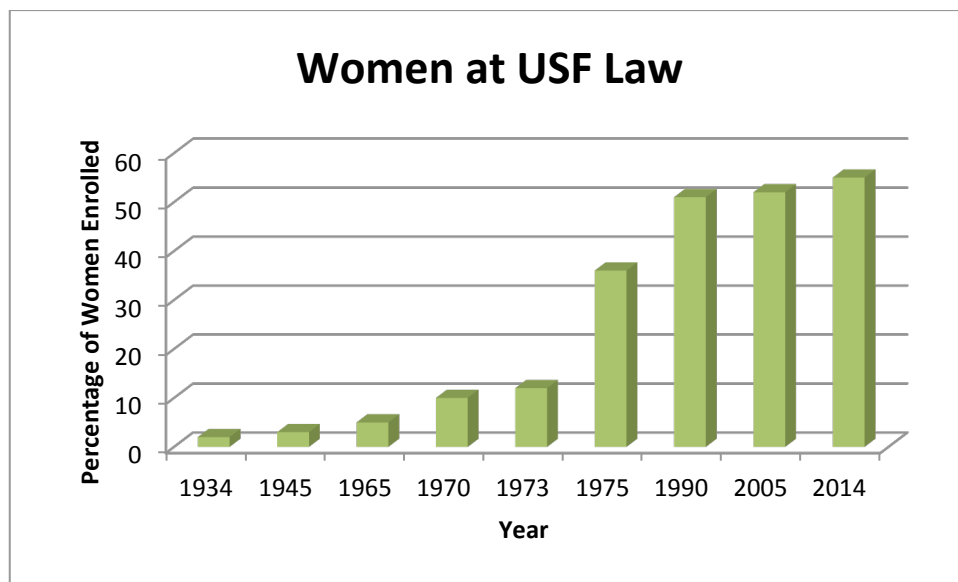


**A HISTORY OF WOMEN AT  
USF SCHOOL OF LAW<sup>1</sup>  
Including the  
USF WOMEN LAWYERS COMMITTEE  
and its  
SCHOLARSHIP FOR TRANSITIONAL STUDENTS**



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<sup>1</sup> Prepared by Courtney K. Krause (USF '11) and Ly Ly (USF '03)

## History of Women at USF School of Law<sup>2</sup>

<b>1910s</b>		
	1912	USF School of Law opens as St. Ignatius College of Law
<b>1920s</b>		
	1927	Three women enroll in the St. Ignatius College of Law's evening program
<b>1930s</b>		
	1930	Bertha Ast graduates from St. Ignatius College of Law
	1931	Name of School changed to University of San Francisco School of Law ("USF"); day program established
	1931	Anne Shumway and Helen Byrne graduate
	<b>1934</b>	<b>2% of the USF evening program are women.</b> No women are in the day program.
<b>1940s</b>		
	1946	Elizabeth Anne Quigley hired as Librarian; retired in 1983
<b>1960s</b>		
	1964	Women admitted to day program
	<b>1965</b>	<b>5% of USF students are women</b>
<b>1970s</b>		
	1970	<b>10% of USF students are women</b>
	1970	Agnes O'Brien Smith (USF '41), first woman USF graduate to be elevated to the Bench. Presiding Judge, Municipal Court, City and County of San Francisco, 1970-1978. <sup>3</sup>
	1971	Cherie Gaines and Ms. Quigley are the only full-time women faculty (17%; 2 out of 12)
	1974	Professor Stephanie Wildman hired, taught sex discrimination, torts, etc.; first woman faculty member to get tenure

<sup>2</sup> Generally, the material in this History is based on The University of San Francisco School of Law Century, 100 Years of Educating for Justice, Alan Ziajka, Editor, Angie Davis, The Donning Company Publishers, 2012

<sup>3</sup> Judges listed in this History are current as of 2014. We apologize for any omissions.

