



IN THIS ISSUE...

- Flexjet Chairman Kenneth C. Ricci '86 to Deliver 2024 CSU|LAW Commencement Address
 - Eight CSU|LAW Alumni Named to Crain's 2024 Notable Women in Law
 - Alumni Profile: Sarah Flannery '02
 - Alumni Profile: Lauryn T. Robinson '21
 - Upcoming Public Lectures & CLE Events
 - CSU|LAW Faculty News
 - CSU|LAW Alumni Association News & Events
-



Flexjet Chairman Kenneth C. Ricci '86 to Deliver 2024 CSU|LAW Commencement Address

Kenneth C. “Kenn” Ricci '86, Chairman of Flexjet and Principal of Directional Aviation Capital, will deliver the commencement address at Cleveland State University College of Law’s graduation ceremony for the Class of 2024. *The ceremony will take place Sunday, May 19, 2024 at 1:00 p.m. at the KeyBank State Theatre.*

“As our distinguished alumnus and a member of our CSU|LAW Hall of Fame, we are honored to have Kenn Ricci speak to our 2024 graduates,” said **CSU|LAW Dean Lee Fisher**. “Kenn is an extraordinary leader and exemplifies how our graduates can use the

legal and leadership skills they developed throughout law school to forge a successful career path no matter where their interests lie.”

For Ricci, his primary interest has always been aviation. His love of aviation has led Ricci to found, acquire, or finance a broad range of aviation companies and ideas over his career. He has assembled one of the largest groups of private aviation companies which together account for over four billion dollars of revenue, operate over 300 aircraft and employ over 5,000 individuals.

Ricci began his aviation career as an Air Force ROTC cadet at the University of Notre Dame and soon thereafter, started his first company, Corporate Wings. He is an airline transport pilot with extensive international experience and was Arkansas Governor **William Clinton’s** pilot when he ran for President in 1992. Ricci is the founder of Nextant Aerospace, the innovator of Aircraft Remanufacturing.

[Read More](#)



Erin Brown



Kari Coniglio



Christal Contini



Sarah Flannery



Manju Gupta



Margaret Metzinger



Lauryn Robinson



Kristina Supler

Eight CSU|LAW Alumni Named to Crain's 2024 Notable Women in Law

Eight CSU|LAW alumni were recognized by *Crain's Cleveland Business* as 2024 Notable Women in Law Honorees.

- **Erin Brown '12**, Brown Immigration, Partner
- **Kari Coniglio '06**, Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease, Partner
- **Christal Contini '08**, McDonald Hopkins, Member
- **Sarah Flannery '02**, Thompson Hine, Partner
- **Manju Gupta '03**, Tucker Ellis, Counsel
- **Margaret Metzinger '95**, Frantz Ward, Partner
- **Lauryn Robinson '21**, Benesch, Associate
- **Kristina Supler '06**, KJK, Partner

[Read More](#)



Alumni Profile: Sarah Flannery '02

Cleveland State University College of Law alum **Sarah Flannery '02** leads Thompson Hine's immigration practice group where she manages numerous relationships in the corporate sector, being the liaison who facilitates matching foreign national talent with U.S. companies' hiring needs. Flannery has been with Thompson Hine since graduating CSU|LAW. She originally joined the firm's labor and employment group, but she quickly discovered an interest in immigration work.

"I have the privilege of being in a practice area where I continuously see individuals achieving big dreams, and it is exciting to witness," said Flannery.

Flannery has provided visa solutions for Fortune 500 IT companies, helped secure visas for foreign national golfers invited to the PGA or LPGA Tour, sent green card approvals to researchers and scientists who are making big changes in how we live, and helped foreign

national students launch careers in the U.S. She enjoys working as a valued-added resource for her clients opposed to the adversarial nature of litigation.

In 2023, Flannery was admitted to the a U.S. Supreme Court Bar alongside a [group of CSU|LAW alumni attorneys](#).

[Read More](#)



Alumni Profile: Lauryn T. Robinson '21

Cleveland State University College of Law alum **Lauryn T. Robinson '21** is an associate with Benesch's litigation group, Lauryn Robinson's practice covers general commercial litigation, consumer class actions, and transportation and logistics-related claims.

Robinson regularly defends retail and e-commerce clients against class actions alleging unfair or deceptive business practices, provides counsel related to retail and e-commerce issues and represents a variety of clients ranging from financial institutions to freight brokers.

At Benesch, Robinson also contributes to DE&I efforts, assists with various pro-bono projects and, prides herself on engaging and mentoring aspiring attorneys.

Robinson enrolled at CSU|LAW as part of the law school's [Legal Careers Opportunities Program](#), after graduating with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and African Studies from Duquesne University.

[Read More](#)

Upcoming Public Lectures & CLE Events

GENDER AFFIRMING CARE AND THE LAW

Professor Abigail Moncrieff
Co-Director, CSU|LAW
Center for Health Law & Policy



THU APRIL 4
12PM - 1PM EST

Pete Finnerty, Ph.D.
licensed clinical counselor with a focus on
wellness counseling for LGBTQ persons

MOOT COURT ROOM &
ONLINE

Sponsored by the CSU|LAW
Center for Health Law & Policy



Info & FREE
Registration at
[CSULAW.ORG](https://www.csulaw.org)



CSU|LAW
CLEVELAND STATE
UNIVERSITY
LEARN LAW. |
LIVE JUSTICE.

