

THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

Celebration

2024 GRADUATION CELEBRATION

THE NINETEENTH OF MAY, TWO THOUSAND TWENTY FOUR



GW

LAW



2024 GRADUATION CELEBRATION

MAY 19, 2024 | 3 P.M. | CHARLES E. SMITH CENTER

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This program is meant to be a guide to the ceremony. Although every effort has been made to ensure its accuracy, the program is not an official record of an individual's degree status. Please bring any errors or omissions to the attention of the Dean promptly. The university will endeavor to publish a correction in a subsequent program.



Dayna Bowen Matthew
*Dean and Harold H. Greene
Professor of Law*

Congratulations, Class of 2024!

I am overjoyed to celebrate this momentous day with you. I know that you and your loved ones have looked forward to this day for a long time. Yours is a very special class to me. Throughout our years together, I've personally witnessed your passionate commitment to making an impact for good through the law that you have studied at GW Law. Now, more than ever, the world needs lawyers who are dedicated to bringing about change and justice, and I am confident that you will do just that.

As a group, you are academically gifted, passionate, articulate, and service oriented. It has been my great privilege to serve as your Dean. You are leaving here as professionals with the power to protect the principles of justice, equality, liberty, and freedom, and we look to you to help build a better world for us all. Now it's time for you to craft your own pathway to practice—the options are limitless. The world's most pressing challenges require the problem-solving skills with which your study of the law has equipped you. I charge you, by paraphrasing John Wesley, to use those skills to do all the good in the world that you can, at all the times that you can, to all the people that you can, for as long as ever you can.

Today, you join GW Law's worldwide alumni community of 33,000 graduates, with whom you now share a transformative experience. You will find among the GW Law alumni network a vast number of preeminent leaders in all sectors of the economy and society—across the United States and around the globe. I encourage you to take advantage of this unique and powerful gift of belonging and make your fellow alumni a part of your journey for the rest of your professional lives.

Please keep in touch and come back and visit us often. We cannot wait to see your future achievements. Congratulations again on reaching this significant milestone and my very best wishes to each of you for good health, great happiness, and many successes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dayna Bowen Matthew". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Dayna Bowen Matthew
Dean and Harold H. Greene Professor of Law

ORDER OF EXERCISES

PRELUDE AND PROCESSIONAL	Corcoran Brass
ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE DIPLOMA CEREMONY	Steven L. Schooner <i>Jeffrey & Martha Kohn Senior Associate Dean for Academic Affairs</i>
NATIONAL ANTHEM	Corcoran Brass
WELCOME	Dayna Bowen Matthew <i>Dean of the Law School</i>
PRESENTATION OF AWARDS	
Recognition of Grand Marshall	Jeffrey Kohn, JD '84 <i>Presented by Dean Matthew</i>
Student Bar Association President's Remarks	Shallum Atkinson, Class of 2024
Distinguished Associate or Assistant Dean Award	Laurie Kohn Jacob Burns Foundation Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs <i>Presented by Mr. Atkinson</i>
Distinguished Faculty Service Award	Kate Weisburd Associate Professor of Law <i>Presented by Mr. Atkinson</i>
Distinguished Staff Service Award	Bobby Walis, Program Coordinator <i>Presented by Mr. Atkinson</i>
Michael D. Cooley Memorial Award	Phoebe Fisher, Class of 2024 <i>Presented by Mr. Atkinson</i>
Student Bar Association Distinguished Service Award	Shallum Atkinson, Class of 2024 <i>Presented by Dean Matthew</i>
Distinguished Adjunct Faculty Service Award	Caroline Rogus, Professorial Lecturer in Law and Dan Stigall, Professorial Lecturer in Law <i>Presented by Mr. Atkinson</i>
Announcement of Student Awards	Dean Matthew
INTRODUCTION OF SPEAKER	Dean Matthew
THE diZEREGA LECTURE/CEREMONY ADDRESS	Nina Totenberg
PRESENTATION OF DIPLOMAS	Senior Associate Dean Schooner
CHARGE TO THE GRADUATES	Dean Matthew
ALMA MATER	Corcoran Brass
RECESSIONAL	Corcoran Brass

Faculty Marshals: Scott B. Pagel; Alfreda Robinson, JD '78; and Joan E. Schaffner

The Dean and faculty of the law school suggest that the graduates reunite with their families and friends in Kogan Plaza immediately following the ceremony.

