



CLINIC  
LITIGATION  
ADVOCACY CENTER  
MOOT COURT  
TRIAL TEAM

The  
University  
of Akron

School of Law  
Akron, Ohio  
est. 1921

ADVOCACY LAW



# Advocacy Programs – Classes and Extracurricular Offerings Allow Students to Specialize

Advocacy skills are taught in first-year core courses to provide every Akron graduate with some training. But you can enhance your training through elective classes, competition teams and legal clinic offerings.

## CLASSES

All students must complete:

- Civil Procedure I & II
- Evidence
- Legal Analysis, Research, and Writing I & II (LARW)

Additional advocacy training is available to you through such class options as:

- Administration of Criminal Justice
- Alternative Dispute Resolution
- Appellate Advocacy
- Clinical Seminar I & II (Litigation Placements)
- Complex Litigation
- Expert Evidence
- Federal Jurisdiction and Procedure
- Mediation
- Negotiation
- Pretrial Advocacy
- Trial Advocacy I & II

## COMPETITION TEAMS

Selected students can hone their advocacy skills by competing against law students from other schools using simulated problems. The University of Akron School of Law regularly participates in varied competitions, including:

- Moot Court
- Trial Team

## CLINICS

Clinical opportunities allow you to apply what you have learned by working for judges, government agencies, or representing clients, including appearing in court. The University of Akron School of Law offers a number of clinical opportunities, including:

- Appellate Review Office
- Civil Litigation Clinic
- Inmate Assistance Program
- Judicial Externships
- New Business Legal Clinic
- Public Interest Externships
- Trial Litigation Clinic



# An Integrated Advocacy Curriculum

## COMPETITION TEAMS

- Moot Court
- Trial Team

## UPPER-LEVEL COURSES

- Alternative Dispute Resolution
- Appellate Advocacy
- Civil Procedure
- Clinical Seminar
- Complex Litigation
- Evidence
- Expert Evidence
- Federal Jurisdiction and Procedure
- Mediation
- Negotiation
- Pretrial Advocacy
- Trial Advocacy I & II

## REQUIRED FIRST-YEAR COURSES

- Civil Procedure I & II
- Legal Analysis, Research, and Writing I & II

## LITIGATION CERTIFICATE

By completing a specialized course of study, you can graduate with a Certificate in Litigation signifying both your focus on litigation coursework and your achievement of above-average grades in those courses.

## LITIGATION TRACK

Courses helpful to advocacy training are offered in a sequence that minimizes conflicts with each other and Bar-tested courses.

Review the entire curriculum at [www.uakron.edu/law/curriculum](http://www.uakron.edu/law/curriculum)

# Trial Teams – A Record of Success

Cultivate your oral advocacy skills by participating on one of our trial teams. Akron's competition teams have a long history of excellence on the regional and national levels. Under the supervision of faculty advisers and with assistance from trial attorneys, you will improve your oral advocacy skills through extensive practice, evaluation sessions, and the experience of intramural and interscholastic competitions.

We field teams in many competitions, including some where the trials are conducted in actual state and federal courts before witnesses, judges and juries. Akron teams have bested teams from some of the most prestigious law schools in the country.

To become an effective trial lawyer, you need strong litigation skills. The trial team experience will sharpen your abilities in such areas as:

- analysis
- cross examination
- direct examination
- research
- team problem-solving
- trial strategies
- witness interviewing and preparation

Trial team membership also gives students enhanced:

- employment opportunities
- immersion in a substantive area of law
- interaction with accomplished practitioners and judges
- oral advocacy practice in a constructively critical environment

Akron competes in a number of competitions each year, including:

- The National Institute for Trial Advocacy (NITA) Tournament of Champions (invitation only)
- Association of Trial Lawyers of America (ATLA) Tournament
- Texas Young Lawyers Association National Trial Competition
- Gourley Invitational Trial Tournament
- Thurgood Marshall Mock Trial Tournament
- Buffalo-Niagara Invitational Trial Tournament
- Landskroner Law School Closing Argument Competition



## 2003-2004 ATLA NATIONAL CHAMPIONS

Our trial teams achieved great success in 2004. Our teams won national championships at the NITA Tournament of Champions and the ATLA Tournament. Another team won the Gourley Tournament. And the Thurgood Marshall Team won its region and finished fourth in the nation.

