



USC LAW Alumni eNEWS

~an electronic newsletter for USC Law alumni and friends

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1} USC Law Recruits Two Top Professors



>> Lee Epstein, an internationally renowned scholar of law and judicial politics at Northwestern University School of Law, and Nancy Staudt, a nationally renowned tax and tax policy scholar at Northwestern University School of Law, will join the USC Law faculty this fall. Epstein will hold joint appointments as the inaugural Rader Family Trustee's Chair in Law at USC Law and Provost Professor of Law and Political Science at the

USC Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Sciences. Staudt will be the inaugural holder of the Edward G. Lewis Chair in Law.

[Read more about Lee Epstein's appointment.](#)

[Read more about Nancy Staudt's appointment.](#)

2} Law Firm Challenge Is On



>> Each year, the Law Firm Challenge encourages USC Law alumni to show their competitive spirit while giving back to the law school. This year, alumni at 60 firms have taken up the challenge, which ends on June 17. Alumni in participating firms and organizations compete by encouraging 100 percent of their alumni colleagues to make a gift of any amount to USC Law.

[Read more about this year's Law Firm Challenge.](#)

3} Women on the Bench



>> Imagine graduating from law school, passing the bar and being told by law firms that you weren't right for the job because of your gender. Imagine.

Chills might have gone down your spine - and not the good kind - when you heard two judges speak about the early years in their legal career at a recent USC Law event.

Three female judges shared tales to astonish at a recent panel discussion, "Women on the Bench," sponsored by the Women's Law Association (WLA) and the Office of Public Service. The panel was the third discussion in a series focusing on women in legal careers sponsored by the WLA for USC Law students. The earlier programs were "Working for the Government" and "Private Practice and Parenting: Striking a Balance."

[Read about their stories.](#)

4} Lakers' General Counsel Does It All



>> He is an alum who did not need an introduction to a classroom filled with law students interested in launching a career in sports law.

Jim Perzik '62, the secretary and general counsel for the Los Angeles Lakers, answered questions about his career path, the areas of law that apply to his job and collective bargaining. And, of course, questions about Kobe and Shaq, trade rumors and whether or not a collective bargaining agreement can be reached between the players union and the NBA before the June 30 deadline.

Chuckling when asked how he got into sports law, Perzik simply says, "I happened to be standing on the corner when the Buss came by."

[Read more about Jim Perzik's visit to USC Law.](#)

5} 3Ls Show Support for USC Law

>> Graduating 3Ls expressed a deep commitment to USC Law this year through their participation in the annual 3L Class Gift campaign. As of early May, 71 percent of 3Ls have made pledges totaling over \$34,000. Both figures are more than double what was reached at the conclusion of last year's campaign. Participants pledge to make a contribution each year for four years toward a student organization or program of their choice.

[Read more about the 3L Class Gift program.](#)

6} L.A.'s Top Attorney Visits USC Law



>> A minute into Los Angeles City Attorney Carmen Trutanich's lunchtime talk at USC Law on April 12, it was easy to see why he thrives at jury trials: he knows how to enthrall an audience. With more than 200 trials under his belt, the man elected to "defend the city treasury and you" spoke about his love of litigation and offered encouragement to the scores of USC Law students in attendance. The event was sponsored by the Government Law Organization, a new student group.

"Trying cases--there's nothing like it," Trutanich said. "It's like playing in the NBA: you find you're either real good or real bad, real quick."

[Learn more about Trutanich, his stories and his advice.](#)

7} "Best Brief" Honor at National Moot Court



>> "It's going to go down as one of the highlights of law school."

That's Tina Baravarian's assessment after several months of writing and preparing for a recent national moot court competition in New York City. Baravarian '11, and her partner Jenny Farrell '11, won the best brief competition and reached the oral argument semi-finals in the 26th Annual

Dean Jerome Prince Evidence Competition at Brooklyn Law School; 36 teams competed in the three-day competition.

[Read more about the Moot Court competition.](#)

8} Fete Accompli



>> Scores of USC Law students, faculty and staff assembled outside the law school in Crocker Plaza on April 5 to celebrate their own at the law school's annual awards ceremony. To enthusiastic cheers, Dean Robert K. Rasmussen and Student Bar Association President Alberto Muñoz '11 recognized individuals who have made significant contributions to the law school community.

[Learn which faculty, students and staff won awards.](#)

9} Upcoming events: REUNION 2011!

JUNE 17: USC LAW GOLDEN YEARS REUNION

The Golden Years Reunion luncheon brings together all classes that graduated prior to 1961. Festivities will take place on campus and will be held from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Crocker Plaza in front of the law school. **The deadline to register for the event is June 3.** For more information, please contact Pasha Hawthorne in Development and Graduate Relations at 213.740.1710 or reunion@law.usc.edu.

JUNE 25: USC LAW REUNION

This summer's reunion brings together the classes of 1961, 1966, 1971, 1976, 1981, 1986, 1991, 1996, 2001 and 2006. Festivities will take place at the beautiful Fairmont Hotel in Santa Monica and will begin with an all-class hosted reception followed by individual class dinners. **The deadline to register for the event at a rate of \$125 per person is**

June 10; beginning June 11, the price will be \$175 per person. For more information, please contact Pasha Hawthorne in Development and Graduate Relations at 213.740.1710 or reunion@law.usc.edu.

SAVE THE DATE - OCTOBER 3: SUPREME COURT PREVIEW

USC Law will present the fourth annual "U.S. Supreme Court: A Preview," featuring distinguished legal scholars Walter Dellinger, former U.S. Solicitor General and chairman, O'Melveny & Myers; Michael McConnell of Stanford Law; and Rebecca Brown of USC Law. USC Law Professor Elizabeth Garrett will serve as moderator. The panelists will discuss and debate the upcoming U.S. Supreme Court Term, which will begin that day.

USC Law, a State Bar of California-approved MCLE provider, certifies that this activity qualifies for a minimum continuing legal education credit in the amount of 2 hours. For more information, please email Gilien Silsby at gsilsby@law.usc.edu or call 213.740.9690.

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