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School of Law Commencement (1996- )

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## RWU School of Law Commencement (May 16, 1998)

Roger Williams University School of Law

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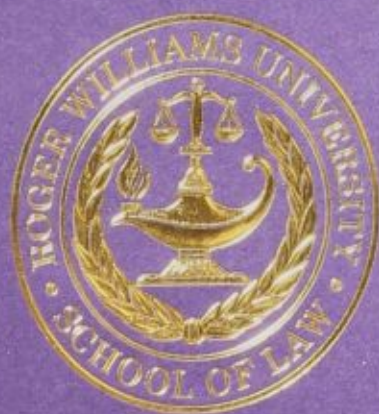
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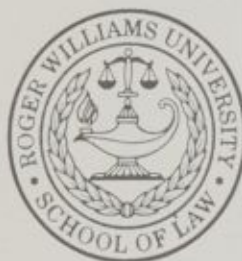
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ROGER WILLIAMS UNIVERSITY  
RALPH R. PAPITTO  
SCHOOL OF LAW



COMMENCEMENT

MAY 16, 1998  
BRISTOL, RHODE ISLAND



ROGER WILLIAMS UNIVERSITY  
RALPH R. PAPITTO  
SCHOOL OF LAW

*Commencement Exercises*  
*Class of*  
*Nineteen Hundred and Ninety-eight*

MAY 16, 1998  
BRISTOL, RHODE ISLAND

THE PROGRAM  
MAY 16, 1998  
JOHN E. RYAN, DEAN — PRESIDING

PRELUDE .....	<i>Prelude, Sigurd Jorsalfar</i> by Edward Grief
PROCESSIONAL .....	<i>Pomp and Circumstance March</i> by Elgar
NATIONAL ANTHEM .....	Joseph R. Marion III Class of 1998
INVOCATION .....	The Rev. Barry Gamache Catholic Chaplin, St. Mary's Church, Bristol
TRUSTEE'S GREETINGS .....	Ralph R. Papitto Chair, Board of Trustees
ADDRESS .....	The Honorable Juan R. Torruella Chief Judge, U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit <i>"On Judicial Independence"</i>
REMARKS .....	President Anthony J. Santoro Roger Williams University
CONFERRING OF THE HONORARY DEGREE .....	The Honorable Juan R. Torruella Presented by: Ralph R. Papitto, Chair The Honorable Victoria Lederberg
RESPONSE FROM THE CLASS .....	Robert E. Falvey <i>Valedictorian - Evening Division</i>  Armando E. Batastini <i>Valedictorian - Day Division</i>
PRESENTATION OF GRADUATING CLASS .....	Dean John E. Ryan
CONFERRING OF DEGREES .....	President Anthony J. Santoro
BENEDICTION .....	The Rev. Barry Gamache
RECESSIONAL .....	<i>Grand March from "Aida"</i> by Verdi

The Audience is requested to remain seated during the recessional.



Distinguished jurist, you have served the bench of the United States of America with distinction for a quarter of a century. Whatever unexpectedly precipitated your return to your native Puerto Rico, in favor of practicing law in Massachusetts upon graduation from law school, has inured to the benefit of the bench, the bar and the people of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. As a father, a husband, a grandfather, an athlete, a coach and a proud citizen of the Commonwealth, you stand as a worthy example to be emulated by your fellow Puerto Ricans and younger colleagues on the bench and at the bar.

After earning admission to the Puerto Rican Bar, your first position was as a Clerk for the Honorable Pedro Pimentel, Associate Justice of the Puerto Rican Supreme Court. It may have been from Justice Pimentel that you began to form what would become your judicial demeanor, which has been described as "courtly" and "gentlemanly." For several years thereafter, you schooled yourself in the practice of law from counsel tables, first by investigating and litigating labor disputes with the National Labor Relations Board and later, in private practice, where you flourished professionally. To the practice of labor law, you broadened your horizons to include such specialized areas of practice as aviation and admiralty law and other complex civil litigation. You also tried your share of court-appointed criminal cases in federal court. In short, for sixteen years you developed a reputation for excellence that earned you an appointment by President Gerald Ford to the United States District Court for the District of Puerto Rico.