	1975	Professor Delores Donovan hired, taught criminal law; directed the Center for Law and Social Justice.
	1975	<b>36% of USF students are women</b>
	1976	Professor Suzanne Mounts hired; founding director of the Intensive Advocacy Program
	1977	Ann Miller named partner at Lillick & Charles, one of the first female partners at a major firm in San Francisco
	1977	Dorothy Von Beroldingen (USF '54), Judge, Municipal Court, City and County of San Francisco, 1977 - 1999
<b>1980s</b>		
	1982	Marie Bertillon Collins (USF '58), Judge, Superior Court, Alameda County (1982)
	1983	Mary Jane Theis (USF '74), Associate Justice, Cook County Circuit Court (1983-1988); Justice, Cook County Circuit Court Criminal and Chancery Divisions (1988-1993); Justice, Appellate Court, First District (1994-2010); Justice, Illinois Supreme Court (2010 – present)
	1984	Martha Beckwith (USF '76), Judge, District Court, Anchorage, Alaska (1984-1992)
	1985	Marcia J. Waldorf (USF '75) Judge, First Circuit Court, State of Hawaii (1985-2007)
	<b>1985</b>	<b>USF Women Lawyers Committee established</b>
	1987	Professor Tina Grillo hired as the first full-time, tenure track faculty member to administer the Academic Support Program
	1987	USF Women Lawyers Committee awards its first Scholarship for Transitional Students
	<b>1989</b>	<b>51% of USF students are women</b>
	1989	Heather Morse (USF '81) Judge, Superior Court, County of Santa Cruz (1989-present)
<b>1990s</b>		
	1990	Professor Sharon Meadows hired, directs the Criminal & Juvenile Justice Law Clinic

	1990	Professor Connie del la Vega hired, directs the Civil Litigation Clinic, founded the Frank C. Newman International Human Rights Law Clinic, directs the International LLM Program
	1990	Diane Northway (USF '69) Judge, Superior Court, Santa Clara County (1990-2013)
	1990	Susan Hahn (USF '82) Judge, Superior Court, Yakima County, Washington (1990-present)
	1991	Saundra Brown Armstrong (USF '77), appointed to the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California (1991-present)
	1991	Rosemary P. Pfeiffer (USF '76) Judge, Superior Court, San Mateo County (1991-2011)
	1992	Barbara J.R. Jones (USF '74) Judge, Superior Court, City and County of San Francisco (1992-1996); Judge, Court of Appeal, First District, Division 5 (1996-1998); Presiding Justice, Court of Appeal, First District, Division 5 (1998-current)
	1992	Kay Tsenin (USF '73) Judge, Superior Court, City and County of San Francisco (1992-present)
	1993	M. Lynn Duryee (USF '79) Judge, Superior Court, Marin County (1993-present)
	1994	Maria-Elena James (USF '78) United States Magistrate Judge (1994-present)
	1994	Patricia A. Gray (USF '84) Judge, Superior Court, Sonoma County (1994-2000)
	1995	Joanne Parrilli (USF '74) Justice California Court of Appeal (1995 - 2007), served on Alameda Superior Court from 1987-1994; Municipal Court, Oakland-Piedmont-Emeryville Judicial District, Alameda County (1985-1988)
	1996	Barbara Miller (USF '78), Judge, Superior Court, Alameda County (1996-2009); Presiding Judge, Superior Court, Alameda County (2004-2005).
	1998	Ellen Carroll (USD '80) Judge, United States Bankruptcy Court, Central District of California (1998-2012)
	<b>2000s</b>	
	2000	Margaret Johnson (USF '78) Judge, Superior Court, Santa Clara County (2000-present)
	2001	Mary Wiss (USF '81) Judge, Superior Court, City and County of San Francisco (2001-present)
	2002	Maria Rivera (USF '74) Associate Justice California Court of Appeal (2002-present)