Individual students received recognition for their performances. Akron team members were named Outstanding Advocates at the NITA Tournament and the National Thurgood Marshall Tournament. And, for the first time ever, the top three students in the Landskroner Competition were from one law school — Akron!



**“Overall, I would recommend being a part of any advocacy team at the law school because it takes a student out of the classroom and into the courtroom.”**

**Lynn Celestin** ('04)  
Judicial Clerk,  
Hudson County Superior Court,  
Jersey City, N.J.

Learn more about Akron's record of success. Visit our competition teams' page at [www.uakron.edu/law/lawteams](http://www.uakron.edu/law/lawteams)

# Moot Court – Appellate Competitions

Moot court provides you with an opportunity to develop your written and oral advocacy skills in an appellate context. Teams of two or three students work together to review a case problem and draft an appellate brief according to court rules. After completing and “filing” the brief, your team will work with your coach and members of the bench and bar to prepare for an oral argument at the competition. After weeks of intense practice, you will compete against other law schools from around the country.

Akron competes in two general competitions:

- American Bar Association National Appellate Advocacy Competition
- New York Bar National Moot Court Competition

Our students compete in several specialized competitions each year, including:

- Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition
- Giles Sutherland Rich Intellectual Property Moot Court Competition (Patent)
- Saul Lefkowitz Intellectual Property Moot Court Competition (Trademark)



## HONORS AND AWARDS

UA moot court teams and their individual members have won many awards over the years, including these recent accolades:

- American Bar Association National Appellate Advocacy Competition Regional Outstanding Oral Advocate Award
- Jessup First-Place Oralist Award
- Jessup Second-Place Oralist Award
- Jessup Best Memorial (Brief) Award
- New York Bar National Moot Court (Regional) Best Brief Award (twice)
- New York Bar National Moot Court National Qualifier
- Saul Lefkowitz Intellectual Property Moot Court Competition (Regional Third Place)



“The coaches who work with the moot court teams provide the right balance between coaching and an independent learning experience for participants. As in private practice, your performance in moot court depends on your level of preparation, and Akron provides participants with an excellent roadmap on how to prepare for appellate practice in competition, but more importantly, in practice after graduation.”

**Todd Snitchler** ('02), Attorney-at-Law, Uniontown

Learn more about our moot court competitions at [www.uakron.edu/law/lawteams](http://www.uakron.edu/law/lawteams)

# Clinical Programs

## THE CLINIC PHILOSOPHY

While still a student, you can experience the real practice of law in a variety of supervised settings by working with courts, attorneys and clients in actual cases. This is why clinics are sometimes referred to as the “classroom in the courtroom.”

## LIVE-CLIENT CLINIC OPPORTUNITIES

### APPELLATE REVIEW OFFICE

- Represent clients on appeals in state and federal cases in criminal and civil rights cases
- Take primary responsibility for preparing briefs
- Appear in court to represent clients in some cases

Over the past decade, attorneys from the School of Law’s Appellate Review Office have argued 10 cases, both civil and criminal, before the Supreme Court of Ohio. During this same time, the clinic attorneys represented clients in 38 cases before the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit. And third-year law students presented more than a dozen oral arguments in the Ohio Ninth District Court of Appeals and appeared on behalf of clients in federal district court.

