

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF 2018

The whole Michigan State University College of Law community came together on May 11, as faculty, staff, the Board of Trustees, alumni, and families celebrated the next generation of Spartan lawyers – our class of 2018.

Alumnus John F. Schaefer, '69, delivered the keynote. Schaefer is one of the best-known and most highly-respected matrimonial lawyers in the United States, a Trustee Emeritus on the College's Board of Trustees, and an adjunct professor for over 30 years.

To the graduates, Trustee Schaefer emphasized the importance of establishing a professional reputation, but not just from winning cases. Instead, he encouraged graduates to practice law with humility and integrity, and to be lawyers upon whom their clients can rely.

“Our objective in the practice of law and in life should be to ‘do well and do good’ – and to make sure the first one doesn’t swallow up the second.”

—John F. Schaefer, '69

Peter Lucido, '88, was the recipient of the Honorable George N. Bashara, Jr. Class of '61 Distinguished Alumni Award. This year's commencement ceremony was doubly special for Lucido. In addition to receiving his award, he was also given the honor of presenting his own daughter, Nina Lucido, with her diploma.

Other members of the platform party included:

Susan J. Houseknecht,
National Anthem Soloist

Hon. Rosemarie E. Aquilina,
Faculty Speaker

Nina E. Lucido,
JD Class President

Christine Pattinson,
Student Speaker

“If law school has taught you anything, hopefully it’s that there is almost never a single ‘right’ answer. The world is a pretty messy, complicated place. So listen to others, particularly those who disagree with you. Don’t assume that you always have it right. You don’t; precious few of us are infallible. We all make mistakes. Trust me, I’ve made some doozies in my time. **Personal growth flourishes in respect and tolerance for views that diverge from our own, and it stagnates in idolatry.**”

— Dean Lawrence Ponoroff

WHO IS THE CLASS OF 2018?

244 STUDENTS
RECEIVED THEIR
JD

18 GRADUATES
EARNED THEIR
LLM

11 GRADUATES
EARNED THEIR
MJ

THE CLASS OF '18 CAME TO MSU LAW WITH **55** DIFFERENT UNDERGRAD MAJORS FROM **150** DIFFERENT UNIVERSITIES. TODAY, THEY'RE TAKING BAR EXAMS IN **29** STATES.

