

# DePaul University

127<sup>TH</sup>  
COMMENCEMENT

**College of Law**

MAY 24, 2026



MAY 2026



## DEAR GRADUATE,

Congratulations to DePaul's Class of 2026!

I'm thrilled to celebrate DePaul's commencement with you and your families. Today, you're joining one of the most powerful alumni networks in the nation.

Across the country and around the globe, DePaul alumni leave with more than just a degree. They carry with them a well-rounded education, a career-ready mindset, and a deep sense of purpose, equipping them to take on the world's most pressing challenges. As you move forward, let the Vincentian question guide you: What must be done?

Our collective impact on the world is now 6,500 people stronger, because of you. I'm proud of you and look forward to following your future success.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert L. Manuel". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

**Robert L. Manuel, PhD**

PRESIDENT

MAY 2026



## DEAR GRADUATE,

My heartfelt congratulations on this important milestone.

Commencement serves a dual purpose: it celebrates all that you have accomplished at DePaul and marks the beginning of the next chapter of your life. It is both a moment of reflection and a moment of anticipation—an opportunity to look back with pride on your achievements and forward with confidence to all that lies ahead.

As you move forward, carry with you the lessons, values, and relationships that have defined your time here. Your education is not simply a record of what you have learned, but a foundation for how you will lead, serve, and make a difference. You are equipped to excel on your chosen path. Now it's time for you to go forward and make a difference in the world.

We are proud of all that you have accomplished and confident in all that you will achieve. Wherever your journey leads, you will always remain part of the DePaul community.

Go Blue Demons!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S. Ghanem". The signature is stylized and fluid.

**Salma Ghanem, PhD**

PROVOST

MAY 2026



**GEOFFREY RAPP**  
DEAN, COLLEGE OF LAW

## DEAR GRADUATE,

Congratulations on your graduation! It gives me great joy to recognize the hard work and dedication that brought you to this milestone. I know that your family and friends here today are excited to celebrate with you and we here at DePaul Law are thrilled to recognize that you are one step closer to entering the legal profession.

Ahead of you are amazing things. As an attorney, you will be in a position to step in to change the fate of individuals, organizations, and communities. Whatever direction you choose to take your career, you will be in a position to make a difference. You may find yourself working in criminal justice, where your efforts as a prosecutor help keep communities safe or where your efforts as a defense lawyer ensure that clients charged with criminal offenses are given the benefit of the protections our laws guarantee. You may find yourself advising business leaders growing the enterprises that take the country's future in ways we can only begin to contemplate today – the next AI, the next internet, the next pharmaceutical revolution. You may work for individual clients structuring estate plans seeking to ensure the efforts of one generation enhance the lives and prospects of the next. You may represent injured people or advise members of families seeking to navigate the complexities of divorce and child custody. You may represent nations and populations as they deal with war, conflict, and international human rights. You may be a judge, you may be a teacher of law, you may be a courtroom advocate or a counselor.

*(continued)*

MAY 2026

You may be many of these things over the course of your career. Along each step of your journey, carry with you the values of DePaul Law. Think about each interaction as an opportunity to serve – with your client’s interests foremost in your mind but your integrity the gift you give our profession and your compassion the way you care for and elevate even the fiercest adversary.

That future awaits but today is the chance to smile, laugh, and take a big, big breath after all of the hard work you have put in through your years as a student.

Congratulations, 2026 DePaul Law graduates! I cannot wait to hear about the many wonderful things your class accomplishes in the years to come.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Geoffrey Rapp', written in a cursive style.

**Geoffrey Rapp**

DEAN, COLLEGE OF LAW

MAY 2026



## DEAR GRADUATE,

Welcome to the DePaul University alumni family. By completing your degree, you have joined an elite group of more than 220,500 alumni who share with you the knowledge, Vincentian personalism and determination characteristic of a DePaul graduate. As a new member of the DePaul alumni community, your lifelong connection to DePaul and your fellow alumni will only grow stronger from here.

The Office of Alumni Relations is here to help you maintain and strengthen that connection, and we invite you to get started by utilizing the many resources and privileges available to DePaul alumni. Our growing network of regional chapters, affinity-based groups and alumni contacts in cities around the world brings the benefits of membership closer to you. On our website, you can register for upcoming events in your area, learn about volunteer opportunities, engage with fellow alumni on our networking platform, DePaulConnect and more. Be sure to visit [alumni.depaul.edu](http://alumni.depaul.edu) to learn more about the myriad of ways you can stay connected.

Please accept our best wishes for continued success in the days and years ahead. Congratulations on receiving your DePaul degree! Go Blue Demons!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Katie Fraumann".