On the then-understaffed bench of the District Court, you faced a voluminous docket of every imaginable kind of case from the very outset of your tenure. For example, it is said that, on one occasion, a criminal trial and a petition for injunctive relief coincided in such a way as to keep your Court in session for a continuous 29 hours. Your decade of service as a federal trial judge was capped by the distinction of sitting for the final two years as the Chief Judge of the Federal District of Puerto Rico.

During the Summer of 1984, President Reagan's appointing you to the United States Circuit Court of Appeals for the First Circuit marked an historic event, for—once confirmed and sworn—you became the first Puerto Rican ever to hold a federal circuit judgeship. In 1995 you rose to become the Chief Judge of that Circuit Court.

An active and devoted family man, you met your wife, Judy, while in law school and together you have raised four children. An avid reader and well published author, your greatest avocation has taken you to the seven seas. You have competed and coached in numerous international sailing events, including representing Puerto Rico in five Olympic games and traversing the Atlantic twice in commemoration of the 500th anniversary of the discovery of the Americas. As a scholar, you have supplemented your Juris Doctor degree with advanced degrees in public administration and in judicial process. As an advocate for the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, you have brought the issue of disparate degrees of citizenship and unequal rights into high relief.

As a member of our profession, you exemplify justice both on and off the bench. For all of these reasons, then, and by the power vested in me by the Board of Trustees of Roger Williams University Ralph R. Papitto School of Law, I am pleased to confer upon you the degree of Doctor of Laws *Honoris Causa*.

Given this Sixteenth day of May, Nineteen Hundred and Ninety-Eight.



SCHOOL OF LAW DEGREE CANDIDATES  
JURIS DOCTOR

Stuart Corey Ages	Michael F. Drywa, Jr.
Judith Mary Andrade	Hollie B. Dufresne
Susanna S. Andrew	Elizabeth Ann Elmasian
Michael Alfred Antista	Kristopher Joseph Facenda
Donna M. Arciero	Robert Edward Falvey *
Daniel Paul Baccari	Krishna H. Garlic-Faulk
Joseph M. Barisic	Jacqueline Suzanne Fekete
Cynthia Jennifer Barry	Brenda Lynn Ferry
Armando E. Batastini **	Kevin Owen Flood
John Anthony Beccia III	Brian D. Fogarty
Brian Howard Berkowitz	Cynthia Marie Fogarty *
Eugene Gregory Bernardo II *	Kevin Foley
Stephen Gregory Bernardo	Paula Francese
Scott Andrew Bitar	Allison Michele Furman
Diane A. Boisselle	Alexander Galkovich
Karissa Lynne Box	Barbara C. Garcia
Gail C. Bradford	John Thomas Gaskell
Wendy S. Buckler	Anthony Paul Gemma
Marlee James Buckson	Anthony Maximillien Georges-Pierre
Peter Leo Cannon II	Andrew Michael Giovannini, Jr.
Gina Vaughan Cavaliere	Michelle S. Gosselin
Peter Townsend Clark	Michael David Habich
David Robert Comerford	Eileen P. Hadfield
Casey Conrad	Karen M. Hagan
David Michael Corey	Seth Thomas Hargraves
Ortenzia Corino	Dana Louise Harrell
Nicole Jacqueline Cournoyer	Sheila Ann Harrington
Brian Keith Coyne	Steven Thomas Hayes
Walter R. Craddock	Andrew D. Henneous
Judy Davis	Maurice DeShawn Hinton
Jeffrey Michael Delmore	Christopher Brian Holt
Michael C. DeMarco	MiCoya Grace Hutchins
R. Francis DiPrete	Jerry Forrest Ims
Stephanie Donna DiSarro	Matthew Alexander Joe
Brian Matthew Dias	Jennifer Jacqueline Kelly

