

Spring/Summer 2024

Commencement Events Overview

Congratulations to our graduates! We are excited to celebrate your accomplishments with you during the events and festivities of Commencement.

Detailed below is the information that you and your guests will want to have as you attend the events throughout the week of Commencement.

COMPOSITE PHOTOS AND TABLING:

Tuesday, May 14, and Wednesday May 15
10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Stetson University College of Law
Concourse 2nd Floor of Student Center

Join the Office of Student Affairs, Office of Career and Professional Development, Bar Preparation, and other campus offices for a day of celebration, composite photo sessions, and connections.

Please sign-up for your composite session [here](#). Graduates will don graduate robes and hood (no tams or cords) for the photo.

The Office of Career and Professional Development Resource Room serves as the staging area for the photo session – coat racks and mirrors are available as you don your robes (with staff available to assist), snacks, waters, and space to relax with your friends and fellow graduates are also available before journeying through our tabling concourse and to SC201 for photos.

During tabling, the participating offices will distribute Commencement wristbands for guests, guest tickets for alternate site, cords, honor tassels, and student recognition certificates, bar preparation materials, and Commencement swag!

Graduates who do not pick up their tickets, cords, and honor tassels during Commencement tabling, will receive them at their assigned robing room seat the day of the ceremony.

GRADUATION BRUNCH:

Thursday, May 16, 2024
11:00am Gulfport Casino
5500 Shore Blvd, Gulfport

Graduation Brunch is only for graduates. All graduates are welcome to attend. Listed below are the Student Leadership Recognitions celebrated at Graduation Brunch.

American Bar Association Leaders
Florida Bar Young Lawyers Division Law School Affiliates
Student Bar Association Leaders
Student Organization Presidents
Stetson Ambassadors
Student Leadership Development Committee
Student Leadership Development Certificates
Veterans Law Institute Award

HONORS AND AWARDS:

Friday, May 17
2:00pm Great Hall
Stetson University College of Law
1401 61st Street South, Gulfport, FL

The Honors and Awards Ceremony is dedicated to the academic recognitions in the following areas:

Anticipated Honors Graduates
Certificates of Concentration
Dispute Resolution Board
Dual Degrees
Honors Program
Journal of Comparative and International Aging Law and Policy
Journal of International Wildlife Law and Policy
Mock Trial Board (Trial Team)
Moot Court Board
*Named Awards**
Nominees for the National Order of Barristers
Public Service Fellows
Stetson Business Law Review
Stetson Journal of Advocacy and the Law

Stetson Law Review
William F. Blews Pro Bono Award Recipients

Recipients of named awards will be notified by the College of Law and invited to the Honors & Awards Ceremony.

Graduates being recognized at the Honors and Awards Ceremony are limited to **FOUR** guests.

If you have questions, please contact lawgraduation@law.stetson.edu.

COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY:

Saturday, May 18, 2024
8:30 a.m. Plaza Mayor Courtyard
Stetson University College of Law
1401 61st Street South, Gulfport, FL

Deadline to RSVP is Friday, March 29, 2024.

Guests should be seated by 8:15a.m. Guests not seated by 8:15a.m can be seated at the conclusion of the Processional.

WEBCAST: The Spring/Summer 2024 Commencement Ceremony will be livestreamed, with closed captions.

Those wishing to view the livestream version of the Spring/Summer 2024 Commencement Ceremony, the livestream link will be posted at the top of the [College of Law website](#) the morning of Commencement.

PARKING: Parking is available on campus and streets surrounding the College of Law if there is not a “No Parking” sign. Please do not park on any grass area near the College of Law or campus housing. Overflow parking is located at Most Holy Name of Jesus Catholic Church, 5800 15th Avenue South, Gulfport, FL. A shuttle will run from the church continuously until 15 minutes prior to the ceremony starting. The shuttle will continue after the Commencement Ceremony has concluded.

SCHEDULE AND ROOM ASSIGNMENTS:

6:45 a.m. All graduates report to campus in full regalia. This includes LL.M. (Advocacy, Elder Law, International Law) graduates, Master of Jurisprudence graduates, Fall 2023 J.D.

graduates and Spring/Summer 2024 J.D graduates.

