



# Outcomes & Impacts **SERVICE**

A Half Century  
of Service



Monterey College of Law

100 Colonel Durham Street

Seaside, CA 93955

[montereylaw.edu](http://montereylaw.edu)

## Founded in 1972, Monterey College of Law's More Than 500 Graduates Serve as Lawyers, Judges, and Public Servants, Across California

A modest proposal... MCL began its more than 50 years of service as a school by and for local lawyers. The founders called it, "...an educational institution having a regular body of faculty and students, offering courses of instruction in law to prepare students for the professional practice of law..."

That humble plan gradually grew to the MCL of today: Four residential campuses and a Hybrid Online J.D. option that attracts students from across California. It is a legacy of service -- to Monterey County, and now Kern, San Luis Obispo, and Sonoma counties -- that few law schools of any kind can claim.



*MCL graduate the Honorable Denine Guy, a judicial officer since 2006, presently presides in the Superior Court of California, County of Santa Cruz, Department 3, Felonies.*

Monterey College of Law's mission is to provide a quality legal education in a community law school setting with graduates who are dedicated to professional excellence, integrity, and community service. MCL students, graduates, faculty, and staff have provided thousands of hours of volunteer support in the communities MCL serves. Many of MCL's more than 800 graduates are lawyers and judges who represent and serve the people of California across the state, in more than a dozen counties.

Providing the training for local judicial officers is one of the most important and essential services of a community-based law school. The following Superior Court Judges graduated from MCL and Empire College School of Law, the predecessor program of Empire College of Law.

- **Hon. Shelly Averill**, Sonoma County Superior Court (Empire College School of Law)
- **Hon. Raima H. Ballinger**, Sonoma County Superior Court (Empire College School of Law)
- **Hon. Grant Barrett**, Calaveras County Superior Court (Empire College School of Law)
- **Hon. Kim Baskett**, Santa Cruz County Superior Court (Monterey College of Law)
- Hon. Lynette Brown, Sonoma County Superior Court (Empire College School of Law)
- **Hon. Ron W. Brown**, Mendocino County Superior Court (Empire College School of Law)
- Hon. Jane Gaskell, Sonoma County Superior Court (Empire College School of Law)
- **Hon. Denine Guy**, Santa Cruz County Superior Court (Monterey College of Law)
- **Hon. Stephanie E. Hulse**, Monterey County Superior Court (Monterey College of Law)
- **Hon. Sam Lavorato, Jr.**, Monterey County Superior Court (Monterey College of Law)
- **Hon. Mary Logan**, Spokane County, Washington Municipal Court (Monterey College of Law)
- **Hon. J. David Markham**, Lake County Superior Court (Empire College School of Law)
- **Hon. Lawrence E. Ornell**, Sonoma County Superior Court (Empire College School of Law)
- **Hon. Cathy Riggs**, Maricopa County Justice Court, Arizona (Empire College School of Law)
- **Hon. John Salazar**, Santa Cruz County Superior Court (Monterey College of Law)
- **Hon. Russell Scott**, Monterey County Superior Court (Monterey College of Law)
- **Hon. Victoria Shanahan**, Mendocino County Superior Court (Empire College School of Law)
- **Hon. Francisca P. Tisher**, Napa County Superior Court (Empire College School of Law)
- **Hon. Michele Verderosa**, Lassen County Superior Court (Empire College School of Law)
- **Hon. Thomas W. Wills**, Monterey County Superior Court (Monterey College of Law)
- **Hon. Kathleen Ferchland Boriolo**, California Workers Compensation Appeals Board (Empire College School of Law)

The following Superior Court Commissioners graduated from MCL and Empire College School of Law, the predecessor program of Empire College of Law.

- **Hon. Carla Bonilla**, Sonoma County Superior Court (Empire College School of Law)
- **Hon. Jeanne M. Buckley**, Sonoma County Superior Court (Empire College School of Law)
- **Hon. Thomas S. Burr**, Merced County Superior Court (Empire College School of Law)
- **Hon. Paul Lozada**, Sonoma County Superior Court (Empire College School of Law)
- **Hon. Becky Rasmason**, Sonoma County Superior Court (Empire College School of Law)
- **Hon. Katherine Stoner**, Monterey County Superior Court (Monterey College of Law)



## Accredited by an Arm of the State of California, MCL Provides Training in Both Legal Doctrine and Law Practice Skills to a Diverse Community of Students

MCL is California accredited, by the Committee of Bar Examiners of the State Bar of California. This means the law school complies with a comprehensive and rigid set of regulatory requirements designed by the State to ensure quality, transparency, fairness, and rigor in a sound program of legal education leading to the Juris Doctor (J.D.) degree.



