



School of Law  
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

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5-20-2023

### Class of 2023 Commencement

Steve C. Jones

# University of Georgia School of Law

CLASS OF 2023









# Pre-Graduation Reception

Friday, May 19, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.

UGA Tate Student Center, Grand Hall

45 Baxter Street, Athens, Georgia

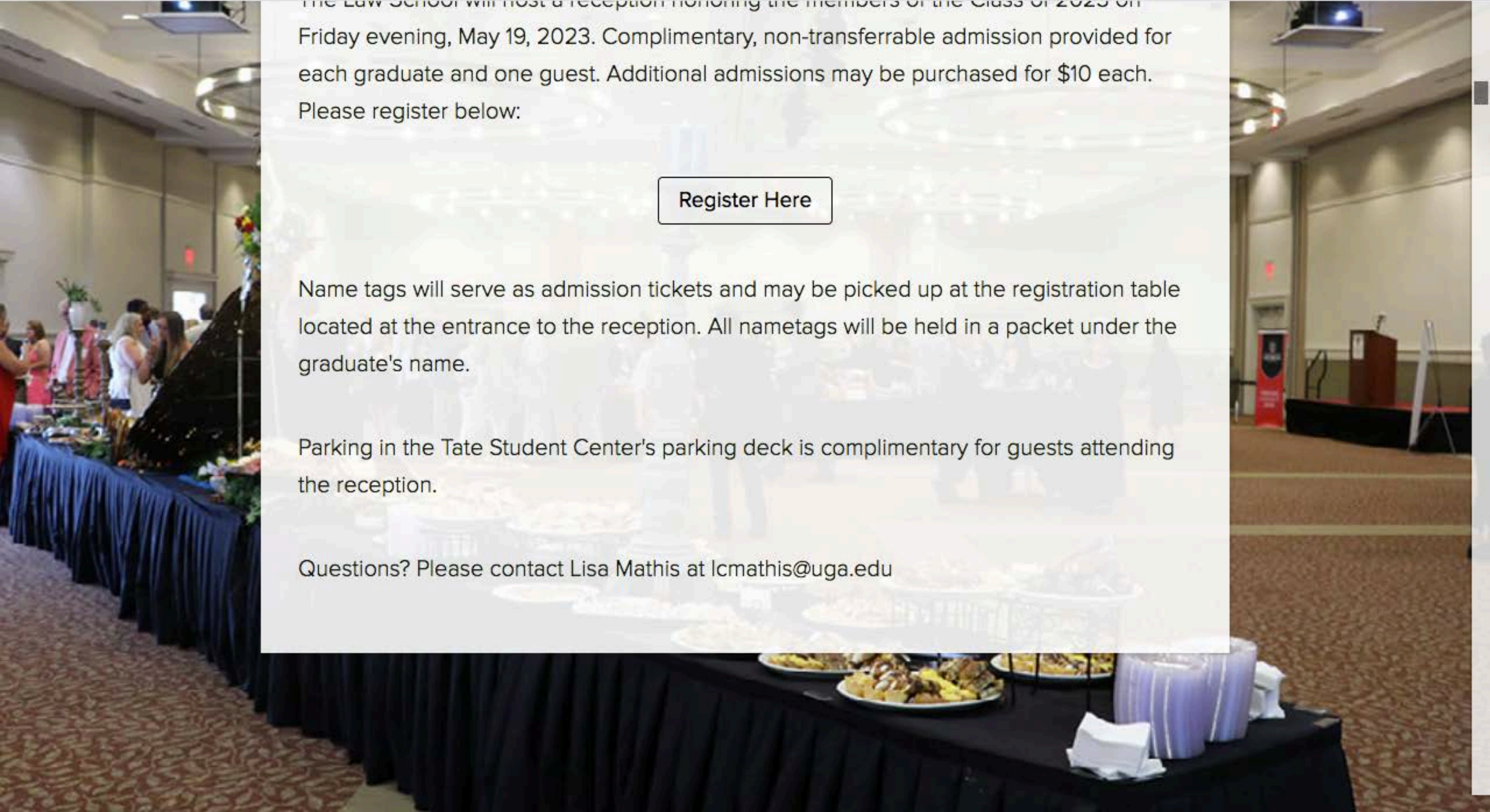
Business Cocktail Attire

The deadline to register is Monday, May 8, 2023.

The Law School will host a reception honoring the members of the Class of 2023 on Friday evening, May 19, 2023. Complimentary, non-transferrable admission provided for each graduate and one guest. Additional admissions may be purchased for \$10 each.