Your room assignments are as follows:

CLASSROOM A	2023 & 2024 LL.M. graduates Master of Jurisprudence graduates Fall 2023 J.D. graduates Spring/Summer 2024 J.D. graduates A - Go
CLASSROOM G	Gr - Mc
CLASSROOM F	Me - R
CLASSROOM E	S – Z

Graduates don tams, gowns, cords, and hoods for processional. Staff and Ambassadors will be available to assist with robing.

Coffee water and light snacks will be available in each of the robing rooms.

7:30 a.m. Announcements and final instructions. All graduates must be robed and seated in classrooms.

8:00 a.m. Graduates line up alphabetically for processional. Graduates will leave their assigned classrooms and stage for the processional in the Great Hall.

Graduate seats in the graduate tent are in degree order then alphabetical order. Master of Laws in Advocacy Fall 2023/Spring and Summer 2024, Master of Laws in Elder Law Fall 2023/Spring and Summer 2024, Master of Laws in International Law Fall 2023/Spring and Summer 2024, Master of Jurisprudence Fall 2023/Spring and Summer 2024, Fall 2023 JD graduates, and Spring/Summer 2024 graduates.

8:15 a.m. All guests must be seated at this time. Guests not seated by 8:15 a.m. will be seated after the processional.

8:30 a.m. Marshal begins march from horseshoe.

Processional Order

Bagpipers

Marshal (with mace) & President

Graduates from classrooms in order of Classroom A, G, F and E – Graduates will stage in the Great Hall.

Legacies

Faculty

Platform Party

10:15 a.m. Approximate time Commencement Ceremony will conclude.

Recessional Order

Marshal (with mace) & President

Platform Party

Faculty

Legacies

Graduates – exit 2 x 2 over stage

Bagpipers

WRISTBANDS: Wristbands are required for all guests in attendance.

- Graduates will be issued **SIX** guest wristbands for the Commencement Ceremony.
- Guests may enter through the horseshoe, student center walkway, Banyan Courtyard, and the walkway on 62nd Street South between 15th and 13th Avenue South. Wristbands will be checked as guests arrive.
- If you are not using all your guest wristbands or tickets for the alternate site, please complete the form at the following link
<https://stetson.campuslabs.com/engage/submitter/form/start/624534>

The Office of Student Affairs will facilitate a waitlist for students who are requesting additional wristbands or tickets for Commencement. You may also give your wristbands directly to someone who may need additional wristbands.

REGALIA: Deadline to order regalia is February 23, 2024

All graduates will wear regalia (tam, gown, hood, cords) for Commencement.

Herff Jones will ship regalia to the Office of Career and Professional Development. Graduates will receive additional communication in late March regarding regalia pick-up timelines and procedures.

- Regalia and Announcements can be ordered on-line [College Graduation Products by Herff Jones](https://collegegraduationproducts.hjones.com/) or visit Herff Jones' main webpage and type in "Stetson Law" to access your regalia ordering page. <https://collegegrad.herffjones.com/>
- Regalia is provided at no cost to you by the College of Law and is yours to keep.
- December 2023 graduates who ordered regalia for the Fall 2023 Graduate Celebration do not need to reorder/order new regalia for Commencement.

ACTIVITIES REPORT: Please verify your activities to ensure we have the correct information for the Commencement program. Select the link to view the comprehensive list of activities.

<https://www.stetson.edu/law/conferences/graduation/recognized.php>

Please review your activities on *MyStetson, My Academics, Law School Student Activity*. If you believe there are inaccuracies or missing activities, please contact the appropriate office (Office of Student Affairs or Registrar) listed on the webpage.

Deadline to submit activities is March 8, 2024, to ensure inclusion in the Commencement Program.

LEGACY: Graduates who have a family member or members who graduated from Stetson Law with a Juris Doctor are eligible to participate in the Alumni Legacy Program and have their loved one present their diploma during the Commencement ceremony. Qualifying family members include parents, grandparents, spouses, siblings, aunts/uncles, and cousins.

If you want a qualifying family member to participate in this program, please indicate your legacy relationship when submitting your online permanent address form. You can also email the Dean's Office at lawdean@law.stetson.edu and the Development and Alumni Relations Office at tdjackso@law.stetson.edu with any questions regarding legacy participation at the Commencement ceremony.