\*\*\* Summa Cum Laude    \*\* Magna Cum Laude    \* Cum Laude

# SCHOOL OF LAW DEGREE CANDIDATES

## JURIS DOCTOR

Lisa Anne Kelly  
 Michael Southworth Kiernan  
 Peter F. Kilmartin  
 Lisa M. Kolb \*  
 John La Terra Bellina  
 Steven Paul Lagasse  
 Norman L. Landroche, Jr.  
 Jana Marie Lemanski  
 Debra Guittard Lord  
 Dawn Marie Marchand  
 Joseph Richard Marion III  
 Vincent D. Martini  
 Laura B. Mason \*  
 Dean S. Mastrangelo  
 Maria Laura Mazur  
 Kelly Ann McElroy  
 Kevin Leo McGee  
 Gwendolyn McInnis  
 Robert Patrick McKenna  
 Bridgette Jean McMaster \*  
 Tracey Lee McPeak  
 Dennis A. Meyers  
 Lori Ann Robertson Miller \*  
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 Jonathan Joseph Moriarty  
 Patricia Anne Murphy  
 Gerard M. Norum  
 Katie Colleen O'Connor  
 Michael Edward O'Connor  
 Sean Thomas O'Leary  
 James Patrick O'Neill  
 Kara Krystina Ostroski  
 Danielle Paquette-Stoddard  
 John Perrotta  
 Lisa Ann Pettinella

William Joseph Powers IV  
 Mark Robert Quigley \*  
 Vicki J. Ray  
 Scott Lee Reynolds  
 Frank A. Ribezzo, Jr.  
 Abra Rice  
 Brian A. Roemersma  
 Mark T. Romano  
 David Rosenblum  
 Esperanza Ross  
 Frank R. Saccoccio  
 Eric Wayne Schweibenz  
 Dawn M. Sears  
 Sean J. Sette  
 Thomas G. Shaffer  
 Gary J. Smith  
 Lyn Anderson Spinella  
 William S. Streker III  
 Kelly Ann Sugrue  
 Dennis Patrick Sullivan  
 John McKellan Sutherland III  
 Joseph Michael Trillo  
 Nicole M. Troiano  
 Ryan Thomas Truskoski  
 Robert Daniel Valvo  
 Damon Anthony Vespi  
 Michele Marie Vignola  
 David Saul Vogel  
 Michael John Wagner  
 K. Erik Wallin  
 Ronald Robert Warr, Jr.  
 Betty Anne Waters  
 Dena Marie Winder  
 Paul Joseph Young  
 Lawrence Zimmerman



# SELECTED HONORS EARNED BY MEMBERS OF THE CLASS OF 1998

## VALEDICTORIANS

The members of the graduating class achieving the highest cumulative grade-point-averages over the entire course of study in the day division and the evening division will address the class during Commencement Ceremonies.

Armando E. Batastini – *Day Division*  
Robert E. Falvey – *Evening Division*

## West Publishing Company's

### OUTSTANDING STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Each year, the West Publishing Company awards a two-volume treatise to students, in the second- and third-year day and third- and fourth-year evening divisions, in recognition of their superior, annual scholastic accomplishments.

#### 1997 Awards

Armando E. Batastini – *Second Year Day*  
Eileen P. Hadfield – *Third Year Evening*

#### 1998 Awards

Armando E. Batastini – *Third Year Day*  
Robert E. Falvey – *Fourth Year Evening*

## West Publishing Company's

### CORPUS JURIS SECUNDUM AWARD

The West Publishing Company each year recognizes a small number of students who demonstrate academic excellence by earning the highest mark in a selected group of first-year courses. Members of the graduating class who received this award during the course of their studies are:

Armando E. Batastini	<i>Property</i>
Jeffrey M. Delmore	<i>Torts</i>
Kristopher J. Facenda	<i>Contracts I</i>
Robert E. Falvey	<i>Contracts I &amp; II</i>
John Perrotta	<i>Property</i>
Lyn A. Spinella	<i>Torts</i>
Frank A. Ribezzo, Jr.	<i>Contracts II</i>

## The Marquis Publishing Company's WHO'S WHO AMONG STUDENTS

### IN AMERICAN COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

With particular emphasis upon co- and extra-curricular student activities, the Dean of Students each year nominates to the Dean several students for inclusion in this biographical volume listing the nation's outstanding student leaders.