### TRIAL LITIGATION CLINIC

- Prepare for all stages of in-court client representation in misdemeanor cases
- Participate in court appearances in local municipal and federal courts (available to third-year students)
- Learn how to prepare for litigation and manage a caseload, just as you will in practice

### INMATE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

- Participate in the only student-supervised project of its kind in Ohio
- Under the direction of staff attorneys, travel to local county jails
- Interview inmates and provide general legal information on criminal and civil problems

## EXTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

### JUDICIAL PLACEMENT CLINIC

- Work for credit with judges at any of our area federal or state courts
- Research for judges and assist with the work of the court

### PUBLIC EXTERNAL PLACEMENT CLINIC

- Work for credit in the offices of local prosecutors, public defenders, nonprofit or civil legal aid organizations
- Work under the supervision of an attorney
- Appear in court on behalf of clients or to prosecute criminal defendants (available to third-year students)

### CIVIL LITIGATION CLINIC

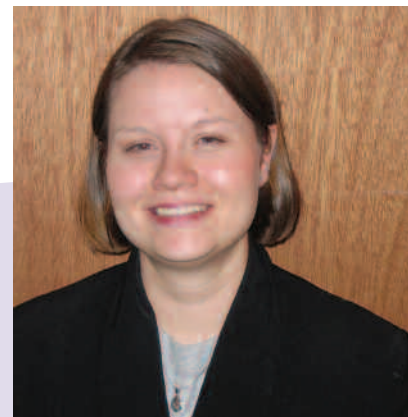
- Represent clients in landlord-tenant and domestic relations cases

### NEW BUSINESS LEGAL CLINIC

- Provide clients with legal and business advice, including business planning, employment, contract/lease, tax and entity formation information

“My clerkship is wonderful. I learn something new every day, and my experience in the clinic really gives me a ‘leg up’ in the work.”

**Melissa Zelnar-Kelly** ('03)  
Judicial Law Clerk,  
United States Court of Appeals  
for the Second Circuit  
New York, N.Y.



Learn more about Akron’s clinical programs.  
Visit [www.uakron.edu/law/clinical.php](http://www.uakron.edu/law/clinical.php)

# Your Future in Advocacy

The University of Akron School of Law's advocacy curriculum prepares you for a variety of career paths, including: the general practice of law; criminal prosecution or defense; public interest; business in-house counsel; and membership in a law firm. We have graduates practicing law in almost every state in the country, proving that your options are almost limitless.

Here's just a sample of many career choices possible with a degree from The University of Akron School of Law.

## GOVERNMENT/PUBLIC INTEREST . . .

- city council member
- common pleas judge
- counsel for civil legal aid organizations
- counsel for government agencies
- county council member
- federal judge
- mayor
- municipal judge
- municipal law director
- prosecutor
- public defender
- state court of appeals judge
- state representative
- U.S. representative

## BUSINESS . . .

as counsel for

- hospitals
- multinational corporations
- national corporations
- not-for-profit organizations
- schools
- small businesses
- universities

in such practice areas as

- administrative
- employment
- environmental
- insurance
- intellectual property
- labor
- school
- tax

## PRIVATE PRACTICE . . .

- large firm
- national firm
- small firm
- solo practitioner

## TEACHING . . .

- business colleges
- law schools
- local school districts
- universities

## SPECIALIZATION . . .

Your law degree can be the start of something more. Some Akron graduates pursue an LL.M. degree, including several who are currently pursuing their LL.M. degree in intellectual property at The University of Akron School of Law.

**During a visit to The University of Akron School of Law, then United States Supreme Court Associate Justice Sandra Day O' Connor visited with members of the judiciary who are UA Law alumni.**



# The Advocacy Faculty

## CLINIC FACULTY



### J. Dean Carro ('78)

Professor of Clinical Education  
Dean's Club Professor of Law  
Director, Appellate Review Office  
Director, Legal Clinic

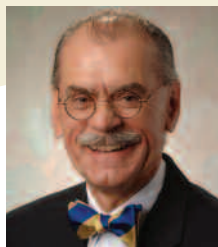
Professor Carro directs the Appellate Review Office/Legal Clinic. He has tried numerous criminal and civil jury and bench trials, but his primary focus is appellate work. He has argued more than 15 times in the Ohio Supreme Court, more than 20 times in the United States Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals and in more than 150 cases in the Ohio Courts of Appeals. In addition, he teaches Administration of Criminal Justice, Appellate Advocacy, Trial Advocacy, and coaches competition teams. He is our only coach to lead teams to national competitions in both trial and moot court competitions. Professor Carro is active in the Akron Bar Association, serving as its President in 2007-08.



