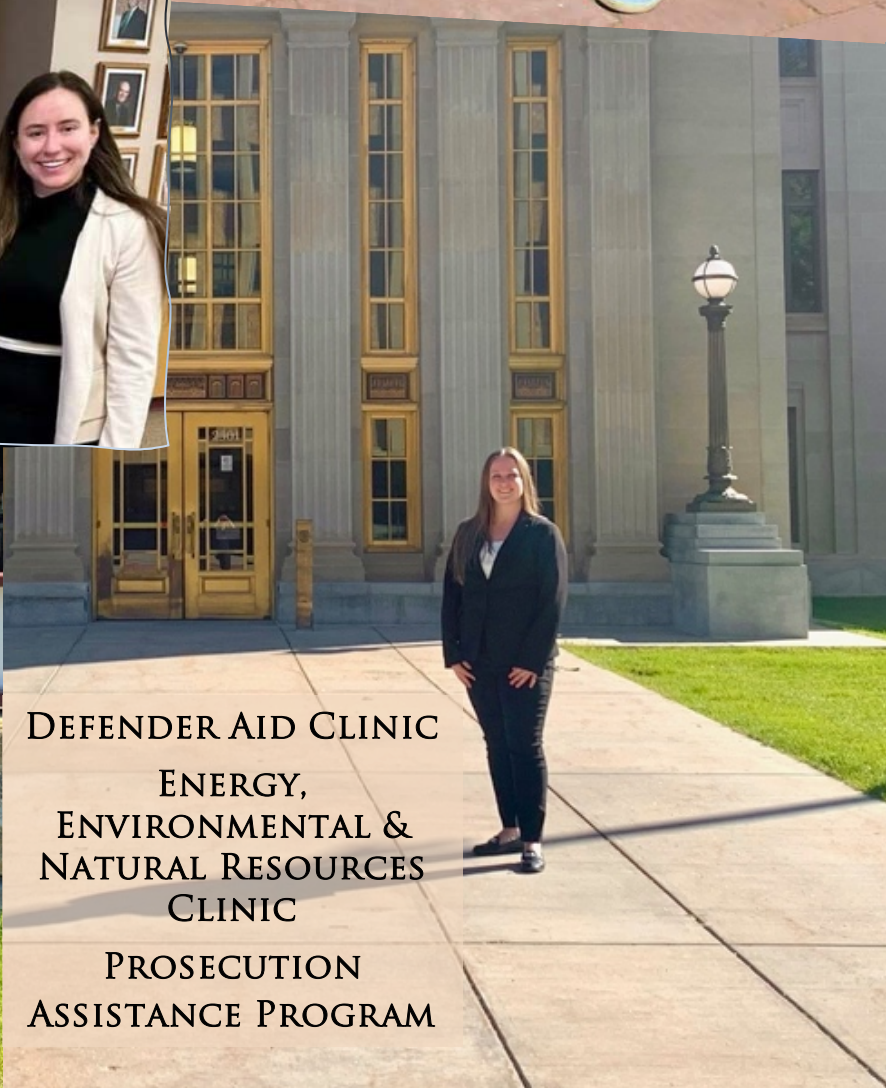
# COMPETITIONS



SUMMER TRIAL  
INSTITUTE



CIVIL LEGAL  
SERVICES  
CLINIC  
SWEARING IN  
FAMILY & CHILD  
LEGAL ADVOCACY  
CLINIC



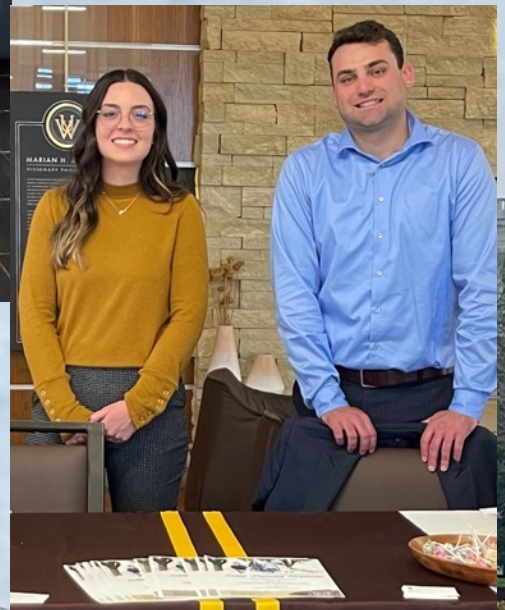
DEFENDER AID CLINIC  
ENERGY,  
ENVIRONMENTAL &  
NATURAL RESOURCES  
CLINIC  
PROSECUTION  
ASSISTANCE PROGRAM



BUSINESS PLANNING  
PRACTICUM

INTERNATIONAL  
HUMAN RIGHTS CLINIC

ESTATE PLANNING  
PRACTICUM





# INTERNATIONAL LAW EXPERIENCES



# WELCOME TO TATE MODERN





WY LAW REVIEW  
IN HOUSTON





WOMEN ARE SACRED



WYOMING STATE SEAL  
Adopted by  
CLASS OF 1909





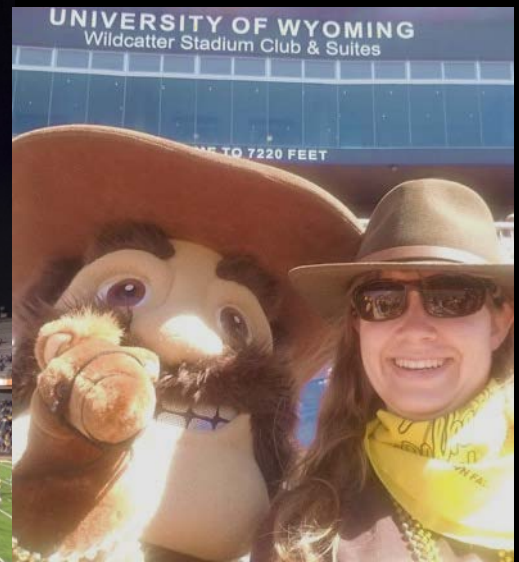
THE WORLD NEEDS MORE  
OUTSIDE THINKERS.

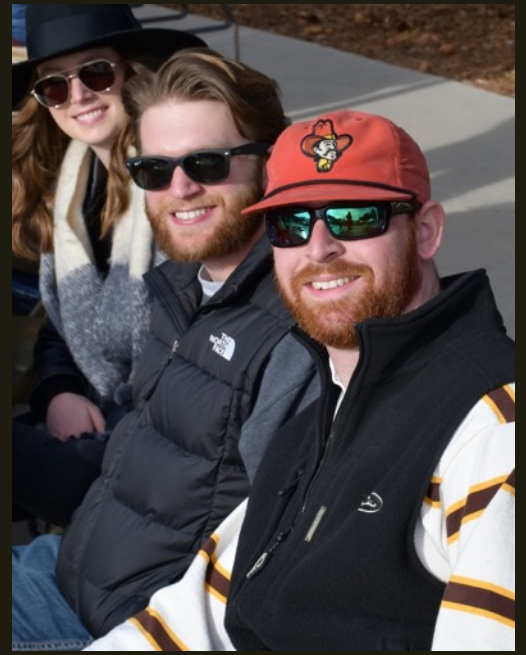
# ROARING GOOD TIME





THE WORLD NEEDS  
MORE COWBOYS.







UW College of Law  
Class of 2024  
CONGRATULATIONS!

