WHITTIER LAW SCHOOL
COMMENCEMENT HANDBOOK
2015

SATURDAY, MAY 16, 2015
Introduction

The purpose of this Handbook is to answer questions regarding Commencement activities. Please read it carefully as it contains all the appropriate places, dates and times of activities.

The 47th Commencement for Whittier Law School will be held on Saturday, May 16, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. in the Quad on the Whittier Law School campus. Students who have earned degrees during Fall 2014 and those expected to earn degrees during Spring and Summer 2015 are invited to participate in the ceremony.

The Dean, Administration, Faculty and Staff congratulate all graduating students and hope to make Commencement 2015 an enjoyable experience for you and your family by providing information about events, deadlines, requirements, and accommodations in this Handbook.
Graduation Information

Location, Date, and Time of Commencement

The 2015 Commencement Exercises will be held on Saturday, May 16, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. in the Quad on the campus of Whittier Law School. The ceremony lasts approximately two hours with a reception immediately following the ceremony. *Graduates should arrive on campus no later than 8:30 a.m.*

Commencement Honorees and Speakers

The Keynote Speaker will be Paul Kiesel ’85, Partner, Kiesel Law LLP.

Paul Kiesel received his Juris Doctorate from the Whittier Law School in 1985. In 2005, he was awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Law from Whittier Law School. His practice is devoted to representing consumers in personal injury, class action, environmental, and toxic tort litigation.

Mr. Kiesel has repeatedly been selected as one of the top plaintiff attorneys in the State of California and the country. The Los Angeles Business Journal recognized Mr. Kiesel as one of the Top 50 Trial Lawyers. The Daily Journal named Mr. Kiesel one of the 100 most influential attorneys in the State of California. He was also selected as one of the top 500 attorneys in the United States by Law Dragon. In addition, Mr. Kiesel is rated A.V. (highest rating) by Martindale-Hubbell.

In addition, the Alumni Association President, Michelle Philo ’12, and the Class of 2015 Valedictorian will address the graduating class.

Valedictorian

The Valedictorian will be announced in Spring 2015.

Graduation Program Booklet

Students should verify the correct spelling for the Commencement Program on their graduation application submitted to the Registrar’s Office.
Cap & Gown Fittings and Distribution

Students can go to [www.herffjones.com/college/whitterlaw](http://www.herffjones.com/college/whitterlaw) to place their orders for cap/gown and/or other graduation products. Gown measurements are based on height, however, for tams, students will need to measure their head. A representative from Herff Jones will be at Grad Fair on February 3rd and 4th to assist students with measurements and placing orders.

Caps and Gowns will be distributed on campus in late-April through the Whittier Law School Bookstore. Students should arrive at the ceremony with their caps, gowns, and hoods. The café will be used as the student robing room prior to the ceremony. After the ceremony, students must leave their caps, gowns and hoods in the boxes indicated.

Invitation/Guest Lists

We will not distribute tickets for you to give to your guests. However, students are strongly urged not to invite more than 10 guests to the ceremony. We can seat approximately 2500 people on campus, and we are confident that there will be enough seating for all of your guests.

Graduation Announcements

You will have the opportunity to order graduation announcements during Grad Fair on February 3rd and 4th. Announcements may also be ordered directly from Herff Jones by going to their website at [www.herffjones.com/college/whitterlaw](http://www.herffjones.com/college/whitterlaw). Generic announcements may also be purchased through the Whittier Law School Bookstore.

Ceremony Arrival Time and Location

Graduates must arrive at the Law School **no later than 8:30 a.m.** for check-in in the Lower Concourse. Arrive **with your Cap, Gown, and Hood**. Changing facilities will be available on campus. The student processional line-up will begin promptly at 9:30 a.m. in the Cafeteria. Graduates will march in alphabetical order by last name. Promptly at 10:00 a.m., the Marshals will lead
the commencement processional line into the arena. Details regarding the processional, where you line-up, where you sit, and the logistics of the ceremony will be given the day of the ceremony.

**Parking**

Parking is available in the student parking lot. Additional parking will be available across the street from the Law School.

**Disabled Students and Guests**

There are ample disabled parking spaces on campus. In addition, special seats will be available near the front of the guest seating area. Due to the limited number of seats for disabled guests, it is recommended that you contact Catherine Kennedy at ext. 110, no later than April 30th if any of your guests will require this seating.

**Photographs during Ceremony**

The Law School has made arrangements with an independent professional photographer to photograph all graduates. During the ceremony, the photographer will take photos of each graduate as he/she receives his/her diploma cover. (Actual diplomas are mailed by mid-August). Photos can be viewed and purchased on-line shortly after the graduation ceremony at gradimages.com.

**Graduation Reception**

Immediately following the ceremony, a light reception will be offered for all graduates, their families and guests in the quad.

**Graduation Diplomas and Certificates**

Diplomas and Certificates will be mailed to your mailing address you indicated on your graduation application or will be available for pick-up during the summer.
**COMMENCEMENT 2015**

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**Grad Fair**  
Feb. 3rd – 4th  
- Cap & Gown fittings for graduates  
- SBA Election – Teacher of the Year  
- Take Composite Photos  
- Fingerprinting for the state bar  
- Information regarding Graduation Announcements  
- Information regarding ordering class rings and diploma frames

**TBA**  
- Graduate Portrait Make-up Date

**TBA**  
- Graduate Financial Aid Exit Sessions

**Week of April 27th**  
- Cap & Gown Distribution

**May 16th**  
- Commencement Timetable  
  8:30-9 a.m. - Graduate Check-in in Lower Concourse  
  9:30 a.m. - Graduate Line-Up in café  
  10:00 a.m. - Procession begins  
  Dean’s Reception immediately follows ceremony on the Quad

**TBA**  
- Order graduation photos online [www.gradimages.com](http://www.gradimages.com)

**Early June**  
- Whittier Swearing-In Ceremony for February Bar Admittees

**Mid-Aug**  
- Diplomas, Certificates and Official Transcripts mailed

**July 28, 29 & 30**  
- California Bar Examination

**Early December**  
- Whittier Swearing-In Ceremony for July Bar Admittees

Questions regarding Graduation should be addressed to the Student and Alumni Relations Assistant at Extension 127.