	<b>2005</b>	<b>52% of USF students are women</b>
	2005	Lindi Baker (USF '84) Presiding Circuit Judge, Josephine County, Oregon (2005-present)
	2008	Alesia P. Jones (USF '91) Judge, Superior Court, Solano County (2008-present)
	2008	Bridgid McCann (USF '91) Judge, San Bernardino County (2008-present)
	2008	Dawna Frenchie Reeves (USF '95) Judge, Stanislaus County Superior Court (2008-present)
<b>2010s</b>		
	2012	Kandis A. Westmore (USF '97) Magistrate Judge, United States District Court for the Northern District of California (2012- present)
	2013	Ursula Jones Dickson (USF '98), Judge, Superior Court, Alameda County(2013 -present)
	2013	Rochelle Corinne East (USF '96) Judge, Superior Court, San Francisco (2013-present)
	<b>2014</b>	<b>55% of USF students are women</b>
	2014	Tamia Gordon (USF '97) Chief Judge, Miami Hearing Office (2014-present)

## **USF WOMEN LAWYERS COMMITTEE AND ITS SCHOLARSHIP FOR TRANSITIONAL STUDENTS**

The USF WOMEN LAWYERS COMMITTEE was founded in 1985 by a group of women who wanted to:

- Maintain the ties they established at USF
- Provide mentoring to women law students and attorneys
- Establish a Scholarship for Transitional Students.

*Founders, supporters and generous donors* during the Committee's formative years included:

● Kay Anderson (USF '83) ● Carol Atkinson (USF '73) ● Jeannette Boudreau (USF '80) ● Nancy Bourne (USF '83) ● Kathleen Campbell (USF '85) ● Cheryl Clarke (USF '82) ● Hon. Marie Bertillion Collins (USF '58) ● Royda Crosland (USF '84) ● Veronica Colby Devitt (USF '77) ● Patricia Byrne-Duggan (USF '75) ● Hon. Judith Epstein (USF '77) ● Adele Fenstermacher (USF '85) ● Bridget Flanagan (USF '85) ● Donna Furth (USF '78) ● Vivian Holley (USF '78) ● Judd Iversen (USF '74) ● C. Judith Johnson (USF '82) ● Hon. Barbara Jones (USF '74) ● Cameo Jones (USF '80) ● Carol Langford (USF '86) ● Nancy Lowenthal (USF '78) ● Elizabeth Mandel (USF '80) ● Susan Mendelsohn (USF '80) ● Margaret O'Donnell (USF '74) ● Pillsbury, Madison and Sutro ● Laurie Robertson (USF '84) ● Lisa Saveri (USF '83) ● Julia Smetana (USF '79) ● Lee Stubbs (USF '39) ●

Martha Brigham, USF's development officer, provided enthusiastic support and guidance to the Committee during its early years. Tina Gallagher Nelson (USF '88), who was a law student at the time, was the Committee's administrative assistant.

Yuliya Oryol (USF '96) is the current President of the Committee. Former Presidents have included Susan Mendelsohn (USF '80), Carol Molloy (USF '88), Carol Gee (USF '87) and Lyn Harlan (USF '93).

The Committee's **SCHOLARSHIP FOR TRANSITIONAL STUDENTS** is designed for:

- Male and female students
- Who have had at least a five-year gap in their schooling prior to entering law school
- Want to transition from another career to pursue a law degree at USF
- Have financial need, and
- Want to give something back to the community after law school

**1986** Initial contributions of \$6,275 were made to the Scholarship endowment

**1987 – 2014** Partial tuition scholarship awarded by the Committee to a first-year USF law student. Awards have ranged from \$500 - \$8,000. The 2014 recipient received a Scholarship of \$7,500, which was about 18% of USF's law school tuition of \$42,284.