**Katie Fraumann**

SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT, DIVISION  
OF ADVANCEMENT AND EXTERNAL  
RELATIONS

## 2026 PROGRAM

# College of Law

### PROCESSIONAL

#### UNIVERSITY MARSHAL

Monu Bedi, JD, *Professor of Law*, | College of Law

#### INVOCATION

Rev. Craig B. Mousin, JD, MDiv, *Adjunct Faculty* | College of Law

#### NATIONAL ANTHEM

Destinee Blakey, *JD Candidate* | Class of 2026

#### ADDRESS TO THE GRADUATES

Introduction by Geoffrey Rapp, JD, *Dean* | College of Law  
Donna Welch, JD, *Partner, Kirkland & Ellis LLP* | Class of 1994

#### STUDENT ADDRESS

Bella Nasser, *JD Candidate* | Class of 2026

#### CONFERRAL OF DEGREES

Geoffrey Rapp, JD, *Dean* | College of Law

#### CANDIDATES' NAMES ANNOUNCED BY

Benjamin Alba, JD, *Professor of Legal Practice and Director of Academic Success* | College of Law

#### REMARKS

Salma Ghanem, PhD, *Provost*

#### ALUMNI WELCOME

Robert L. Manuel, PhD, *President*

#### RECESSIONAL

#### **Pledge of Social Responsibility**

Those graduates wearing green ribbons on their gowns today have made a personal commitment to practice social responsibility in their life and work.

#### **College of Law Order of the Coif**

*Juris Doctor honors are conferred upon candidates who demonstrate exceptional scholastic ability.*

*All graduates in each academic year; full-time and part-time combined, are eligible.*

*The roster of degree candidates as represented in this program was reflective of degree candidates at the time of production of this program as of April 15, 2026. We request that all candidates for graduation, their families and their guests, remain seated until the conclusion of the ceremony.*

## CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES

### College of Law

#### **Master of Laws in International Law**

NOMINSUREN BYAMBASUREN  
HARITHA PREETHA HAREENDRAN

#### **Master of Laws in US Legal Studies**

MARYAM KHAGHANI

#### **Master of Legal Studies in Business Law**

IMANI DAVIS  
ANTONIO GRIMES  
RENA O'NEAL  
JILL POST  
JORDAN B. SCATES  
USRA ZAFAR

#### **Master of Legal Studies in Criminal Law**

COURTNEY BORGES  
LESLEY BUTLER  
ALVARO CARRASCO  
JESSICA DUCKINS  
PALOMA FLORES  
ALICIA FURQAN  
CESAR I. GUERRERO  
ISABEL HERNANDEZ  
KEONQUIL H. HILL  
NICHOLAS S. KILLHAM  
HENRY LAM  
VANESSA LOPEZ  
MONICA MATA  
JACQUELINE M. MIZERA  
ALEXANDER SILVERHEART MUNIZ  
JAMES E. NASH  
BRYAN PALACIOS  
JOSEPH R. PAPKE  
RUBEN REYNOSO  
MARISOL RODRIGUEZ  
LESLEY SALAZAR  
RANEESTA SIMS