Please register below:



The background image shows a large indoor event space. On the left, a long buffet table is covered with a dark blue cloth and holds several white bowls filled with food. People are standing around the table. In the center, a semi-transparent white box contains text and a button. On the right, a stage area is visible with a red podium and a white easel. The room has a patterned carpet and modern lighting fixtures.

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[Register Here](#)

Name tags will serve as admission tickets and may be picked up at the registration table located at the entrance to the reception. All nametags will be held in a packet under the graduate's name.

Parking in the Tate Student Center's parking deck is complimentary for guests attending the reception.

Questions? Please contact Lisa Mathis at [lcmathis@uga.edu](mailto:lcmathis@uga.edu)



# Class of 2023 Commencement

**Saturday, May 20, 2023, at 10:00 a.m.**

The Classic Center Grand Hall

300 N. Thomas Street, Athens, Georgia

Doors open at 9:00 a.m. // Ceremony begins at 10:00 a.m.

All-day parking is \$10.00 in the Classic Center Parking Deck at 300 N. Thomas Street

All-day parking is free in the North Campus Parking Deck at 231 S. Jackson Street

Please allow ample time for parking. The Classic Center Parking Deck is adjacent to the venue, but there will be a large number of vehicles accessing the gated deck. The North

Please allow ample time for parking. The Classic Center Parking Deck is adjacent to the venue, but there will be a large number of vehicles accessing the gated deck. The North Campus Parking Deck is approximately a 10-minute walk (0.3 miles) from The Classic Center.

Students should enter the Classic Center at 8:30 through the Atrium doors on the first floor and proceed up the stairs to the check-in tables in Grand Hall 2.

Tickets are not required and there is no limit on the number of guests.

If you or your guests need wheelchair seating accommodations, contact [lcmathis@uga.edu](mailto:lcmathis@uga.edu). Wheelchair seating is limited. Please note that The Classic Center does not provide wheelchairs on-site.

## *Live Stream*

For those who cannot attend in person, a live stream of the ceremony will be available at [law.uga.edu](http://law.uga.edu). Please note that the link below will not be activated until the day of the event.







## *Hotel*

The School of Law has secured blocks of hotel rooms for graduates and their guests at the Hilton Garden Inn and Springhill Suites in downtown Athens, GA.

Rooms at the Hilton Garden Inn and Springhill Suites are available for Thursday, May 18; Friday, May 19; and Saturday, May 20, 2023. The room blocks are available on a first-come, first-served basis. The booking links are listed below. **Last day to make reservations is Tuesday, April 18, 2023.**

[Hilton Garden Inn Booking Link](#) Reference Code **00LSG**

[Springhill Suites Booking Link](#) Reference Code **LAW**





## *Graduate Slideshow*

As part of our celebration, the School of Law will organize a slideshow with images of your class. Share your favorite law school memories by emailing photos for possible inclusion to [lawcomm@uga.edu](mailto:lawcomm@uga.edu) with "grad photos" as the subject. The deadline to submit photos is Friday, May 5, 2023. Images for the graduation slideshow should be in jpg format. Image resolution of photos taken with digital cameras and most smartphones will generally be high enough for inclusion. If you do not receive acknowledgment of your photo(s), you should resend.

## *Regalia*

The School of Law will pay for regalia **rental**. To order, [please go here](#) Note: this form is only for those wishing to rent regalia.

DEADLINE TO ORDER REGALIA IS MARCH 15.





If you wish to **purchase** regalia, do not use this form. Please contact Nikki Grant at the UGA Bookstore ([k.grant@follett.com](mailto:k.grant@follett.com)) to purchase regalia. If you have any other regalia questions, please contact Nikki Grant at the UGA Bookstore.

Regalia will be available in early May and will be distributed by the Career Development Office. Dean Waller will send the class an email with distribution details when the bookstore confirms a delivery date.