*Ms. Totenberg's Commencement Address is supported by The Susan N. and Augustus diZerega, Jr., Lectureship Fund.
Mr. Thomas diZerega, JD '56, established the fund in 1990 in honor of his parents' interest in education.*

Degrees noted are those earned at the George Washington University.



Nina Totenberg
Correspondent, Legal Affairs
National Public Radio

Dear Members of the Class of 2024,

Congratulations on crossing the law school finish line. It was hard work and very expensive, which are among the reasons I never went to law school. But you have learned a lot of law and, now, after the unwelcome bar exam, you are about to start practicing law.

My hope for you is that you enjoy the practice of law as much as I enjoy covering the law. Very few cases end up in the Supreme Court, but I am sure that a few of you will have the privilege of arguing there or at least filing an amicus brief or two. And for the rest of you, take what you learned and apply your skills to represent every client to the best of your ability. Along the way, be sure to make time to represent those who are unable to afford an attorney. You will be carrying out the most noble aspects of your profession when you do so, and you also will find a personal sense of satisfaction and probably have much more responsibility in those matters than you have in your regular job, especially in the near future.

So go forth and do good and, hopefully, do well at the same time. But most of all, find the part of practicing law that you love—after all, you will be spending much of your life doing it.

Nina Totenberg is National Public Radio’s (NPR) award-winning legal affairs correspondent. Her reports air regularly on NPR’s critically acclaimed newsmagazines *All Things Considered*, *Morning Edition*, and *Weekend Edition*.

Ms. Totenberg’s coverage of the Supreme Court and legal affairs has won her widespread recognition. She is often featured in documentaries—most recently RBG—that deal with issues before the court. As *Newsweek* put it, “The mainstays [of NPR] are *Morning Edition* and *All Things Considered*. But the *creme de la creme* is Nina Totenberg.”

In 1991, her ground-breaking report about University of Oklahoma Law Professor Anita Hill’s allegations of sexual harassment by Judge Clarence Thomas led the Senate Judiciary Committee to re-open Thomas’s Supreme Court confirmation hearings to consider Hill’s charges. NPR received the prestigious George Foster Peabody Award for its gavel-to-gavel coverage—anchored by Ms. Totenberg—of both the original hearings and the inquiry into Anita Hill’s allegations, and for Ms. Totenberg’s reports and exclusive interview with Professor Hill.

That same coverage earned Ms. Totenberg additional awards, including the Long Island University George Polk Award for excellence in journalism; the Sigma Delta Chi Award from the Society of Professional Journalists for investigative reporting; the Carr Van Anda Award from the Scripps School of Journalism; and the prestigious Joan S. Barone Award for excellence in Washington-based national affairs/public policy reporting,

which also acknowledged her coverage of Justice Thurgood Marshall’s retirement.

Ms. Totenberg was named Broadcaster of the Year and honored with the 1998 Sol Taishoff Award for Excellence in Broadcasting from the National Press Foundation. She is the first radio journalist to receive the award. She is also the recipient of the American Judicature Society’s first-ever award honoring a career body of work in the field of journalism and the law. In 1988, Ms. Totenberg won the Alfred I. duPont-Columbia University Silver Baton for her coverage of Supreme Court nominations. The jurors of the award stated, “Ms. Totenberg broke the story of Judge (Douglas) Ginsburg’s use of marijuana, raising issues of changing social values and credibility with careful perspective under deadline pressure.”

