



COMMENCEMENT

Saturday, May 10, 2025

Montgomery Performing Arts Centre

ABOUT FAULKNER LAW



Faulkner University's Thomas Goode Jones School of Law has earned a reputation for providing students with a strong legal education in a distinctive, caring, Christian community. Established in 1928, Faulkner Law has grown from educating students in the borrowed chambers of local judges to its permanent home in nearly 70,000 square feet of state-of-the-art classrooms, courtrooms, clinics, library, and student space on the campus of Faulkner University. Faulkner Law is fully accredited by the American Bar Association (ABA).

Faulkner Law students gain invaluable, practical experience throughout their legal study. Faulkner Law's onsite legal clinics, field placements, law review, student organizations, and award-winning advocacy programs complement an outstanding classroom education that equips students with practice-ready skills.

The law school has produced over 2,800 graduates residing and working in 42 states. The law school's alumni include state supreme court justices; appellate, magistrate, and district judges; politicians and government leaders; and attorneys working in public interest, solo practice, business, education, and leading law firms across the nation. Faulkner Law graduates are making a difference in their communities and beyond.

In August 2020, Faulkner Law added a new scheduling option for students. In addition to the Full-Time Schedule and Flexible Schedule, the law school added the Executive Schedule offering students a reduced load of blended classes over four years. The blended classes meet on campus twice a month and have an online, distance education component during the week. Today, Faulkner Law is graduating its second full cohort of Executive Schedule students, along with its Full-Time and Flexible Schedule students.

Today, we are pleased to celebrate the Class of 2025's graduation and welcome them into the Faulkner Law alumni community.

THE HONORABLE KELLI WISE

BIOGRAPHY



Justice Kelli Wise, a fifth generation Alabamian raised near her family's small rural farm, attended public schools in Dale County and Autauga County. She is the daughter of the late Colonel Bobby W. Wise of Kinston and the late Mrs. Betty Mathis Wise of Samson and the niece of late Geneva County Probate Judge Harold B. Wise. Justice Wise received her undergraduate degree from Auburn University and a Juris Doctorate from Faulkner University's Jones School of Law. She holds an MPA from Auburn University at Montgomery, which presented her with the University's Outstanding Alumni Award and named her among the University's Top 40 graduates in 40 years. In addition, she was awarded an honorary Doctorate from Judson College.

Justice Wise was first elected to the Alabama Court of Criminal Appeals in 2000, becoming the youngest woman elected to serve on an Alabama appellate court. She was re-elected in 2006 and was later selected to serve as Presiding Judge of the Court of Criminal Appeals, where she authored numerous opinions aimed at strengthening Alabama's criminal laws and protecting Alabama citizens from violent offenders. Justice Wise was elected to the Supreme Court of Alabama in 2010 and was re-elected in 2016 and 2022. She heads the Court's Wise Division. Throughout her tenure on the bench, Justice Wise has worked to defend the Constitution, safeguard our liberty, and provide fair and impartial justice for those who come before Alabama's highest court.

As an active volunteer in her community, Justice Wise serves in numerous legal, professional, and social organizations. She is a graduate of Leadership Alabama, Chair of the Alabama Court Improvement Project Multidisciplinary Task Force, a member of the Alabama Judicial Conference, an Alabama Law Foundation Fellow, a member of the Alabama State Bar Association, a Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts Trustee, a member of the American Council of Young Political Leaders, a member of the Max Credit Union Board of Directors, and a founding member of the Lillie Lee Minier Society. Justice Wise also serves on The Council of State Government, Civic Health Task Force, CSG Veterans Committee and has previously served as President of the Junior League of Montgomery, as well as on the board of directors for The Family Sunshine Center and Hands On River Region.

Justice Wise and her husband, former Montgomery County District Court Judge Arthur Ray, are the proud parents of Hanah-Mathis, a graduate of The University of Alabama. They are members of St. James United Methodist Church, where Justice Wise has taught Children's Sunday School, Vacation Bible School, and Small Group Bible Study and has served on the Parish-Staff Relations Board.

PROGRAM

Montgomery Performing Arts Centre, Montgomery, Alabama
Procession starts at 10:00 a.m.
(Guests, please remain seated during the processional.)



Processional

Invocation

STEPHEN M. FRISBY
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF LAW

Welcome

CHARLES B. CAMPBELL
DEAN AND ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF LAW

Faculty Farewell

COURTNEY L. HORTON
DIRECTOR OF ADVOCACY PROGRAMS
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF LAW

Student Farewell

EMMA CHRISTINE REVELS
CLASS OF 2025

Introduction of Commencement Speaker

D. MITCHELL HENRY
PRESIDENT, FAULKNER UNIVERSITY

Commencement Address

THE HONORABLE KELLI WISE

Conferring of Degrees, Presentation of Diplomas, and Hooding of Graduates

CHARLES B. CAMPBELL, *DEAN AND ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF LAW*
JENNIFER L. DEBOER, *ASSISTANT DEAN OF STUDENTS*

Awards

CHARLES B. CAMPBELL
DEAN AND ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF LAW