### William G. Rickett ('86)

Director, Civil Litigation Clinic and  
Coordinator of Clinical Placements

Mr. Rickett is the director of the Civil Litigation Clinic and coordinator of the clinical extern placements. In the Civil Litigation Clinic, Mr. Rickett supervises students who directly represent clients in tenant/landlord and domestic relations cases in local courts. In addition, he coordinates all student placements in external public agencies. Mr. Rickett teaches Clinical Seminar I, Trial Advocacy I and Trial Advocacy II.



### Stephen R. Cook ('95)

Director, New Business Legal Clinic  
Director, Trial Litigation Clinic

Mr. Cook is the director of the Trial Litigation Clinic as well as directing the transactional New Business Legal Clinic. In the Trial Litigation Clinic, Mr. Cook supervises a staff of students who represent clients, primarily criminal misdemeanor defendants, in local municipal courts. Mr. Cook works closely with the students as they interview their clients and witnesses, prepare for court hearings and appear in court on behalf of their clients.

## COMPETITION TEAM DIRECTORS

### William G. Rickett ('86)

Director of Trial Competition Teams



### Carolyn L. Dessin

Associate Professor of Law  
Director of Moot Court Competition Teams

Professor Dessin and Mr. Rickett are responsible for overseeing the School of Law's competition teams. They select the coaches and administer the programs for selecting members of the various teams. Professor Dessin also coaches the American Bar Association National Appellate Advocacy Competition teams. Mr. Rickett also coaches the Case Invitational Team.

## Advocacy – Course Faculty



### Lloyd C. Anderson

C. Blake McDowell, Jr. Professor of Law

**Advocacy Courses:** Alternative Dispute Resolution, Civil Procedure, Federal Jurisdiction and Procedure, Pretrial Advocacy

After serving as an attorney for the Legal Aid Society in Louisville, Ky., Professor Anderson taught at the University of Louisville and now for The University of Akron School of Law.

Student Comment: "Civil Procedure is the best class with the best teacher a first year can have. Professor Anderson is superb."



### Richard C. Cohen

Associate Professor of Law  
Director of Legal Research and Writing Program

After spending several years in private practice, Professor Cohen joined the faculty as director of the Legal Writing Program. Professor Cohen now supervises an integrated legal research and writing program, providing students with practical instruction in legal research, analysis, and both oral and written advocacy.

Student Comment: "He is very informative and interesting in class; also easy to approach and helpful."

## Advocacy – Course Faculty



**Dana K. Cole**  
Associate Professor of Law

**Advocacy Courses:** Trial Advocacy, Evidence

One of Professor Cole's passions is trial advocacy. He was in the full-time practice of law for 11 years trying both criminal and civil jury trials before joining the faculty at Akron. He works with Gerry Spence as a faculty member in Spence's trial lawyer training programs and he is a regular member of the teaching faculty at Harvard Law School's Trial Advocacy Workshop. Professor Cole writes in the area of trial advocacy and storytelling and he is a frequent speaker at trial advocacy programs throughout the country.

Student Comment: "His knowledge of trial advocacy and court room skills is extraordinary; his caring and kind teaching manner allows every student to be comfortable in a trial setting in front of their peers."



**John P. Sahl**  
Professor of Law

**Advocacy Course:** Evidence

With extensive academic, public sector and private practice experience, Professor Sahl has served as senior counsel for the U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee, Subcommittee on the Constitution, Federalism and Property Rights, as well as law clerk for the Chief Judge, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit. He also was deputy dean for the University of Bridgeport School of Law (now Quinnipiac College Law School).

Student Comment: "Professor Sahl is extremely enthusiastic; you can tell he loves his job and teaching students. He also appears to take an interest in the larger law school community. He knows what his students have done outside of class and UA athletics."



