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CSU|LAW Alumni and OverDrive Co-Founders Steve Potash ('78) and Loree Potash ('79) to Deliver Commencement Address

Cleveland State University College of Law alumni and **OverDrive co-founders Steve Potash ('78) and Loree Potash ('79)** will deliver the commencement address at CSU|LAW's graduation ceremony for the Class of 2023. The ceremony will take place Sunday, May 21, 2023 at CSU's Wolstein Center.

Steve Potash is President and Chief Executive Officer of OverDrive, a company he co-founded with Loree in 1986. Under his leadership, OverDrive has become the leading digital reading platform for eBooks, audiobooks, and other digital media for over 80,000 libraries, schools, government agencies, corporate learning centers, colleges, and universities worldwide. He is credited with pioneering many innovations for digital content use and applications. OverDrive has long-standing partnerships with thousands of publishers, authors, and media companies across the book industry. As a mission- based company, OverDrive became a Certified B Corp in 2017 dedicated to a "World Enlightened by Reading."

Loree Potash is a co-founder of OverDrive and active in NorthEast Ohio non-profit organizations. She is a Board member for the Cuyahoga County Law Library. Trained as a law librarian, she started her career at the Case-Western Reserve University Law School including serving as reference librarian, acting Director, and adjunct professor. She practiced law early in her career and then with Steve formed OverDrive and joined the company, serving in various leadership positions including publisher relations, human resources, and marketing. She presently serves as a board member of Park Synagogue, the Kol Israel Foundation, and the Gross Schechter Jewish Day School.

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CSU|LAW Group Admitted to the U.S. Supreme Court Bar

Congratulations to our distinguished group of CSU|LAW alumni attorneys and our Associate Dean for Student and Academic Affairs who were admitted to the U.S. Supreme Court Bar!

- **Tony Asher '63**, Founder, Weston, Inc.

- **Brett Barragate '96**, Partner, Jones Day
- **Dana Barragate ’95**, Attorney, Federal Trade Commission
- **Carolyn Broering-Jacobs**, CSU|LAW Associate Dean
- **Matthew Crawford '94**, Chairman & CEO, ParkOhio
- **Julie Crocker '06**, Partner, Taft
- **Michael Fishman '95**, Shareholder, Greenberg Traurig
- **Sarah Flannery '02**, Partner, Thompson Hine
- **Michael Haas '94**, Partner, Latham & Watkins
- **Brenden Kelley '15**, Founder/Partner, Brenden Kelley Law
- **Donna Zapis Thomas ’87**, Co-Founder/Managing Partner, Rockport Retirement Community
- **Bob Vilsack '87**, Chief Legal Officer, ParkOhio

At a memorable event at the U.S. Supreme Court on April 18 arranged by **Dean Lee Fisher** and attended by **CSU President Dr. Laura Bloomberg**, their swearing in ceremony took place in the courtroom on an argument day before the entire Court with Chief Justice John Roberts presiding.

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CSULAA Alumni of The Year Recipient Profile: The Honorable Deborah M. Turner ’97

Cleveland State University Law Alumni Association Alumni of the Year recipient **The Honorable Deborah M. Turner ’97**, Judge on the Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court, tries to stay involved with students at all levels from primary school to law school, as she knows more than most the impact of inspiring the next generation of potential members of the bar.

Judge Turner was originally a school teacher. While she always had an interest in a legal career, a lack of finances pushed her to pursue a career in education. Her original interest in the law stems back to her childhood interaction and positive experience with prominent civil rights lawyer and CSU|LAW Hall of Fame member **Stanley Tolliver ’53**. Tolliver, a frequent patron of Judge Turner’s mother’s restaurant, successfully represented her mother with some legal issues and Judge Turner hoped she could one day help people the way Tolliver helped her family.

Judge Turner worked as a public-school educator for 20 years, primarily in the Cleveland Heights-University Heights School District. She taught the social studies curriculum, which included history, geography, government and a high school law class, and coached the school’s mock trial team.