Gender Affirming Care and the Law

Thursday, April 4, 12 p.m. - 1 p.m.
Moot Court Room & Virtual

Numerous states around the country have attempted to impose bans limiting access to critical gender-affirming care for individuals within the LGBTQ+ community. Many of these bans have been challenged in both state and federal courts. Currently, there is a split

among courts regarding access to gender-affirming care. These legal challenges have social, political, and economic impacts for the LGBTQ+ community. As the courts work to resolve these discrepancies the legal status of access to gender-affirming care remains precious. Join Professor Abby Moncrieff and Clinical Counselor Pete Finnerty in the Cleveland State University College of Law Moot Court as they discuss the current state of gender-affirming care and the law.

Part of the Health Law Speaker Series sponsored by the Center for Health Law & Policy.

[Learn More & Register](#)

VIRTUAL
ON ZOOM

ENTERTAINMENT &
SPORTS LAW
ASSOCIATION
SYMPOSIUM

APRIL 5 | 11.00AM

2.5 FREE CLE | Register at csulaw.org
pending

CSU LAW
CLEVELAND STATE UNIVERSITY
LEARN LAW. |
LIVE JUSTICE.



KEYNOTE:
MARK TERMINI '84



Cleveland-based sports attorney and agent **Mark Termini '84** has negotiated more than \$2 billion in professional sports contracts over his 30-year career including clients Ben Simmons, John Wall, Eric Bledsoe, Tristan Thompson, Draymond Green, and LeBron James. He has authored a new book, *Words to Negotiate By*.

Full list of panelists & topics at csulaw.org

2024 Entertainment & Sports Law Symposium

Friday, April 5, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Virtual

Panelists will discuss an array of topics including legal liabilities in sports injuries, women in sports, and legal considerations for organizing sports events, including contracts and regulatory compliance. Legal representation for athletes and organizations will be a key focus, covering contracts, endorsements, disputes, anti-doping rules, and intellectual property. Additionally, ethical concerns, governance structures, and integrity in sports will be addressed. **Keynote: Mark Termini '84, Cleveland Sports Agent & Attorney**

2.5 CLE Pending

[Learn More & Register](#)



Hosted by CSU|LAW
National Lawyers Guild
3.0 CLE Pending

2024 NEO STATE OF LABOR SUMMIT

FRIDAY, APRIL 5 | 2 PM - 10:30 PM | CLEVELAND STATE

For rank & file workers, students, union reps, organizers, policy makers, union leaders, allied organizations, advocates... humans who believe that ALL workers deserve safe, dignified work spaces and are fairly compensated for their labor.

NEO 2024 State of Labor Summit

CSU|LAW National Lawyers Guild Summit
Friday, April 5 | 2 p.m. - 10:30 p.m.
Moot Court Room

Join The CSU National Lawyers Guild for a free half-day summit on union-side labor. This event is FREE and will offer three panels on: New Unions & Better Contracts; The Untold History of the Flint Sit-Down Strike; The Role of Policy & the Struggle for Workers Rights.

3 CLE Pending

[Learn More & Register](#)

2024 Global Space Law Center Symposium

**A New Era of
Responsibility in Space:**
Eliminating the Threat
of Orbital Debris

Friday, April 12
12 p.m. - 3 p.m. EST *Online via Zoom*
CLE Pending

2024 Global Space Law Symposium

Friday, April 12 | 12 p.m. - 3 p.m.
Virtual

Man-made orbital debris poses the single greatest threat to the sustainable use of Earth's orbit and puts at risk the space-based infrastructure on which society has become ever more reliant for everything from communications and navigation to tourism and national security. This online symposium will feature key figures from government, industry, and academia to brainstorm about exciting developments and discuss the way forward.

2.5 CLE Pending

[Learn More & Register](#)

Practicum Makes Perfect – A CSU|LAW Parole Advocacy Success Story

Monday, April 15 | 4 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Moot Court Room

A panel discussion with the participants of last year's Criminal Justice Parole Practicum that resulted in the successful parole application of Sam Philpot who had been in prison for 35 years. This was Sam's fourth appearance before the Ohio Parole Board. Panelists will include Practicum students, the Practicum Adjunct Professor and Public Defender **Erika Cunliffe**, and **Sam Philpot**.

[Learn More](#)

Criminal Justice Forum: Wrongful Conviction in Sex Offense Cases - How to Re-Examine Convictions While Protecting Victims

Tuesday, April 16 | 5 p.m. - 6 p.m.
Moot Court Room

Professor Jonathan Witmer-Rich will lead a discussion of wrongful conviction, focusing on the case of **John Thompson**, who was released in October 2023 after serving 23 years for a crime he did not commit. The program will feature both Mr. Thompson and prominent local attorney **Rufus Sims**, CSU|LAW '87, who represented Mr. Thompson and secured his release. **Laura Greig**, Director of CSU's Terry Gilbert Wrongful Conviction Clinic, will discuss problems that contribute to wrongful convictions, and will discuss the work of the Wrongful Conviction Clinic.

