Commencement Ceremony Guide

COVID PROTOCOLS
As the health and safety of all participants is our top priority, we reserve the right to modify traditional ceremony plans, including, but not limited to, requiring masks and placing a capacity on the number of guests per graduate.

LIVESTREAM
The entire commencement ceremony will be broadcast live online and then housed on our website for future access within the Widener Law Commonwealth commencement web page.

STUDENT CEREMONY PARTICIPATION
Graduates should report to the Scottish Rite Theatre by no later than 10:00 a.m.

There is no rehearsal; however, two informational commencement meetings will take place in A180 on two separate days and times so that students can choose the one that best accommodates their schedule. Graduates may attend either the daytime meeting on Monday, April 18 from 1–1:30 p.m., or the evening meeting from 5–5:30 p.m.

ACCOMMODATED SEATING
Seating is available for family members and guests confined to wheelchairs or for those who have other conditions that prohibit them from walking to their seats. To request an accommodation, please indicate your/guest’s needs by answering the required questions during the RSVP process in EventBrite. All reasonable accommodations will be provided to the fullest extent possible.

DIRECTIONS TO THE SCOTTISH RITE THEATRE
From Pennsylvania Turnpike: Exit PA Turnpike I-76 at Harrisburg East Shore Exit #247. Drive north on I-283 to the junction with I-83. Exit left onto I-83 (signs will indicate "Harrisburg"). Exit right off I-83 onto 2nd St,. Exit #43. Proceed north on 2nd St. Turn right onto Wiconisco St. The Theatre will be on the left.

From US 22-322 North: Drive south on Cameron St. until you come to the interchange of US 22-322 and I-81, then follow the instructions below.

From Interstate 81 (either direction): Take exit 66 for Front St. toward Downtown/Harrisburg. Keep left at the fork, follow signs for Downtown Harrisburg/South Front St. and then merge onto N. Front St. Turn left onto Division St. Turn right onto N. 3rd St. The Theatre will be on the left.

From US 11 & 15 South: Take route US 11 from Carlisle or Route 15 from Gettysburg to the interchange with PA 581, a few miles west of Harrisburg. Get on the Capital Beltway by taking PA 581 east. Follow PA 581 until it joins Interstate I-83 and proceed on Interstate I-83 north across the Susquehanna River. Take Exit #43 to 2nd St. And proceed on 2 St. to Market St. Turn right onto Wiconisco St. Turn left onto N. 3rd St. The Cathedral will be on the right.

From Harrisburg International Airport: Follow signs out of the airport toward Harrisburg. The airport connector road will lead you onto I-283. Drive north on I-283. Follow remainder of directions under PA Turnpike above from I-283 North.

PARKING
Free on-site parking is available in the parking lot directly across from the main entrance of the Scottish Rite Theatre on 3rd Street. Accessible parking and entrance are located on the 4th Street side of the building.

TICKETS
Guest tickets will be provided electronically via EventBrite and must be presented at the ceremony.

DEGREE CLEARANCE
Pass/fail information for all graduates is due by Friday, May 13. Actual grades will not be available until mid-June, which is sufficient time to certify graduates for the July bar examination. The Commencement Program reflects honors and awards based on fall grades. As part of the requirements for graduation, each graduate must file a petition to graduate and must have financial clearance from the Bursar’s Office.

ACADEMIC REGALIA
All degree candidates will process with Widener Law Commonwealth hoods and tambs. Academic regalia is provided by the law school. The shipment of academic regalia is scheduled to arrive by the April graduation meetings. You are encouraged to check for the correct size of your cap, gown, and hood early. All pieces must be returned immediately following the conclusion of the ceremony (but you may keep the tassel). If you leave with the regalia, you will be charged a rental fee; after three days, you will be charged for the full cost of the regalia. Tables for cap, gown, and hood return will be set up in the back hallway of the Theatre.

PHOTOGRAPHIC OPPORTUNITIES
The Handshake Photograph: The University has engaged a commercial photography studio to take an individual color portrait of each graduate receiving his or her diploma. The studio will mail a proof of the portrait to your home within two weeks after Commencement. Graduate Composite Photograph: A composite picture of the entire graduating class will be presented to each graduate following the commencement ceremony.

IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION
Registrar’s Office (717) 541-3904

On behalf of the faculty, staff, and administration of Widener University Commonwealth Law School, I am writing to congratulate you as you approach the culmination of your legal education, our 2022 commencement ceremonies. Commencement marks the completion of your legal studies and, accordingly, it is one of the most significant events on our academic calendar. At commencement, we celebrate your achievements and all the hard work that helped you reach this stage of your career. We also recognize the faculty’s role in preparing you for the future and express appreciation to all of those who helped you succeed, especially your families. I am looking forward to participating with you in the commencement ceremony and the events which surround it, and hope that your family and friends will join us to make your graduation a memorable occasion.

Sincerely, Michael J. Hussey, Dean and Professor of Law

Widener University Commonwealth Law School
2022 Commencement Ceremony
Celebrating the achievements of the graduates of December 2021, May 2022, and August 2022

MAY 15, 2022
from 11:00 a.m. – Noon
at The Scottish Rite Theatre & Ballroom
2701 North 3rd St., Harrisburg, PA 17110