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2023 HALL OF FAME CELEBRATION
Induction Ceremony
Friday, Nov 3, 2023 - 5:30pm
CSU|LAW
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Featured Hall of Fame Honorees

Our **6th Annual CSU|LAW Hall of Fame Celebration** honoring our **2023 Hall of Fame Honorees** is on the evening of **Friday, November 3, 2023, 5:30- 8:00 p.m.** at the law school.

This special celebration gives us the opportunity not only to honor the new class of inductees but also is our single best opportunity to raise funds for much-needed student scholarships. The Hall of Fame celebration is the only annual fundraising event sponsored by the law school.

Please consider **purchasing one or more tickets**, **becoming a sponsor**, and/or **placing an ad in the program book** to help celebrate one or more of our 2023 inductees.

Each of our Honorees will be featured in an issue of the CSU|LAW newsletter. Meet two of the honorees below.

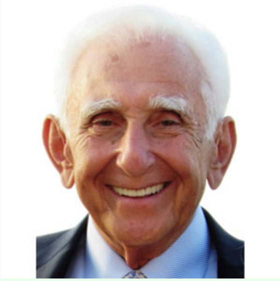
Ann Aber

CLASS OF 2003

Senior Vice President, Chief Legal Officer & Secretary, JOANN Stores

"The education that I received at CSU|LAW was second to none and prepared me exceptionally well for my career. I credit much of my success to the pragmatic teaching style of many of my professors – professors who genuinely cared about my success in the classroom and beyond. I am proud to be a CSU|LAW alum and am so incredibly humbled by this honor."

Read More



Tony Asher

CLASS OF 1963

Founder, Weston, Inc.

"I am privileged to join this distinguished group of law professionals in the CSU|LAW Hall of Fame. As an entrepreneur, I recognize the inherent value of attaining a law degree as it affected just about everything in my life, including my entire lifestyle, my career, the way I negotiate and the way I solve problems. It helped develop my academic and emotional intelligence and critical thinking. Although I never actually practiced, I have always loved the legal profession so to be recognized as an honoree is beyond words and I am humbled by the recognition."

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Featured LL.M. Student: Clayton Papenfus

South African native **Clayton Papenfus** is a current LL.M. student at CSU|LAW. In South Africa, Clayton obtained a bachelor of laws and and a master of laws degree.

Clayton is an admitted attorney in South Africa with three years' experience. He held an executive position with legal advisory responsibilities at a medium-sized manufacturing firm in South Africa. In 2018, he became CEO of that small machining company and was tasked with establishing a manufacturing presence in the United States. Clayton intends to take the Ohio Bar Exam in 2024.

"I am grateful to be continuing my legal education in the US at the CSU College of Law and I look forward to practicing in the future alongside my CSU colleagues," said Clayton. "Leaving your home country to start a new life somewhere else is not an easy thing to do, but my experience moving to Cleveland has been nothing short of amazing."

The LL.M. (Master of Laws) is a Postgraduate Law Degree for students with a J.D. or LL.B degree. At CSU|LAW, many of our LL.M. students are international students. Currently our

LL.M. students come from nine different countries, speak several languages and add a wealth of diversity and uniqueness to the classroom experience. For some, they obtain the LL.M. to learn about the United States legal system so they can go back to their home countries and enrich their legal careers. For most, they obtain an LL.M. to sit for the Bar Exam and practice law in the United States. Most of our LL.M. students hope to take the Ohio Bar Exam and practice law in Cleveland.

Our LL.M. students are seeking full-time employment once they graduate. If you are interested in speaking to any of our LL.M. students, email llm.program@law.csuohio.edu.

Upcoming Public Lectures & CLE Events

Building a Dispute Resolution Toolbox

Tuesday, May 9 • 12:30 p.m.
CSU|LAW Moot Court Room

This program will help corporate counsel and law firm practitioners to decide which dispute avoidance and resolution tools are right for your business or clients. Panelists will explore the nuances of both domestic and international arbitration, including drafting arbitration clauses, confidentiality considerations, managing costs, timing of awards, expedited arbitration, arbitrator selection, and document production. Panelists also will share innovations and practical tips to save time and costs and discuss how to better align arbitration with the needs and expectations of businesses.