She has been honored seven times by the American Bar Association for continued excellence in legal reporting and has received more than two dozen honorary degrees. She is the author of the *New York Times* bestseller *Dinners with Ruth: A Memoir on the Power of Friendships*.

A frequent contributor on TV shows, Ms. Totenberg has also written for major newspapers and periodicals—among them, *The New York Times Magazine*, *The Harvard Law Review*, *The Christian Science Monitor* and *New York Magazine*, and others. On a lighter note, *Esquire* magazine twice named her one of the “Women We Love.”

THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY LAW SCHOOL

The George Washington University Law School, the oldest law school in the District of Columbia, was established in 1865 with a formal program of two years of study. This was largely through the efforts of the Reverend Whitefield Samson, President of Columbian College, whose action resulted in the purchase of a separate building for holding law classes. The building had belonged to Trinity Church, of which Francis Scott Key had been senior warden. It was occupied by the law school until 1884.

Sixty graduates, from 22 of the then 37 states, received degrees in 1867. The school continued to have a student body and a faculty that reflected the fact that it was at the seat of our nation's government. Supreme Court Justices David J. Brewer and John Marshall Harlan were among the prominent members of the bench and bar who were on the faculty.

In 1877, one year after the first such program was adopted in the United States, the law school instituted a course leading to the degree of master of laws. In 1898, the course of instruction for the degree of bachelor of laws was extended to three years. The law school took part in 1900 in the organization of the Association of American Law Schools.

Over the past century, the law school has expanded its course and seminar offerings with consideration of the needs of first-degree and graduate students. The degree of doctor of juridical science was instituted in 1940. In 1946, the law school began accepting foreign attorneys into specially designated programs. Today, lawyers from the United States and abroad are accepted into the master of laws program.

In 1954, the National University School of Law, which had held an important place in legal education in the District of Columbia since 1869, was absorbed by the George Washington University Law School.

Since 1954, special programs of advanced study have enriched the basic curriculum. At present these include business and finance law; environmental and energy law; intellectual property law; international and comparative law; government procurement law; litigation and dispute resolution; national security and cybersecurity law; and national security, cybersecurity, and U.S. foreign relations law. These special programs reflect the breadth in public law for which the law school is well known. Additionally, a clinical law program has been developed that is the equal of that at any law school in the nation.

The law school has a total enrollment of approximately 1,700 students. Approximately 1,400 students are in the full-time division for the JD degree and 125 are enrolled in the part-time division. Approximately one hundred seventy-five students, many from abroad, are enrolled in graduate law degree programs.

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International and
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Andronikos Stylianou
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Emirates: Assessing the Role of
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cial Centre Courts through Paul
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Pluralism"

Dissertation: "Sink or Swim:
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ALMA MATER



Musical staff 1: Treble clef, key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat). The melody consists of quarter notes: G4, A4, B-flat4, C5, B-flat4, A4, G4. The lyrics are: Hail al - ma ma - ter, to thy spir - it



Musical staff 2: Treble clef, key signature of three flats. The melody consists of quarter notes: G4, A4, B-flat4, C5, B-flat4, A4, G4, followed by a quarter rest, then quarter notes: G4, A4, B-flat4, C5, B-flat4, A4, G4. The lyrics are: guid - ing, Know - ledge thy close - est friend in its strength a -



Musical staff 3: Treble clef, key signature of three flats. The melody consists of quarter notes: G4, A4, B-flat4, C5, B-flat4, A4, G4, followed by a quarter rest, then quarter notes: G4, A4, B-flat4, C5, B-flat4, A4, G4. The lyrics are: bid - ing, Pledge we fi - del - i - ty ne'er its place re -



Musical staff 4: Treble clef, key signature of three flats. The melody consists of quarter notes: G4, A4, B-flat4, C5, B-flat4, A4, G4, followed by a quarter rest, then quarter notes: G4, A4, B-flat4, C5, B-flat4, A4, G4. The lyrics are: sign - ing, Hail thee George Wash - ing - ton.

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