ACCESSIBILITY SERVICES: The Spring/Summer 2024 Commencement Ceremony will be livestreamed, with closed captions. Graduates and guests with disabilities or health concerns who may require accommodations, such as accessible seating, contact the Accessibility Resources Office at ada@law.stetson.edu prior to May 10, 2024. Requests will be evaluated by the Accessibility Resources office on a case-by-case basis.

ALTERNATE SITE INFORMATION: In case of inclement weather, Commencement ceremonies will move to the alternate location, First Baptist Church, 1900 Gandy Blvd N, St. Petersburg, FL. Graduates will be advised via email as well as the College of Law homepage. If Commencement is moved to the alternative site, **the ceremony will begin at 10:00 a.m.**

Should we move to the alternate site, graduates will be limited to **FOUR** guests. Guest tickets for the alternate site will be distributed during the tabling event in the Student Center on May 14 and May 15.

NOTES:

- Graduates are asked to report to campus **on time in full regalia** at the designated report time. We must conduct roll call and verify name pronunciations and recognitions prior to lining up for the procession.
- Graduates don tams, gowns, hoods, and cords for the processional.
- Graduates' names will be placed at their seats in their respective classroom staging area prior to the processional.
- Graduates are encouraged to leave personal items with their guests (such as wallets, bags, keys, cellphones). If a graduate needs to leave a personal item in the classroom staging area, they do so at their own risk.
- Guests will not be admitted to the classroom staging areas.
- Graduates' names will be placed at their seat in the reserved section under the graduate tent in the Plaza Mayor Courtyard. Graduate seating is located directly to the left of the stage, when facing the stage.

FINAL REMINDERS:

- Grad Images will take pictures of each graduate as they walk across the stage and again behind the staging area. Grad Images will contact graduates individually via email regarding purchasing their photographs.
- Graduates will be given a diploma cover holder with the Stetson logo. The diploma cover will be returned after your photo is taken.
- Following the ceremony, all graduates are asked to return to their respective classrooms to retrieve any personal items. Please ask your guests to stay in the Plaza Mayor Courtyard until the recession is complete.
- We ask everyone to please exit the Plaza Mayor Courtyard shortly after the recession.

If you have any questions, please contact lawgraduation@law.stetson.edu.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Commencement Cords

Commencement Cords are rope-like accessories worn with your regalia at May Commencement. Cords are awarded for certain student academic leader recognitions, academic achievements, student leadership positions, pro bono service, and memberships in particular honor societies and organizations.

- **Purple Cord****: LL.M. Graduates
- **Gold Cord***: Honors & Anticipated Honors Graduates
- **Blue Cord****: William F. Blews Pro Bono Service Award
- **Red, White and Blue Cord****: Veterans
- **Blue & Gold Cord*****: Beta Gamma Sigma
- **Drab****: JD/MBA graduates
- **Purple and White Cord****: Master of Jurisprudence
- **Gold Blue Red*****: Phi Delta Phi
- **Green Cord****: Student Leadership Recognitions:
 - ABA Campus Reps and Regional/National positions
 - Ambassador Chiefs, Deputy Chiefs, Senior Stetson Ambassadors & Ambassadors
 - Florida Bar Young Lawyers Division Law School Affiliates
 - Leadership Development Committee
 - SBA Executive Board Officers and Committee Chairs
 - Student Organization Presidents
- **Green and Gold Cord****: Student Academic Leader Recognitions:
 - All Advocacy Board team members
 - Honors Program graduates
 - Law Review and Journal board members
 - Named Awards
 - National Order of Barristers

**Anticipated honors are based on a student's cumulative grade point average following the end of their prior semester see the Registrar for any questions. The College of Law will provide the yellow cord and tassel.

**Provided by the College of Law.

***Provided by Student Organization or Student

All cords and stoles, whether provided by Stetson College of Law or not, must be congruent with the expectations of the Code of Student Professionalism and Conduct and in the spirit of professionalism. Please contact the Office of Student Affairs with any questions about cords and stoles.

Tassels

Juris Doctor and LL.M. graduates: purple tassel

Juris Doctor and LL.M. Honors & Anticipated Honors graduates: yellow tassel

Master of Jurisprudence graduates: black tassel

Gold tassel supersedes purple Tassels. Graduates only wear one tassel.

Graduation Planning Committee Chair – AMN February 16, 2024