Panelists:

- **Claire Starza Allen**, Global Director of Legal and Commercial, Kin + Carta, London
- **Joshua Fellenbaum**, Arbitration & International Disputes Chair, Tucker Ellis LLP, Cleveland

- **Marek Krasula**, Director, Arbitration and ADR, North America, International Chamber of Commerce, New York
- **Quo Vadis Cobb**, Vice President, Internal Audit, Jacobs, Cleveland
- **Moderator: Mark J. Sundahl**, Professor of Law, Cleveland State University
- **Introductory Remarks: Lee Fisher**, Dean, Cleveland State University College of Law

Cosponsored by Tucker Ellis and ICC Dispute Resolution Services

1 free hour CLE Pending

Learn More

Professor Brian Ray Named Associate Dean & Plevin Professor, Professor Matthew Green Named Dean's Teacher

Professor Brian Ray has been named **Associate Dean for Faculty Development and Program Innovation**. Professor Ray has strong administrative skills and experience as Director of the Center for Cybersecurity and Privacy Protection and Director of the Cyber MLS Program as well as valuable knowledge about our law school and university that make him a great fit for this important position. We thank **Professor Jonathan Witmer-Rich** for his exemplary service as Associate Dean for Faculty Development and Program Innovation since July 2019.

Professor Ray has also been reappointed the **Leon M. and Gloria Plevin Professor of Law** for an additional two-year appointment.

Professor Matthew Green has been appointed as the new **Dean's Teacher** for a two-year term beginning in 2023-24. Professor Green teaches and researches in the area of employment discrimination law with an emphasis on LGBTQ+ discrimination, and is very highly regarded.

Professor Kalir Interviewed on Justice Thomas' Ethics

Professor Doron Kalir was interviewed by *Business Insider* about the recent ethical issues plaguing Justice Clarence Thomas. The article focused on a comparison between Thomas's recent allegations and the reasons that moved Justice Abe Fortas to withdraw from the Court 54 years ago.

Read More

Professor Witmer-Rich Discussed Trump Indictment

Professor Jonathan Witmer-Rich appeared live in studio for *WKYC Channel 3 News* to discuss the indictment and arraignment of former President Donald Trump. Witmer-Rich also discussed the case on Ideastream's *The Sound of Ideas*.

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CSU|LAW
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

The 2023 Luncheon will honor Alumni of the Year:

FRANK L. GALLUCCI, III ’00
Principal, Plevin & Gallucci Company, L.P.A.

THE HONORABLE DEBORAH M. TURNER ’97
Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court

2023 Annual Recognition Luncheon

Thursday, May 25, 2023 | Noon
Hilton Cleveland Downtown

Join us at the 2023 Annual Recognition Luncheon as we proudly honor Alumni of the Year, **The Honorable Deborah M. Turner '97**, Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court and **Frank L. Gallucci, III '00**, Principal, Plevin & Gallucci Company, L.P.A. These two distinguished alumni are being honored for their commitments to the CSU|LAW Alumni Association, contributions to CSU College of Law and career accomplishments within our legal community.