**2014** Endowment is \$215,000

Recipients of the Scholarship have included:

• Mary Jan Delisi Lofthouse (USF '91) • Patricia Simmons (USF '91) • Lyn Harlan (USF '93) • Laura Lederer DePaul (USF '94) • Cynthia Levin (USF '98), Diane Webb (USF '98) • Kristin Lamson (USF '99) • Shannon Thorne (USF '01) • Jie Zhou (USF '01), Diana Carabajal-Strait (USF '02) • Kate Flick (USF '04) • LaRon (Doty) Hogg-Haught (USF '04) • Jennifer Lynch Boalt (USF '05) • Charlotte Westfall (USF '06) • Stanley Radtke (USF '07) • Brenda Balzon (USF '09) • Michell Nunez (USF '09) • Nicole Kundsén (USF'10) • Sheila Husting (USF '11) • Maya Kevin (USF '12) • Molly LeGoy (USF '14), Rebecca Dames (USF '14) • Alex Leenson (Expected USF '15) • Anna Manuel (Expected USF '17) • Srijana Dhakhwa (Expected '18) •

### **Selected Biographical Sketches of Recipients**

**Patricia Simmons ('91):** Patricia has been a solo practitioner in the area of Probate Administration and Estate Planning for the past 18 years. She is the mother of two daughters; her youngest is also an attorney in Maryland. Patricia is not only an attorney, but also an actress, having appeared in national television shows, films, and regional commercials.

**Laura Lederer DePaul ('94):** After 10 years in philanthropy as director of community concerns at a private foundation, Laura attended USF School of Law and then DePaul College of Law. Laura founded and directed The Protection Project at Harvard's JFK School of Government in 1997. Among myriad accolades, she was Senior Advisor on Trafficking in Persons to Under Secretary of State for Democracy and Global Affairs and Senior Director of Global Projects on Trafficking in Persons in the Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons at the U.S. Department of State. Currently, Laura is President of Global Centurion Foundation, a non-profit fighting human trafficking.

**Kristin Lamson ('99):** Kristin graduated from USF Law magna cum laude in 1999. She worked for 5 years at Hanson Bridgett in their Public Agency practice group, prior to moving to Seattle. She is now a supervising Assistant City Attorney in the Seattle City Attorney's Office, where her practice focuses on general municipal law, real estate, and municipal finance.

**Diana Carabajal-Strait ('02):** Diana serves as a Deputy City Attorney for the City and County of San Francisco. She has worked in the Children and Family Team since 2003. Diana practices dependency law and represents the interests of abused and neglected children in dependency court.

**LaRon Hogg Haught ('04):** LaRon is a deputy district attorney at the Santa Clara County District Attorney's Office. Prior to that she worked as an attorney specializing in delinquency law and policy for the Administrative Office of the Courts, as an adjunct professor at both USF and Santa Clara University School of Law, as a Senior Program Associate at the Berkeley Center for Criminal Justice at the University of California, Berkeley Law School, and as a deputy legislative counsel for the Office of Legislative Counsel in Sacramento. LaRon is a contributing author for Seiser and Kumli on California Juvenile Courts Practice and Procedure and authored the first published academic article on California's Juvenile Deferred Entry of Judgment practices, as well as articles on Gender Responsiveness and Mental Health Issues in the Juvenile Justice System. Prior to attending law school LaRon worked for 11 years as a deputy probation officer.

**Charlotte Westfall ('06):** Charlotte is a partner at CKR Law LLP, a full-service global law firm headquartered in New York. As a corporate and securities attorney, Charlotte represents companies in corporate formation, corporate financings and mergers and acquisitions. She counsels public companies on corporate governance, public disclosure issues and other business matters. A native of China, Charlotte studied Chinese law before moving to the U.S. in 1997.

**Stanley Radtke ('07):** Stan is of counsel with the Mira Law Group, APC in Oakland, where he practices immigration and criminal defense. Stan is a panel attorney with the First, Second, and Sixth District Appellate Projects where he accepts appointments to represent indigent criminal defendants. He is also the co-chair of the San Anselmo Open Space Committee, which has been an active participant in the purchase and preservation of the Sky Ranch property.