Peter T. Clark  
Hollie B. Dufresne  
Matthew A. Joe  
Debra G. Lord  
Thomas G. Shaffer  
Michael J. Wagner

## The National Association of Women Lawyers'

### OUTSTANDING GRADUATE AWARD

Based upon criteria articulated by the National Association of Women Lawyers, which include contribution to the advancement of women in legal education and in society, the faculty, upon the advice of the Women's Law Caucus, annually nominates and elects a graduate for a complimentary one-year membership in the Association.

Casey Conrad

## THE CLARK PRIZE FOR EXCELLENCE IN APPELLATE ADVOCACY

Those students who capture first place in the written and oral intra-scholastic moot court competition share in a generous award donated by Distinguished Professor Esther F. Clark. Members of the graduating class who received this award during the course of their studies are:

#### 1998 Best Brief

Brian H. Berkowitz      Michael David Habich

#### 1997 Best Oralists

John T. Gaskell      Eric W. Schweibenz

#### 1997 Best Brief

Peter T. Clark      Debra G. Lord



ROGER WILLIAMS UNIVERSITY  
LAW REVIEW

The following students constitute the 1997-98 Editorial Board of the Roger Williams University Law Review and are responsible for its publication. Appointment to the Board of Editors is one of the highest honors bestowed upon law students.

Sean T. O'Leary  
*Editor-in-Chief*

Vicki J. Ray  
*Executive Editor*

Lori A. Miller  
*Managing Editor*

Eugene G. Bernardo  
*Senior Articles Editor*

Lisa M. Kolb  
*Survey Editor*

William J. Powers, IV  
*Survey Editor*

Robert E. Falvey  
*Senior Notes & Comments Editor*

Judith M. Andrade  
*Notes & Comments Editor*

Armando E. Batastini  
*Notes & Comments Editor*

*Faculty Advisor:* Associate Professor Matthew P. Harrington

## MOOT COURT HONOR SOCIETY

The Moot Court Honor Society is intended to develop the art of appellate advocacy and brief writing through intra- and inter-law school appellate moot court competition. Those selected as the best appellate advocates in the intra-scholastic competition are awarded the Clark Prize for Excellence in Advocacy. The Society also sponsors interscholastic teams which compete against representatives from law schools across the nation.

Michael E. O'Connor  
*President*

Bridgette J. McMaster  
*Executive Vice President*

Vicki J. Ray  
*First Year Advisor*

Frank A. Ribezzo, Jr.  
*Intra Scholastic Competition Chair*

Allison M. Furman  
*Inter Scholastic Competition Chair*

*Faculty Advisor:* Associate Professor Linda Mischler

### **National Moot Court Competition Team**

Eric W. Schweibenz  
Debora G. Lord  
Steven P. Lagasse

*Faculty Advisor:* Professor Larry J. Ritchie

**Judge John R. Brown**

### **Admiralty Moot Court Competition Team**

Kevin G. Foley  
Robert E. Falvey  
Sharon L. Setzer

*Faculty Advisor:*

Associate Professor Matthew P. Harrington

### **Craven Competition Team**

Armando E. Batastini  
Peter T. Clark  
Donna L. Dumas

*Faculty Advisor:* Associate Professor David M. Zlotnick

### **American Trial Lawyers Association Competition Team**

Judith M. Andrade  
Marlee J. Buckson  
David R. Comerford  
Robert E. Falvey  
Alexander Galkovich  
Michael E. O'Connor  
Jeanne M. Scott  
Dawn M. Sears