NATHAN C. SMITH  
TRIVIA S. SUMPTERS  
SHARONDA SWEEZER  
DIONDRE D. SWEEZER  
YESNAYA TOLDEO

#### **Master of Legal Studies in Data Privacy and Cybersecurity Law**

MARLO BARNETT  
MI K. CARTER

#### **Master of Legal Studies in General Legal Studies**

FRANK BELMONTE  
KIMBERLY L. CHESTER  
MARIE L. FRESON  
JAIME GARCIA  
JACLYN E. TROMNER

#### **Master of Legal Studies in Health Care Compliance**

REGINA DAVIS

#### **Master of Legal Studies in Health Law**

DANIELLA NENADOVICH

#### **Master of Legal Studies in Public Interest Law**

HENRY A. CALDERON

#### **Juris Doctor / Master of Laws in International Law**

AMELIA K. CHOUINARD  
ALEXANDER V. STANFIELD

#### **Juris Doctor**

ISABELLA HIDIA ALCARESE  
ANUM ALI  
SARAH ALZEIN  
ADAM T. ANDERSEN  
RILEY CHRISTOPHER ANDREWS

KATHERINE J. ATHEY  
ZACHARY BATIA  
BRENNAN H. BELLEW  
MADISON BELLI  
DESTINEE F. BLAKEY  
CLAIRE E. BLETSAS  
JENNIFER RAE BOEHM  
ISABELLA M. BRENT  
JACOB CHRISTIAN BRUENNING  
JUAN CAPILLA  
AMANDA F. CARLSON  
LILLIAN M. CEDERLUND  
BELINDA ELIKPLIM CHAMENYI  
JOHN N. COLADARCI  
REBECCA M. CRAMER  
LAUREN E. CROUCH  
GRACE C. CRUE  
JOSEPHINE CRUMLEY  
MARLA S. DABEL  
ASHURBANIPAL W. DEKELAITA  
CAROLINE DISARRO  
EUGENE DUBAVETS  
ROBERT J. DWYER  
CAMERON W. ERDMAN  
ZOE OLIVIA ESPINOSA  
SEAN S. EVANS  
STEVEN A. EYER  
KATRINA M. EZEIYI  
ANDRES FERRER  
KENDRA ANN FISCHER  
JESSE FISHER  
ZACHARY B. FOSTER  
EMILY MICHELLE FRIDLAND  
BRANDON PETER FRIEDMAN  
JANNA R. GEORGE  
PARIA GHADERI  
NICK K. GHEZAVAT  
TYLER C. GOLLIN  
GEORGIA R. GOODING  
TINGYI GUO  
RHYS VIKTOR GUZIEL  
KATHERINE G. HALL

## CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES

### College of Law

COURTNEY HAUCK	RANI NOFAL	HANNAH ASHLEIGH STRAHL
SIMON RICHARD HERNANDEZ	ALEJA NORTON-ABAD	AMANDA SVOBODA
MATTHEW HICKMANN	EDGAR OLIVARES BANUELOS	LILLIAN M. SWIFT
SARAH J. HILST	LAUREN E. OLSEN	ANDREW E. SZWEJBKA
KYRA D. HOLZMACHER	BERYL OMEEBOH	JENNIFER C. TENGHEA
KYLE J. HORNIK	MADELYN MARIE OTTENWELLER	ARLETH C. TERAN
DE'AVION HUGHES	SCHUELER	BENTON T. THOMPSON IV
KIRA LEE ISBELL	XARENI GERALDINE PALACIOS	KATHLEEN M. THOMPSON
ELYSE M. JOST	HANNA M. PAPPAS	MARY KATE M. TITUS
NOAH L. KARMEL	GILLIAN PARSHALL	SHAKIA M. TRAVIS
ROSE R. KEEL	PATRICK PECKEN	LIAM AVERY TURMAN
MANEET KOONER	MARGARET E. PIELER	NEHA S. UMRIKAR
KEVIN L. LAND	MITCHELL S. PLONKA	ESTELA ELENA VALLADARES
DANIEL A. LATULIP	TESS M. POLLINS	COLIN P. VARADY
JACQUELINE JOHANNA LAVIA	ALEXA RAYBORN	ABBEY W. VINISKY
EMMA Y. LEE	SYDNEY T. REDMOND	ALEXANDER VON RIBBECK
XINYI LIU	KATHERINE REICH	SCHON
MATTHEW S. LIVAS	MARYANN JULIA RESS	MADYSEN DOROTHY WARD
SAMUEL J. LOTITO	JOSHUA H. RIEDERS	ASHLEY K. WILLIAMS
TAYLOR LOVE	MACKENZIE BRILEY ROBINSON	ALISON WOLF
ALESI A. LUBARSKY	DEREK SABATH	EVA ZAGARZHEVSKAYA
MARY C. LUNDQUIST	SARA SABRI	
ALKETA LUTOLLI	ANAHITA SAFARZADEH	
TOBIAS J. MACDONALD	SAMRA SALEEM	
DANIEL MADDALOZZO	ADRIANA SANCHEZ	
TRONG T. MAI	SCOUT F. SAVAGE	
COLETTE F. MANAHAN	CHRISTIE A. SAYRE	
NICK J. MARQUETTE	SAMUEL SCHACHTMAN	
THOMAS S. MARTINEZ	AMBERLEY RAE SCHMUDE	
GINA DEE MCCAMMON	JONATHAN T. SCHUYLER	
DYLAN MCCLAIN	NINO F. SCOCCOLA	
PAROMA SUNIL MEHTA	MARIAM SHAH	
VICTORIA R. MENDICINO	SANA SHERALI	
YENESSA N. MENESES	ADAM SHERMAN	
ALKA E. MERESH	NEKI SHERO	
NAVYA R. METTA	NICOLE M. SHIELDS	
JILLIAN E. MILLER	WOROOD T. SHOULI	
EMILY A. MOORE	PRATISTHA SHRESTHA	
LAUREN ANNE MORBY	NICHOLAS J. SIMPSON	
RITA NANNOO	OLIVIA K. STINSON-SMITH	
ISABELLE M. NASSER	MALLORY E. STOLT	
CAITLYN MARIE NELSON	THOMAS STOODT	

CONGRATULATIONS!