**Bernadette Bollas Genetin**  
Associate Professor of Law

**Advocacy Courses:** Alternative Dispute Resolution, Civil Procedure, Complex Litigation, Federal Jurisdiction and Procedure

After having served as a law clerk for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, Professor Genetin was in private practice,

including as a firm's director of the Litigation Section.

Student Comment: "Without Professor Genetin, I probably would have learned only half of the material in the text. She is an encyclopedia!"



**Tracy A. Thomas**  
Professor of Law  
Director, Faculty Research and Development

**Advocacy Courses:** Alternative Dispute Resolution, Remedies

With private practice experience as well as service as a law clerk for the U. S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, Professor Thomas also worked for the Neighborhood Legal Services Program in Washington D.C.

Student Comment: "Professor Thomas is very straightforward about legal doctrine. Her classes never leave you confused. I can't say enough about how great she is."



**Jane C. Moriarty**  
Associate Professor of Law

**Advocacy Course:** Evidence, Expert Evidence

In addition to serving as a law clerk to (now Chief) Justice Cappy of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court, Professor Moriarty spent much of her career before teaching as a practicing litigator and appellate attorney. Her primary area of scholarship is in the area of expert evidence.

Student Comment: "Professor Moriarty provided very practical, real-life experiences that tied in nicely with the academic theories. She facilitates great class discussions and is very respectful of students."



**E. Stewart Moritz**  
Associate Professor of Law

**Advocacy Course:** Pretrial Advocacy

Professor Moritz has a breadth of experience as a former law clerk for the Chief Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit and later as an attorney in private practice.

Student Comment: "Wonderful teacher: enthusiastic, knowledgeable – awesome."

## Adjunct Faculty and Coaches

The Hon. John Adams ('83)

Pete Cahoon ('77)

Eric Finnegan ('03)

Kimberlee Kmetz ('94)

Sean Leuthold ('95)

The Hon. Alison McCarty

Nathan Ray ('88)

Kristina Raynes ('00)

J. Anthony Rich ('96)

Joann Sahl ('86)

Larry Sutter ('89)

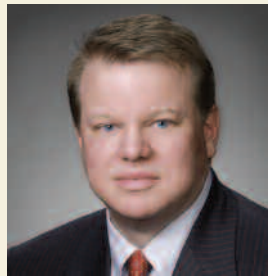
David Toepfer ('97)

Bruce Wilson ('63)

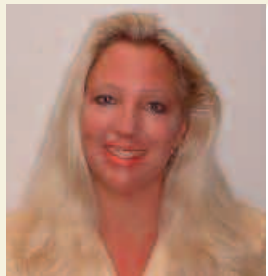
# Recent Honors for Akron's Law School Graduates...



**Mack Webner** ('68) began his legal career with The Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company as a trademark attorney. He then became trademark counsel for International Harvester Company and later moved to the GAF Corporation in New York City where he served as trademark counsel and assistant patent counsel. While in New York, he received his LL.M. in Trade Regulation from New York University in 1974. Upon leaving corporate practice, he formed the firm of Littlepage and Webner, and then Nies, Webner, Kurz and Bergert in Arlington, Va. In 1996, he merged his practice with the intellectual property law firm of Sughrue Mion, PLLC. He was named by EuroMoney in its 2003 Best of the Best guide as one of the 25 leading trademark lawyers in the world, and one of only five in the United States.



**Lawrence Sutter III** ('89) has gained a nationwide reputation in the field of products liability litigation. A partner in the Cleveland firm of Sutter, O'Connell and Farchione, he was recognized as one of the top 10 trial attorneys in the nation by the National Law Journal in 2002. He was recognized by the same publication as one of the nation's top 40 trial attorneys under the age of 40. He has also given much to the School of Law in his capacity as head coach of the School of Law's trial team. During his decade at the helm, he has guided the team to numerous regional championships and national placements and coached the team to the 2004 ATLA national championship.



