Dean Logan's Blog: RWU Law Alumni Sworn in at Supreme Court

Roger Williams University School of Law

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Another Batch of RWU Law Alums admitted to the Bar of SCOTUS, Hears “Stolen Valor” Argument

Alums gathered in Washington, D.C. for our annual cocktail reception, and it was great to see so many of our graduates thriving in the Nation’s Capital, in an amazing array of work settings, from partnerships in intellectual property firms to staff lawyers at the Department of Homeland Security.
Justin Pruett’11, Deborah Johnson (RWU Law Director of Diversity & Outreach)

Katherine James-Bowers’00, John Pagliarini’99, Lisa Holley’01
We also had visits from friends of RWU Law, including Lois Schiffer, General Counsel to the NOAA; Roscoe Howard, partner at leading law firm Andrews Kurth, and author Susan Blakely Smith.
The next morning a smaller group of alums gathered at the stately home of the Supreme Court of the United States, eagerly anticipating a singular professional experience: being sworn in to the bar of the Court.

2012 RWU Law Alumni Group Admitted to the U.S. Supreme Court
(l to r) Lisa Holley’01, Katherine James-Bowers’00, Margreta Vellucci’07, William Gardner’07, Cristina Anne Azzinaro ’02, John Pagliarini’99, Abigail S. Hausberg’08, Felicia A. Manni-Paquette’03, Wayne Helge ’05, Charles M. Edgar, Jr. ’04, and David Slepkow’97.

The breakfast visit from Clerk of the Court General William Suter again brought chuckles, as his deft touch and sense of humor contrasted with the austere setting.
Then, we were ushered into the Chamber, where Associate Dean Andrew Horwitz moved the admission of 11 RWU Law alums.

After Chief Justice Roberts granted the motion, we were able to settle in for a fascinating argument on whether the Stolen Valor Act, which criminalizes false statements about military service, violated the First Amendment. All-in-all, a terrific visit.