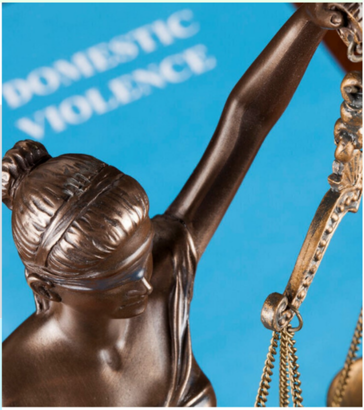
Register

CSU|LAW
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

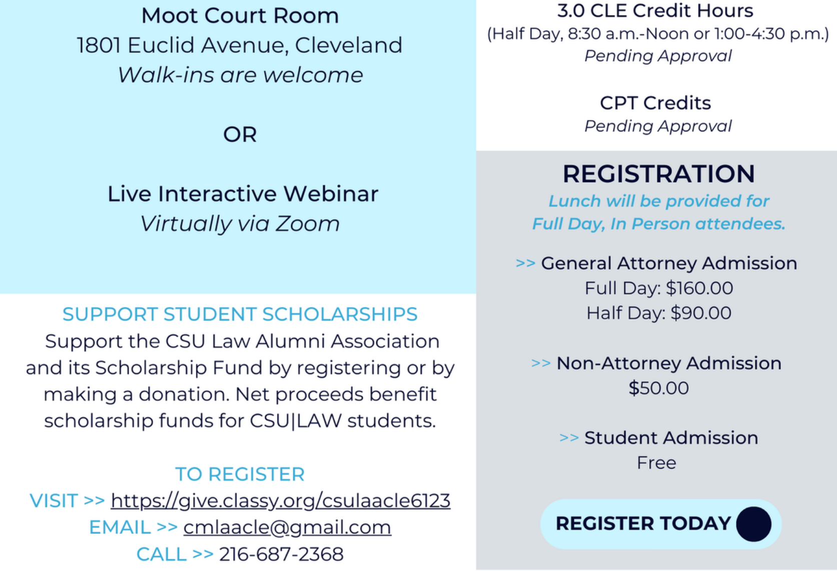
2023 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SYMPOSIUM

Thursday, June 1, 2023
8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

In Person at the
CSU College of Law



6.5 CLE Credit Hours
(Full Day, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.)
Pending Approval



Moot Court Room
1801 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland
Walk-ins are welcome

OR

Live Interactive Webinar
Virtually via Zoom

SUPPORT STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS

Support the CSU Law Alumni Association and its Scholarship Fund by registering or by making a donation. Net proceeds benefit scholarship funds for CSU|LAW students.

TO REGISTER
VISIT >> https://give.classy.org/csulaacle6123
EMAIL >> cmlaacle@gmail.com
CALL >> 216-687-2368

3.0 CLE Credit Hours
(Half Day, 8:30 a.m.-Noon or 1:00-4:30 p.m.)
Pending Approval

CPT Credits
Pending Approval

REGISTRATION

Lunch will be provided for Full Day, In Person attendees.

>> General Attorney Admission
Full Day: $160.00
Half Day: $90.00

>> Non-Attorney Admission
$50.00

>> Student Admission
Free

REGISTER TODAY ●

2023 Domestic Violence Symposium

Thursday, June 1, 2023 | 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
CSU College of Law-Moot Court Room OR Virtually via Zoom

6.5 CLE Credit Hours (Full Day, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.)
3.0 CLE Credit Hours (Half Day, 8:30 a.m.-Noon OR 1:00-4:30 p.m.)
Pending Approval

The CSULAA's 2023 Annual Meeting will follow this All Day CLE

Register

CSU|LAW Alumni Association CLE On-

Demand Webinars

The CSULAA's 2023 Annual Meeting will follow this All Day CLE

2022 Ethics Seminar with Kegler Brown

2.5 Professional Conduct CLE Hours

Register

The Hopes and Hold-Ups of Immigration Law: A New Administration and the Effects of a Pandemic

1.0 General Credit CLE Hour

Register

Landlord Tenant Law

2.0 General Credit CLE Hours

Register

The Home Construction Project

3.0 General Credit CLE Hours

Register

Small Business Law Update: New Legal Landmines for Small Businesses to Avoid

2.0 General Credit CLE Hours

Register

Record Sealing Update: An Overview of the Big Changes in Ohio’s Expungement Law

1.0 General Credit CLE Hour

Register

Revisiting the Calls for Equality in the Criminal Justice System and Ohio’s Path Forward

2.0 Professional Conduct Credit CLE Hours

Register

Modern Issues in Divorce; Custody, Support and Finances

2.0 General Credit CLE Hour

Register

The Law After 9/11: Changes in Privacy, Prosecution and Procedure

1.0 General Credit CLE Hour

Register

Lawyers on Nonprofit Boards

1.0 Professional Conduct Credit CLE Hour

Register

Give

Volunteer

LEARN LAW. LIVE JUSTICE.

Have exciting news to share? Send us your news to include on our website, social media or in a future newsletter. Email AlumniNews@law.csuohio.edu.