

C O M M E N C E M E N T



FRANKLIN PIERCE SCHOOL OF LAW
FIFTIETH COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

MAY 16, 2025

C E L E B R A T E

ORDER OF EXERCISES

PROCESSIONAL

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM

Samantha Malanche, Juris Doctor

WELCOME

Megan Carpenter

Dean, University of New Hampshire Franklin Pierce School of Law

Elizabeth S. Chilton

President, University of New Hampshire

STUDENT SPEAKERS

Sahr Fillie, Master of Laws in Intellectual Property

Steve Ruisi, Juris Doctor (Residential)

Luke Leonhard, Juris Doctor (Hybrid)

HONORARY DEGREE RECIPIENTS

Bradley Olson

Partner at Barnes & Thornburg LLP

Stephen Duprey

Owner, Duprey Companies

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

Jake Sullivan

Attorney and former National Security Advisor of the United States

HOODING OF GRADUATES AND AWARDING OF DEGREES

Megan Carpenter

Dean, University of New Hampshire Franklin Pierce School of Law

Elizabeth S. Chilton

President, University of New Hampshire

Courtney Brooks

Associate Dean for Academic Affairs

Mike McCann

Associate Dean for Intellectual Life

CLOSING REMARKS

RECESSIONAL

MARSHALS

MELISSA CHRISTENSEN

Assistant Professor of Legal Skills

MELISSA DAVIS

Professor of Law and Director of the Criminal Practice Clinic

ANNA ELBROCH

Associate Dean for Academic Affairs

KEVIN FROST

Assistant Clinical Professor of Law

KARA SIMARD

Visiting Assistant Professor of Law

SOPHIE SPARROW

Professor of Law

At UNH Franklin Pierce Law School, it is customary to grant students the opportunity to take part in the annual commencement ceremony prior to fulfilling all their degree requirements. While participating students celebrate alongside their peers during the ceremony, some will formally receive their diploma upon the fulfillment of all necessary degree obligations.

Additionally, the flags displayed on the stage represent the rich diversity of countries from which our graduates hail.

We are pleased to inform you that professional photographers will be present during the commencement ceremony to capture memorable moments of all graduates. We kindly ask that families remain in their seats during the ceremony to ensure a smooth and enjoyable experience for all attendees. Photos will be available to graduates and their families free of charge.

HONORARY DEGREE RECIPIENTS

STEPHEN DUPREY

Owner, Duprey Companies

Stephen Duprey is a prominent New Hampshire developer known for his real estate projects and nonprofit support. His business began in the 1980s with affordable and government-subsidized housing statewide and since then he has built, owned and managed numerous properties including five hotels and the Grappone Conference Center, the region's largest conference center. Duprey was elected to the N.H. state legislature in 1972 at the age of 18 where he served two terms. He was a senior advisor for John McCain's 2007-2008 presidential campaign. Duprey has played a key role in Concord's redevelopment, including revitalizing Main Street and preserving its historic buildings. Currently, he is working on Arts Alley, a multi-use eating and entertainment venue in downtown Concord. He also chairs the Pease Development Authority and serves on several nonprofit boards.

BRADLEY OLSON

Partner at Barnes and Thornburg, LLP

Bradley Olson began his career as a patent attorney and is currently a partner with the law firm of Barnes & Thornburg, LLP where he advocates and protects the rights of businesses and individuals. He also has extensive experience in various facets of patent and trademark litigation, both within the U.S. and across multiple European countries. Olson has represented clients in major intellectual property disputes, appearing before the International Trade Commission. He is the former national chairman of the Swedish-American Chambers of Commerce of the United States and was awarded a knighthood in the Swedish Royal Order of the Northern Star for achievements in promoting cultural and business exchange between the U.S. and Sweden.

He completed a Juris Doctor degree in 1994 from UNH Franklin Pierce School of Law.

COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER AND HONORARY DEGREE RECIPIENT

JAKE SULLIVAN

*Attorney and former National Security Advisor
of the United States*

Jake Sullivan is a policy expert and educator. He previously held key roles in government, including National Security Advisor to then-Vice President Biden, Director of Policy Planning at the U.S. State Department, and Deputy Chief of Staff to Secretary of State Hillary Clinton. Sullivan was a Senior Fellow at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace and held teaching positions at Dartmouth College and Yale Law School. He co-founded National Security Action and advised various foreign policy organizations. In August 2025, Sullivan will join the University of New Hampshire Franklin Pierce School of Law as a Senior Fellow.

**TO THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE FRANKLIN PIERCE
SCHOOL OF LAW CLASS OF 2025:**

Congratulations on earning your degree from UNH Franklin Pierce School of Law! Your academic achievement is something that you will be proud of for your lifetime. The Trustees of the University System of New Hampshire congratulate you on your success and extend our continued good wishes as you enter a new chapter of personal and professional accomplishment.

The faculty and staff at UNH Franklin Pierce School of Law have eagerly sought ways to help you find opportunities to become connected to campus life and to your community. We encourage you to carry on this tradition of engagement in the future—in the communities you serve and as members of the UNH Franklin Pierce School of Law Alumni Association.

The USNH Trustees would also like to acknowledge the families of UNH Franklin Pierce School of Law graduates for the many ways they have demonstrated their support for you. We understand how important that support is to your success and the commitment it requires. Whether you are a traditional or non-traditional-age student, a veteran, or a first-generation student, the role family and friends play cannot be overestimated.

And finally, we encourage you to reflect upon the dreams and aspirations that brought you to UNH Franklin Pierce School of Law, and to seek out and to excel at the many opportunities that lie ahead.

With all good wishes,
Alexander J. Walker, Jr., Chair
Board of Trustees
University System of New Hampshire

UNIVERSITY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE FRANKLIN PIERCE SCHOOL OF LAW

Candidates for Juris Doctor Degree

Rowena K. Ahia
Riley H. Albert
Dashana E. Allen
Garrett Allen
Eric M. Arndt
Nicholas D. Athanas
Alexandra Attili
Luke N. Baldrice
Michael B. Bartoszek
Elizabeth J. Bedsole
Rachel B. Bell
Nicholas G. Bello
Virginia L. Belt
Lindsay Boehme
Seth A. Bonfadini
Daniel H. Boyette
Connor Brady
Sydney M. Brazile
Lindsay C. Bueche
Julia A. Burke
Emily Burns
Roxanne L. Butler
Sumner O. Camp-Martin
Rachel Cardona
Matthew G. Carrier
Peter Christopher
Zachary Conrad
Alexander M. Craighead
George Crouse
Faith Dalton
Kevin R. Dandrow
Michael Davidov
Sean Davis
Colin Dean

Jennifer Deml
Nicholas J. Donatelli
Chloe Dorst
Danielle Downing
Avery S. Ellis
Jenafer Evans
Gianna A. Fasoli
Benjamin D. Fleury
Brendan Flood
Abigail C. Flynn
Dalton L. Ford
Adam W. Foster
Nathan R. Fredrickson
Davis B. Freeman
Eric S. Gardner
Mike Garelick
Craig Garfinkel
Jeff Geng
Connor George
Cecilia L. Gibbons
Anthony J. Gioia
Sarah R. Gittelson
Isabella K. Golden
Kinya Gramblin
Kristen M. Grogan
Emmalie E. Gullede
Shane G. Harris
Ashley Hart
Wyatt K. Hase
Danielle F. Heine
Andrea L. Hemberger
Jacob Herrick
Drew T. Hickey
Sarah E. Hill
Rhonda Hodge
Frank F. Huang
Brionna Huskey

Jonathan Insler
Rachel E. Janis
Youjin Jeong
Steve Kavalek
Mason E. Kaye
Elias J. Kerrick
Samantha X. Malanche
Taylor A. Kropp
Dmytro Kusen
Maksim Kyrychenko
Danielle R. Laren
Tanya R. Lau
Kenneth M. Lavin
Kristy Legoas
Luke R. Leonhard
Marissa Levenkron
Samantha L. Lowe
Kiera E. MacWhinnie
D. Mae-Beth Magno
Abigail D. Mailhot
Jonathan C. Maloberti
Claire V. Markey
Jason R. Martin
Grace R. Mavodza
Enya McGarry
Erin McQuagge
Abigayle J. Means
Charles Midthun
Brooks A. Mihalek
Katherine E. Miller
Joseph C. Mohler
Frank P. Navarra
Colby D. Newsham
William G. Noonan
Colin K. O'Brien
Meegan J. O'Connell
Daniel J. Orton