*Faculty Advisor:* Professor Larry J. Ritchie

### **Intra School Competition Committee**

Lyn A. Spinella  
John T. Gaskell  
Brian D. Fogarty

*Faculty Advisor:* Associate Professor Linda Mischler

### **American Bar Association Client Counseling Team**

Jennifer Brooks  
Kevin Hylton

*Faculty Advisor:* Associate Professor Diana Hassel

## STUDENT BAR ASSOCIATION

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ABA Law Student Division Representative	Thomas G. Shaffer
Class Representative, Day Division, 3rd Yr	Andrew M. Giovannini
Class Representative, Day Division, 2nd Yr	Douglas Moore
Class Representative, Day Division, 1st Yr	Samantha L. Schor
Class Representative, Evening Division, 4th Yr	James P. O'Neill
Class Representative, Evening Division, 3rd Yr	Lincoln Lennon
Class Representative, Evening Division, 2nd Yr	Lenny Katzman
Class Representative, Evening Division, 1st Yr	David A. Schiano
Representative at Large	Gina V. Cavalieri

*On behalf of the Class of 1998,  
the Student Bar Association  
presented the School of Law with  
a trophy case which is on display  
in the main lobby.*



ROGER WILLIAMS UNIVERSITY

RALPH R. PAPITTO  
SCHOOL OF LAW  
1997 - 1998

School of Law  
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Mary D. Upton  
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Gail I. Winson  
*Director of Law Library and Associate Professor of Law*

School of Law  
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*Visiting Lecturer in Law*

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*Professor of Law*

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*Assistant Professor of Law*

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Andrew Horwitz  
*Associate Professor of Law and Director, Criminal Defense Clinic*

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David M. Zlotnick  
*Associate Professor of Law*

ROGER WILLIAMS UNIVERSITY  
RALPH R. PAPITTO  
SCHOOL OF LAW  
1997 - 1998

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*General Counsel (Ret.), New York Teachers*

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*Crowell & Moring LLP*

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Attorney General*

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John E. Martinelli  
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Sheila Mondschein  
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ROGER WILLIAMS UNIVERSITY  
RALPH R. PAPITTO  
SCHOOL OF LAW

School of Law

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*Managing Partner, Wynn & Wynn, P.C.*

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## ACADEMIC REGALIA

Academic dress originated more than 600 years ago at the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge, where today, the most colorful gowns in the world are those worn at Oxford functions. Though worn daily in the Middle Ages to identify disciplines of study and to provide warmth, today, academic regalia is reserved for ceremonial occasions.

In the United States, the Academic Costume Code is adhered to by virtually all American colleges and universities. This governs the material, style, color and trimmings of the gown and hood, the style of the cap, and the color of the tassel.

The field of learning in which the degree was awarded is indicated by the color of the edging of the hood, and in some cases by the color of the velvet trimming on the front panels and the sleeves. The doctor's gown, which may be worn open or closed, has velvet panels draped around the neck and along the front edges of the gown. Three horizontal bars are stitched on the upper arm of the full, bell-shaped sleeves. The standard academic color for law is purple.

This established code allows viewers to determine from the costume the degree, academic discipline and, often, the institution that awarded the degree. The gown of the Roger Williams University School of Law is black with black velvet trimming on each sleeve. The hood has a velvet border of purple with a satin lining of a gold background with a blue chevron. The cap is worn with a gold tassel.

The standard academic color code in the United States is:

Agriculture	<i>Maize</i>
Arts, Letters, Humanities	<i>White</i>
Business Administration	<i>Drab</i>
Dentistry	<i>Lilac</i>
Economics	<i>Copper</i>
Education	<i>Light Blue</i>
Engineering	<i>Orange</i>
Fine Arts, Architecture	<i>Brown</i>
Journalism	<i>Crimson</i>
Law	<i>Purple</i>
Library Science	<i>Lemon</i>
Medicine	<i>Green</i>
Music	<i>Pink</i>
Nursing	<i>Apricot</i>
Philosophy	<i>Dark Blue</i>
Physical Education	<i>Sage Green</i>
Public Administration	<i>Peacock Blue</i>
Public Health	<i>Salmon Pink</i>
Science	<i>Gold</i>
Social Science	<i>Citron</i>
Theology, Divinity	<i>Scarlet</i>
Veterinary Science	<i>Gray</i>