Benediction

JOHN C. CRAFT
DIRECTOR OF CLINICAL AND FIELD PLACEMENT PROGRAMS
CLINICAL ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF LAW

CLASS OF 2025



JULIE J. ANTON

GRAYSON HARPER ASIRE

McKENNA BELLE BARTON

HUTSON MOORE BRECKENRIDGE

MONICA MARIE BROWN, *cum laude*

TRINITY FAITH BROWN

EMILY ANN BUTLER, *cum laude* †

RYLEE GIVENS BUZBEE

MATTHEW A. CABALLERO

SHAUNDREA' BRIANNA CARTER

BRIAN MICHAEL CASEY

JAIME CASTILLO CORTES

NICHOLAS BRYANT CAVENDER

CAROLINE ALEXIS CLARK

EMILY ELIZABETH COLSON

KACI ELIZABETH COMPTON

TAYLOR ROBINSON CREEL

RALPH ERIC CRISS

CALEB A. CURRIE †

LAURA ELIZABETH CUTBIRTH

BRETT ALLEN DAVIS

GRACIE ELIZABETH DEATON

CADE BARNETT DOLLAR, *cum laude*

RILEY LUKE EDMONDSON, *cum laude*

ARIT ESSIEN

CRISTINA RAE FEDERICO

MICHELE FINLEY

CHARLES EDDIE FLOYD IV, *summa cum laude*

DEIDRA FONTANA

REBEKAH JAYNE FRANCIS BARNES †

ABIGAIL FAITH FRAZIER

KIRSTEN CLARE FREDLUND †

KADE ALEXANDER FRENETTE

TATUM MAKENZIE GINN, *cum laude* †

NATALIE DANIELLE GLASS

JAMES R. GOGGINS

CLINTON JOSEPH GONZALEZ †

JAMES MELVIN GUFFY JR. †‡

EMMA LEE GULLATT

TIFFANI ELYSE HAGA †

KATHERINE PIERCE HAGOOD, *cum laude*

HANNAH KATHLEEN HART †

CHRISTOPHER AARON HINTON

MATTHEW ANTHONY HOLDREN

* ADR Certificate Recipient

† Fellows, Public Interest Society: Students who
completed 50 hours or more of voluntary service

‡ Military Service

CLASS OF 2025



CLAYTON THOMAS HUBER

JONATHAN S. JOHANNESMEYER

CAROLYN CLARK JOLLY, *magna cum laude* †

YOUSSEF KATOOT

BENJAMIN WAYNE KENNON III *†

LEXXI BAGGETT KITE

LAUREN JOHNSON LEDBETTER

MYRIAM AYAD LOTT

VICTORIA NATHALIE MALDONADO †

COURTNEY S. MANUEL ‡

ANDREW NOLAN MARKWELL †

TYLER PATRICK MCCREA, *magna cum laude*

ARIANA IVETTE MEJIA WILLIAMS

JONAH DOUGLAS MERCER

EMMALYN HART MERRILL *†

MARIO ANDRÉ MIGNOTT

NICHOLAS JACKSON MILSAPP

JONATHAN MICAH MURRAY

SAVANNAH GIBBS NELSON †

ABIGAIL VAUGHN OLIVER †

DUANE TRAVIS PATE

TORRIELLE R. PILOT ‡

BRAYDON CLEVELAND POSS

COLLEEN SUZANNE POWERS, *cum laude*

CARTER WIGGINS RAY

EMMA CHRISTINE REVELS, *summa cum laude*

KALEB ALLEN RICHARD

ELICE MARIE ROE

STEVEN JAMES RUSSELL †

JAMES PATRICK SAWYER

BRIGHAM AUGUSTINE SCHELLINGER

STEPHANIE DENISE SCOTT

SHIVANI SIVABALAN

SCOTT GRIFFIN SMITH II

NATHAN SOUTHERLAND

MATTHEW BROCK ST. AMANT, *summa cum laude*

KEVIN L. TAYLOR, *cum laude*

COURTNEY SHERINE THOMAS

ANDRE AGUSTUS TYREE †‡

WILLIAM ANDREW VAN DEVENTER

DELINAH DIONE WILLIAMS †

ERIN WILSON

FREDERICK CHRISTIAN WRIGHT V

* ADR Certificate Recipient

† Fellows, Public Interest Society: Students who
completed 50 hours or more of voluntary service

‡ Military Service

FAULKNER UNIVERSITY



PRESIDENT

D. MITCHELL HENRY

B.A., Auburn University

M.A., Auburn University

J.D., University of Alabama

FAULKNER LAW



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J.D., University of Virginia

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M.A.R., Liberty Baptist Theological Seminary

M.Div., Southeastern Baptist

Theological Seminary

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LL.M., Indiana University

McKinney School of Law

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M.L.I.S., Louisiana State University

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J.D., University of Texas

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J.D., Emory University

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Ancestral Property Clinic

Director of Kenneth Dunham Mediation Clinic

Director of Public Interest Programs

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J.D. Howard University

B.A. Amridge University

M.Div., Amridge University

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