**Connie Haslinger-Lewandowski** ('90) began her legal career in the Inns of Courts in London, England. She was employed to assist criminal defense barristers at Gray's Inn and provided legal support in renowned English courts such as the Old Bailey. Her next assignment was as an attorney representing indigent clients for the Franklin County Public Defender's Office in Columbus Ohio. She joined the Summit County Prosecutor's Office in 1992, as the chief administrative hearing officer for the Child Support Enforcement Bureau and is currently the chief assistant prosecutor of the Child Abuse Unit. She has litigated hundreds of criminal cases and has not lost a case in eight years. In the tenure of her 14 year litigation career, she has lost only three cases. She was named Assistant Prosecutor of the Year by the Ohio Prosecuting Attorney Association in 2003.

## And Students....

**Jason Wolfrey** named First Place and **Andy Cipriani** named Second Place in the 2006 Landskroner Closing Argument Competition.

**Andy Cipriani** named First Place and **Elisabeth Batchelder Akers** named Second Place in the 2005 Landskroner Closing Argument Competition.

**Stuart Baker** named Best Advocate at the 2004 National Institute of Trial Advocacy Tournament of Champions and First Place in the 2003 Landskroner Closing Argument Competition.

**Stephanie Adams** named National Best Advocate at the 2004 Thurgood Marshall Mock Trial Competition.

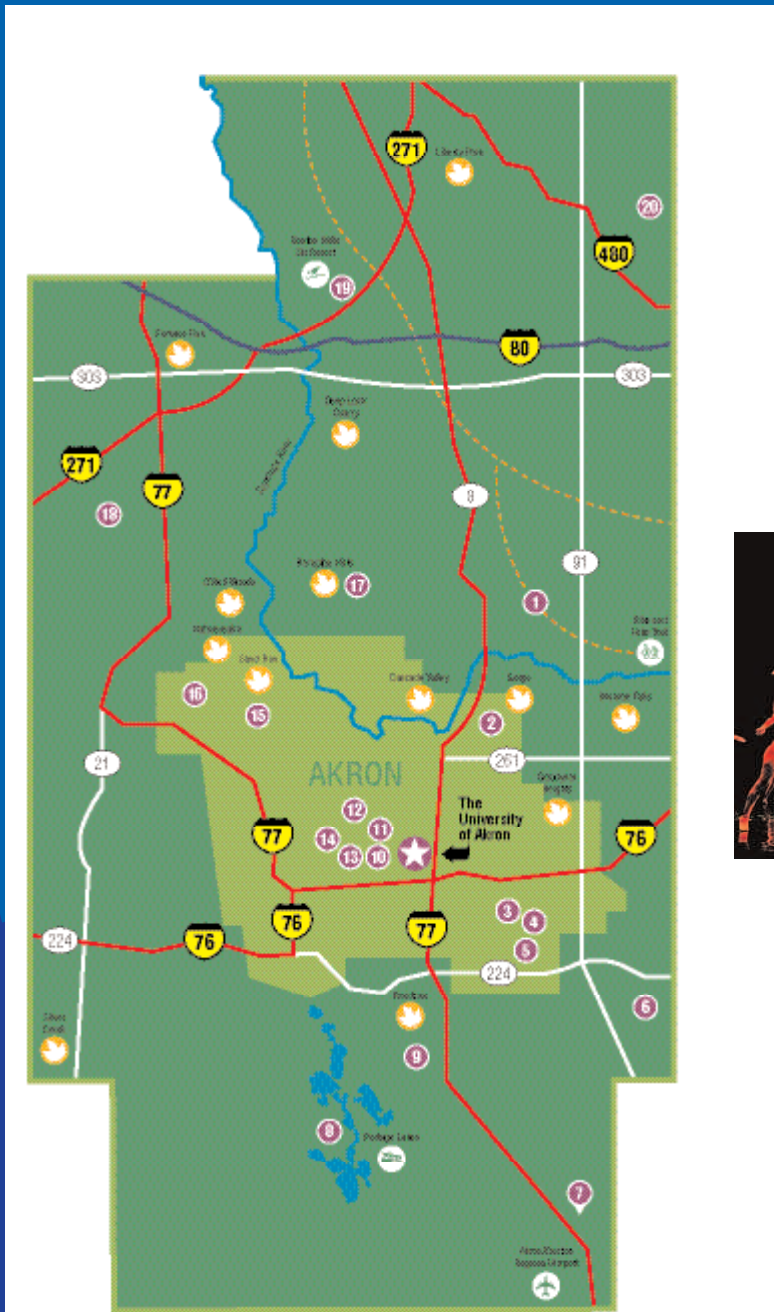
**Claire Hurley** and **Rachel Kallas** named First and Second Place Oralists at the 2004 Regional Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition.

