



Hello, Brooklyn!

The new president and dean of Brooklyn Law School discusses his passion for legal education and his vision for the school in the years ahead.

Matters of interest

“While unpacking after my recent move back here,” he recalls, “I found an elementary school assignment where I wrote: ‘It’s very unlikely that I’ll study law, and certainly not criminal law.’ I suppose I wasn’t very good at predicting my own future!”

ClassNotes

1967

Paul I. Weiner recently joined Coughlin Duffy as a special counsel for the firm, focusing on employment and labor law, OSHA matters, and private and court mediation. Previously, he served as counsel and mediator at Budd Larner and, before that, he was a labor and employment counsel for Nabisco, GAF, and Certain Teed Products.

Dennis Block of Greenberg Traurig, a member of the Law School's Board of Trustees, was named an eminent practitioner in the *Chambers USA 2019* guide.

1969

Michael Rikon, a partner at Goldstein Rikon Rikon & Houghton, PC, was named Top Attorney of the Year by the International Association of Top Professionals for his experience in eminent domain law. He is a frequent lecturer on these issues and has contributed to the *New York Law Journal*.

1971

Charles B. Ortner, a partner at Proskauer Rose, received the President's Merit Award from the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences for his longtime role providing legal counsel to the Academy, which is responsible for the Grammy Awards.

1972

Dennis Downes recently joined Bridgehampton, N.Y., law firm Adam Miller Group, where he practices real estate, land use, and criminal law. Previously, Downes was special counsel for the towns of Southampton and Shelter Island.

1973

Nancy S. Erickson, a consultant to attorneys and mental health professionals on issues related to law and psychology, was featured in the *National Law Journal Trailblazers* supplement in family law. Erickson, who has taught at several law schools, founded the first women's law students' organization at Brooklyn Law School.

1974

Arnold L. Bartfeld joined Norris McLaughlin PA as senior counsel in the New York office. He will focus on real estate and finance, and will represent institutional lenders and developers in finance and banking transactions. He joined the firm from Reed Smith, where he was a partner.

1975

Daniel P. Moskowitz published *Bronx Stagger: Tales of the Family Court* (Story Merchant Books, 2019), a novel based on his experience in family court proceedings. He is of counsel at Andreas Vasilatos.

1976

Clifford S. Weber, chief risk officer and general counsel for PCSB Bank, was recently named to the board of Legal Services of the Hudson Valley in June. He also currently directs the PCSB Community Foundation and served as a director of the Food Bank for Westchester from 2011 through 2018.

ALUMNI CONNECTIONS



Harriet Newman Cohen '74, cofounder of Cohen Rabin Stine Schumann, a renowned matrimonial and family law firm in New York City, further strengthened the Brooklyn Law School alumni network with her recent hire of **Ankit Kapoor '18** as an associate at her firm. Kapoor, who was born in India, was a NYPD officer who completed his studies through Brooklyn Law School's extended evening program. Having

worked on domestic violence cases as a police officer, he wanted to focus on practicing matrimonial and family law.

Cohen, a strong supporter of the Law School, frequently represents celebrities and other prominent individuals, and her firm has been listed as one of the "50 Law Firms Professionals Should Know About" by Super Lawyers. She will be honored at the annual Alumni Luncheon on Feb. 7, 2020, as an "Alumna of the Year."