Each year, MCL graduates like this one complete the admission requirements of the State Bar of California, including passing the California Bar Exam, and take the attorney's oath.

### Skills courses at Monterey College of Law include:

- *Advanced Applied Mediation Techniques*
- *Legal Research*
- *Appellate Writing*
- *Core Mediation*
- *Gibson Appellate Advocacy*
- *Advanced Civil Discovery and Preparing a Case for Trial*
- *Legal Synthesis*
- *Moot Court*
- *Real Estate Transactions*
- *Trial Advocacy*

## For over 30 years, the Heisler Moot Court has been Presenting Civil Liberties Debates in an Exciting and Unique Format.



*Francis Heisler*

**Each year, students argue a different issue of civil liberties in America.** In 1986, the topic was sex and the First Amendment, with students arguing the validity of a mythical city ordinance that sought to prevent explicit depictions of women as submissive, sexually exploited victims of violence, and defined such depictions as “impermissible pornography.” Over the years, students have argued cases involving drugs, rock ‘n’ roll, the war on terror, and privacy in the era of the Internet of Things.

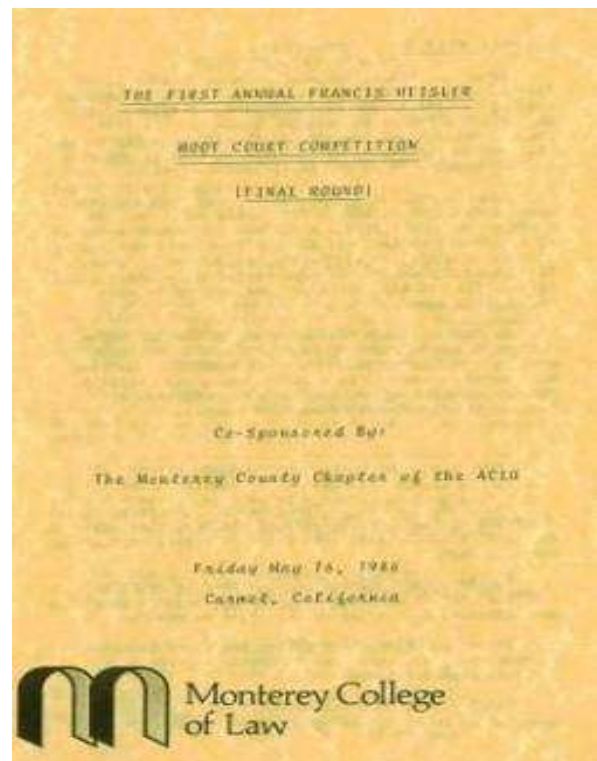
The Moot Court topics are unique creations of facts and hypothetical cases. Often far ahead of their time, the problems address emerging issues of civil liberties and public policy that later appear in the news and in the Courts. Arguing them prepares students to be active contributors to protecting and furthering the rule of law.

**The Moot Court combines legal education with community education.**

Named for Francis Heisler, a prominent civil rights lawyer and early Monterey College of Law professor, the Moot Court program began in 1986 in Carmel. It was presented every second year until 1999, when it became an annual event.

Over 120 students have argued to more than 50 different Moot Court Justices from around the State. The Justices have included four members of the California Supreme Court, and countless Appellate Justices.

The public is always part of the Heisler Moot Court. When the event began, the Sunset Center in Carmel was the venue, and prominent local residents participated. Over the years, the Community Justice Center at Monterey College of Law began hosting, where it continues today.





## MCL's Community Justice Center is home to Clinical Education and the Mandell Gisnet Center for Conflict Management



*The Community Justice Center opened in 2010 at Monterey College of Law, in a new, Platinum LEED certified facility.*

Students graduating from MCL will encounter real world legal problems almost immediately, and MCL's program are meant to prepare them to tackle them. In addition to doctrinal law courses and courses teaching basic legal skills like research and writing, every MCL student completes several units of clinical legal education or internship. Supervised and mentored by practicing lawyers, students learn how to intake, evaluate, and initiate a legal matter, how to talk with clients about their issues, and how to help.

Since 2007, the Monterey College of Law's Mandell Gisnet Center for Conflict Management has provided mediation program services for the Monterey County Superior Court. The court directed civil mediation referral provides two hours of free mediation from a volunteer lawyer-mediator. Mandell Gisnet Center staff and volunteers have also provided mediation training to local lawyers and community members, supporting conflict management as an alternative to costly and time consuming litigation in appropriate cases.

Monterey College of Law  
**purpose-driven**

*Legal Education*