**Brenda Balzon ('09):** Brenda is an attorney-advisor with the Social Security Administration, Office of Appellate Operations, in Arlington, VA, a position she has held since 2010. In this role, she works with Administrative Appeals Judges to conduct appellate review of Social Security Disability Insurance administrative decisions. Before joining SSA, Brenda briefly worked as an immigration attorney for the Law Offices of Robert J. Beles in Oakland, CA where she primarily practiced immigration deportation defense and worked on some criminal law matters.

**Michell Nunez ('09):** Michell graduated from USF Law in May 2009 and holds a Master's Degree in Forensic Psychology from John Jay College of Criminal Justice. Michell has been a solo practitioner in the areas of Real Estate and Landlord Tenant Law for almost five years. She is also a licensed California real estate broker working with both commercial and residential investors. Prior to law school, Michell was a research analyst for the Judicial Council, Administrative Office of the Courts and the National Council on Crime and Delinquency.

**Nicole Knudsen ('10):** Nicole is currently working as a strategic researcher for the Service Employees International Union in the Property Services Division, participating in the labor movement's efforts to improve working conditions and standards for low-wage workers nationwide. She lives in Portland, Oregon with her husband and extremely energetic 2-year old son.



**Sheila Husting ('11):** Upon graduating from USF, Sheila worked at the Office of Sponsored Research at the University of California, San Francisco. She is now a Product Manager at Workday, a cloud computing company in the San Francisco East Bay.

**Maya Kevin ('12):** Maya earned her undergraduate degree in Psychology and Masters in Education from UCLA prior to attending USF Law. She happily practices family law at Blum, Gibbs, & Davies, LLP in Oakland. She had a baby boy in 2014 and has been extremely fortunate that her firm is supportive of a healthy work-life balance!

**Molly LeGoy ('13):** Molly received her undergraduate degree in Musical Theater as well as her master's degree in Costume Design for Theater and Film from University of California, Davis. She is a Reno native and a fourth generation Nevadan. Molly is an associate with the Reno firm Maupin, Cox & Legoy, where she focuses her litigation practice in Trusts and Probate.

**Rebecca Dames ('14):** Following graduation, Rebecca entered the Attorney General's Honors Program as a Judicial Law Clerk with the Executive Office for Immigration Review in Los Angeles. During her time at USF Law, she completed an externship with the DOJ, Office of Immigration Litigation in Washington, D.C. She was also a summer law clerk at Equal Rights Advocates and also at the Tulare County Counsel. Following her service in the Honors Program, Rebecca plans to practice immigration law in the Bay Area.

**Alex Leenson ('15):** Alex is the Peggy Browning Fellow and recipient of the 2015 ABA-Bloomberg BNA Award for Excellence in the Study of Labor & Employment Law. Following law school, he plans on starting a workers' center in Richmond which will focus on wage and hour employment claims, as well as political, community, and labor organizing. In addition, he plans on working with the in-house counsel and strategic campaign departments of UNITE HERE! Local 2, in San Francisco.

**Anna Manuel ('17):** Anna is a part-time student in her second year at USF Law. This spring she participated in the Frank C. Newman Human Rights Clinic, where she attended the United Nations Human Rights Council's 28th regular session. There, she advocated for the rights of children held in private immigration detention centers. This summer, she will intern at Berkeley Law's Human Rights Center, conducting legal research for a multi-country study on victim participation at the International Criminal Court (ICC). This study will shed light on experiences of victims who participate in ICC trials, help shape victim participation programs, and inform ICC reform processes. Anna is currently a Managing Blog Editor and the Communications Chair for the Law and Global Justice Forum, and Secretary of the International Law Society.

**Srijana Dhakwa ('18):** Srijana was born in Nepal and lived there through high school. She received a Ph.D. in Economics from University of California, Santa Cruz and an M.A. from Mount Holyoke. She spent seven years as market researcher and business consultant for large technology firms. Now in her second year of law school, Srijana wants to refocus her expertise in helping her community and has found law as an effective tool. She is working as a paralegal while attending evening classes at USF Law.