**Todd Snitchler** named Outstanding Oral Advocate at the ABA National Appellate Advocacy Regional Competition in 2002.



# Just Minutes Away...

Eventually, you'll need a change in scenery. So take a stroll downtown. Go biking in a Metropark. Hit the malls. Our central location gives you lots of options all year round.



## Summit County

- 0. Bike and Hike Trail
- 1. Chapel Hill Mall
- 2. Rubber City Air Show
- 3. Akron Municipal Airport)
- 4. Rubber Bowl
- 5. Derby Downs
- 6. Goodyear Blimp (Wingfoot Lake)
- 7. Pro Football Hall of Fame (Canton, Ohio)
- 8. Portage Lakes
- 9. NEC Invitational (Firestone C.C.)
- 10. National Inventors Hall of Fame
- 11. Quaker Square
- 12. Akron Art Museum
- 13. Canal Park
- 14. Akron Zoo
- 15. Stan Hywet Hall
- 16. Summit Mall
- 17. Blossom Music Center
- 18. Hale Farm and Village
- 19. Boston Mills Ski Resort
- 20. Geauga Lake (Aurora, Ohio)

# Since 1921, more than 6,000 people have chosen The University of Akron School of Law



## Ohio Bar Exam

In the 1990s, the Supreme Court of Ohio increased the score required to pass the Ohio bar exam, reaching the current pass score in 1997. Since 1997, Akron has experienced outstanding bar exam pass rates. During that time, Akron's first-time taker pass rate has never fallen below 72%, has peaked at 93%, and has exceeded 80% more than 11 times, including the February 2007 bar exam, when Akron was #1 in the state with a 92% pass rate for first-time takers.

## The University of Akron has...

- > The nation's largest single center of polymer education; ranked #2 in the country by U.S. News and World Report.
- > The second largest intellectual property portfolio among public universities in Ohio.

## Graduates

Since 1921, we have graduated more than 6,000 attorneys.

Akron graduates are located throughout the U.S. and abroad.

## Trial Advocacy

The University of Akron's record with the National Institute for Trial Advocacy Tournament of Champions includes: National 1st place, 2003 and runner-up 2005, 2004 and 1998; Best Advocate, 2003 and 1996 preliminary rounds, 2004; Invited to compete 16 times since 1989.

## Specialized Studies

- > Business
- > Criminal
- > Intellectual Property & Technology
- > International Private Law
- > Litigation
- > Taxation

## Legal Clinic

- > Appellate Review
- > Civil Litigation Clinic
- > Criminal, Judicial & Public External Placements
- > Jail Inmate Assistance Program
- > New Business Legal Clinic
- > Prisoner Legal Assistance Clinic
- > Street Law
- > Other Pro Bono Opportunities

## Juris Doctor Degree Programs

- > Three-year, Full-time, DAY (2.5 early graduation also available)
- > Four-year, Part-time, EVENING (3.5 year graduation also available)

## Five Joint Degree Programs

- > Juris Doctor/Master in Applied Politics
- > Juris Doctor/Master in Business Administration
- > Juris Doctor/Master in Public Administration
- > Juris Doctor/Master of Science and Management in Human Resources
- > Juris Doctor/Master in Taxation

## Two Certificate Programs

- > Intellectual Property
- > Litigation

The University of Akron School of Law promotes justice, the protection of individual liberty and the rule of law through commitment to excellence in teaching, scholarship and service. For more information about The University of Akron School of Law, visit [www.uakron.edu/law](http://www.uakron.edu/law).

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## School of Law

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