1 free hour CLE pending

[Learn More](#)



Cybersecurity

Conference

2024

April 18 - 19

CSU LAW
CYBER

2024 Cybersecurity and Privacy Protection Conference

Thursday, April 18 - Friday, April 19 | All Day
Moot Court Room

CSU College of Law's Cybersecurity and Privacy Protection Conference is one of the leading educational and networking events in the Great Lakes region and features rich content of interest to legal and compliance professionals, information technology and security experts, and executives responsible for developing security and privacy policies.

Keynote & Featured Speakers:

- ***Tony Sager***, Senior Vice President and Chief Evangelist for The Center for Internet Security
- ***Nicholas Fiarfax***, 14th Lord Fairfax of Cameron and Director of Sulnox Group plc
- ***Alex Gaynor***, Federal Trade Commission
- ***Kirk Herath***, Cybersecurity Strategic Advisor for the State of Ohio
- ***Holly Drake***, Chief Information Security Officer, State of Ohio

- **Daniel J. Riedl**, Chief of the National Security and Cyber Unit at the United States Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Ohio.

10.0 OH CLE Credit Hours pending (9.0 General Credit Hours and 1.0 Attorney Professional Conduct Credit Hours)

10.0 IAPP CPE credits (CIPP/US, CIPP/E, CIPM, CIPT)

[Learn More & Register](#)



Prof. Sagers Files Brief in Airlines Antitrust Case

Professor Chris Sagers wrote and filed a brief on behalf of himself and other academics in *United States v. American Airlines Group*, a Justice Department antitrust challenge pending in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit.

[Read More](#)



Prof. Ray Co-Drafted U.S. Biometric Systems Privacy Primer with the Sedona Conference

Professor and Associate Dean for Faculty Development and Online Programs Brian Ray chaired the drafting group for the Sedona Conference's *U.S. Biometric Systems Privacy Primer*.

[Read More](#)



Prof. Sterio Co- Authored Article on Enforcing War Crimes in Ukraine

Professor Milena Sterio co-authored an article, "Prosecution of Russian Corporations for War Crimes in Ukraine," that has been accepted for publication by the *Texas International Law Journal*. The article proposes a litigation framework that enables U.S. courts to enforce civil judgments issued by Ukrainian courts against

Russian corporations implicated in war crimes committed in Ukraine.

[Read More](#)



Prof. Sterio Participated in the Legacy of the Sierra Leone Special Court Conference

Professor Milena Sterio participated in a conference on the “Legacy of the Special Court for Sierra Leone” in Freetown, Sierra Leone. The conference focused on examining the legacy and the major achievements of the Special Court for Sierra Leone, through various panels composed of both international experts and Sierra Leonian judges and other legal professionals.

[Read More](#)



Dean Fisher Named to Cleveland Magazine's 2024 Cleveland 500 List

For the second consecutive year, **Dean Lee Fisher** was named to *Cleveland Magazine's* 2024 Cleveland 500 list. The Cleveland 500 recognizes and profiles the leaders, doers, decision makers, idea generators and visionaries who shape Cleveland. He is profiled in the link below.

[Read More](#)



CSU|LAW
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION



2024 Annual Recognition Luncheon

The CSU Law Alumni Association (CSULAA) Annual Recognition Luncheon (ARL) will be held on Tuesday, May 21, 2024 at Noon at the Grand Ballroom of the Renaissance Cleveland Hotel (soon to be called Hotel Cleveland), 24 Public Square, Cleveland! Doors open at 11:30 A.M.

Our honorees will be **Kemper Arnold, CSU|LAW 1980**, and **Awatef Assad, CSU|LAW 1995**.

[Learn More](#)



Landlord Tenant – A Practitioner’s Overview

Wednesday, April 17, 9 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.
Moot Court Room & Virtual

Learn from industry experts on the topics of:

- Best Practices for Property Owners – Rights & Responsibilities of the Landlord
- Representing Tenants – What you Need to Know
- View from the Bench – What Practitioners Need to Know
- April is Fair Housing Month – Overview and Emerging Issues

Presenters:

- **Lisa Gold-Scott** | Assistant Director of Law/Assistant Prosecutor/Housing Attorney
Department of Law/Fair Housing Office City of Shaker Heights
- **Magistrate Mark Wiseman** | Cleveland Municipal Court
- **Arleesha Wilson, Esq.** | The Law Office of Arleesha Wilson
- **Elizabeth Zak, Esq.** | The Legal Aid Society of Cleveland

3.0 CLE Credit Hours Pending

Register

Give

Volunteer

LEARN LAW. LIVE JUSTICE.



Have exciting news to share? Send us your news to include on our website, social media or in a future newsletter. Email AlumniNews@law.csuohio.edu.