Ben Osenga
Samantha E. Palastra
Emalee A. Peterson
Nicholas J. Pina
Julie Post-Smith
Samson Puma
Christopher L. Puopolo
Matthew G. Quinn
Sunil Rajpal
Thomas M. Relyea
Anthony M. Rethorst
Jake Riggs
Douglas L. Ringer, Jr.
Stephen M. Ruisi
Kayla P. Ryan
Praise Sanders
Hayley Schnatter
Bryonna D. Scott
Kerry A. Shamnoski
Charles M. Shaw
Patricia S. Shea
Marc Slezak
Anne Smith
Heather Soltis Taylor
Themis N. Splagounias
Joshua A. Sprague Oliveira
Nicole E. Sterste
Rachel Taow
Rugen Z. Taylor
Anne M. Taylor
Keagan D. Tolman
Jennifer Treadway
Zachary M. Tresemer
Jedediah T. Tressler
Conrad R. Vandlik
Rikeia Vasquez
Natalie K. Walford
Robert Walker
Brendan C. Wangler
Cierra Warren
Aidan J. Whitlock
Francesca E. Williams
Christopher J. Wilson

Jennifer G. Wilson
Maya K. Wilson
Zephan Wood
Jingjing Xue
Patrick H. Yehle
Shanzhong Yuan
Elizabeth Zanetakos
Kendall Zonghi
Janelle Zuccaro

Candidates for Master of Laws in Intellectual Property

Arushi Bisht
Chananchida Boonchuay
Maame Aba Nyaniba Cobbinah
Kevin Collins
Hernan D. Contreras Fonseca
Emily Escartín Rosas
Sahr Fillie
Karin Y. Furuya
Arvind Madan Mohan
Esha A. Maken
Cassandre Manicom Ramsamy
Oliver Orwel
Eesha A. Parande
Malimbada Ranawaka
Arachchige Sandaru C. Perera
Medhavi K. Pethkar
Shantam Pyakurel

Candidates for Masters in Intellectual Property

Brandon A. Glover
Maria E. Llangari
Tongyao Su

Candidates for Masters in International Criminal Law & Justice

Araceli Hernandez Quiroz
Luke A. Webster



HISTORICAL NOTES

Commencements in America began at Harvard University circa 1640. Early ceremonies were patterned after those of Oxford and Cambridge, England. Since then, American colleges and universities have added their own trappings, in many cases making the occasion more festive.

The caps, gowns and hoods of our graduates in the procession represent a tradition of academic dress that began in the 12th century when the stone buildings, which housed medieval universities, were not known for warmth. The gowns are an adaptation of clerical garb.

A scholar's academic hood is more than elegant and colorful attire; it denotes degree, field and alma mater. The band of velvet circling the outer edge of the hood varies in width according to the highest degree attained: narrow for the bachelor degree, medium for the master, and broad for the doctorate. The color represents the field of scholarship: law, purple; arts and letters, white; engineering, orange; science, gold; philosophy, blue; etc. The hood is lined with the colors of the institution attended by the wearer.

GRADUATION DAY

I see a black gown
hanging in anticipation.
Who is it for?

The trees outside bloom
with delight, as do the bushes
all aflutter with color
waiting for a ray of sun,
A sprinkle of rain, the
buzzing of a bee.

Tired soles wander the halls,
Exhausted from a long year
now gone. To relax for
a few minutes - how wonderful
it would be.

Smiles and tears will be
the order of the day.
Soon. Coming so quickly.
It will be glorious to see
all the black gowns on thee.

KATHIE GOODWIN
Former UNH Law Staff



**Franklin Pierce
School of Law**