## *Your full name*

To ensure that your name is printed correctly in the program and is called correctly during the ceremony, please provide the information requested here:

Full name - Deadline May 3 at 5 pm







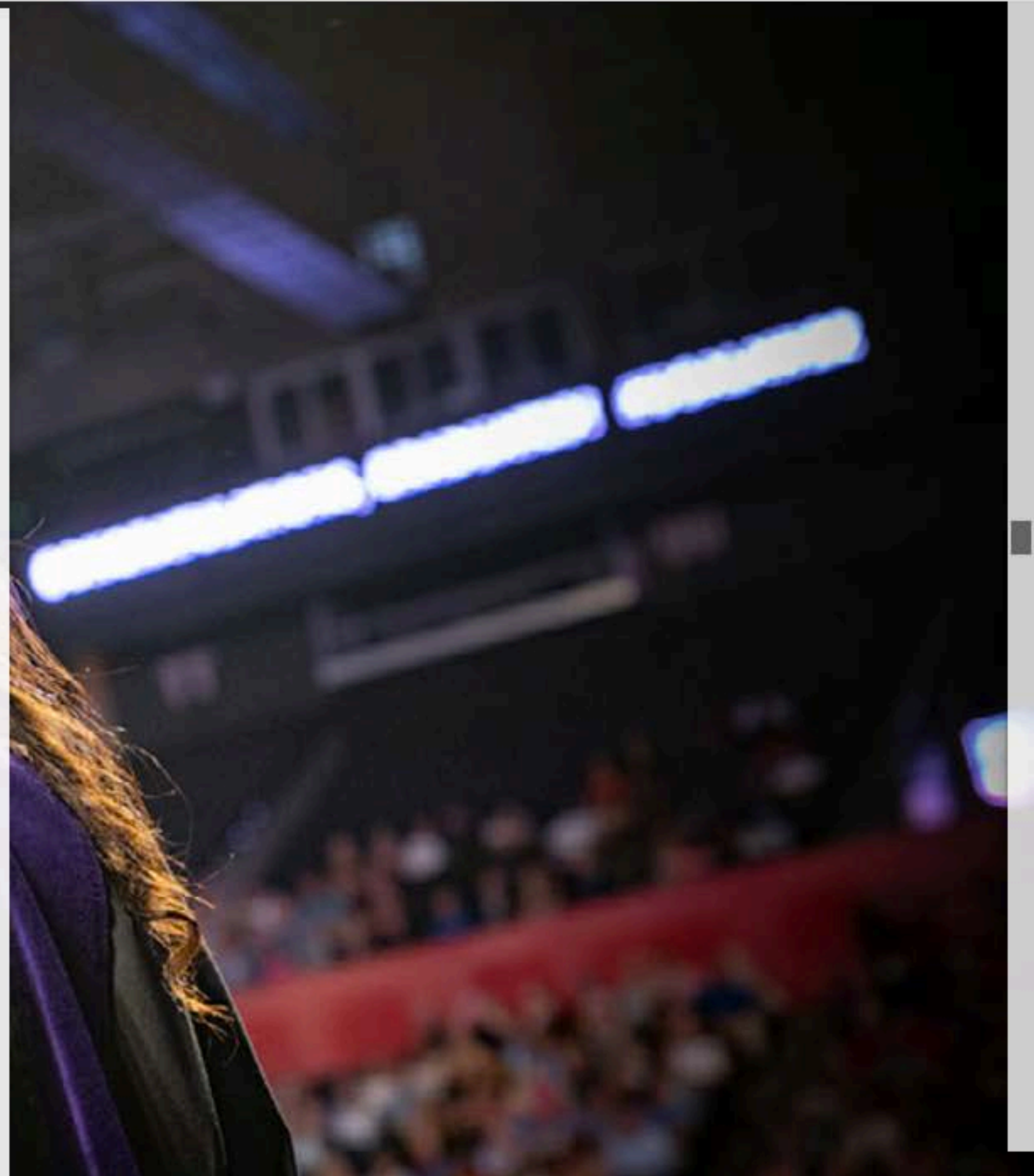




Honorable Steve C. Jones

## *COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER*

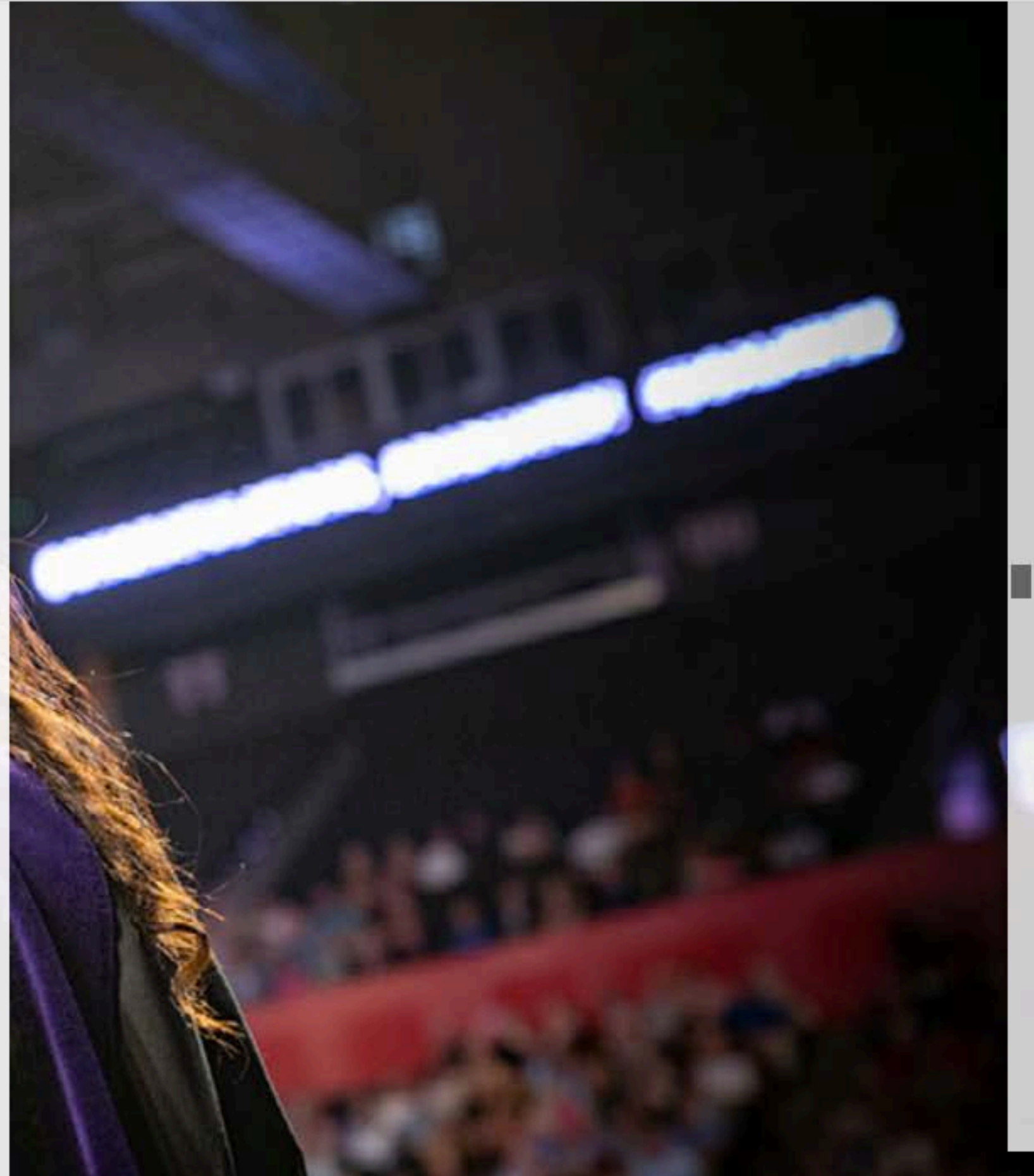
The Honorable Steve C. Jones is a District Judge of the United States District Court for the Northern District of Georgia. On January 5, 2011, Judge Jones was nominated by President Barack Obama to become a United States District Judge. Judge Jones was sworn in as a district judge on March 4, 2011. In this role, Judge Jones presides over cases that involve the United States government, the United States Constitution, federal laws, controversies between citizens of different states, and other matters.





Prior to his nomination to the district court, Judge Jones served as a Superior Court Judge in the Western Judicial Circuit (Athens-Clarke and Oconee Counties, Georgia). Judge Jones was appointed to the Superior Court in 1995. In this role, Judge Jones presided over civil and criminal cases. In addition to his regular caseload, Judge Jones also presided over the Western Judicial Circuit Felony Drug Court Program, a program that integrates alcohol and substance abuse treatment with court supervision. Prior to his Superior Court judicial appointment, Judge Jones served as an Athens-Clarke County Municipal Court Judge (1992–1995), Assistant District Attorney for the Western Judicial Circuit (1987–1991), and Director of the Athens Child Support Recovery Unit (1978–1985).

Judge Jones has offered his time and leadership to numerous academic, community, legal, and social organizations. At his alma mater, he is an emeritus trustee for the University of Georgia Foundation, a member of the University of Georgia Athletic Association Board, and vice-president of the Russell Foundation. In addition, he is a past president of the University of Georgia's Alumni Association and the UGA Chapter of the National Football Foundation, College Hall of Fame.



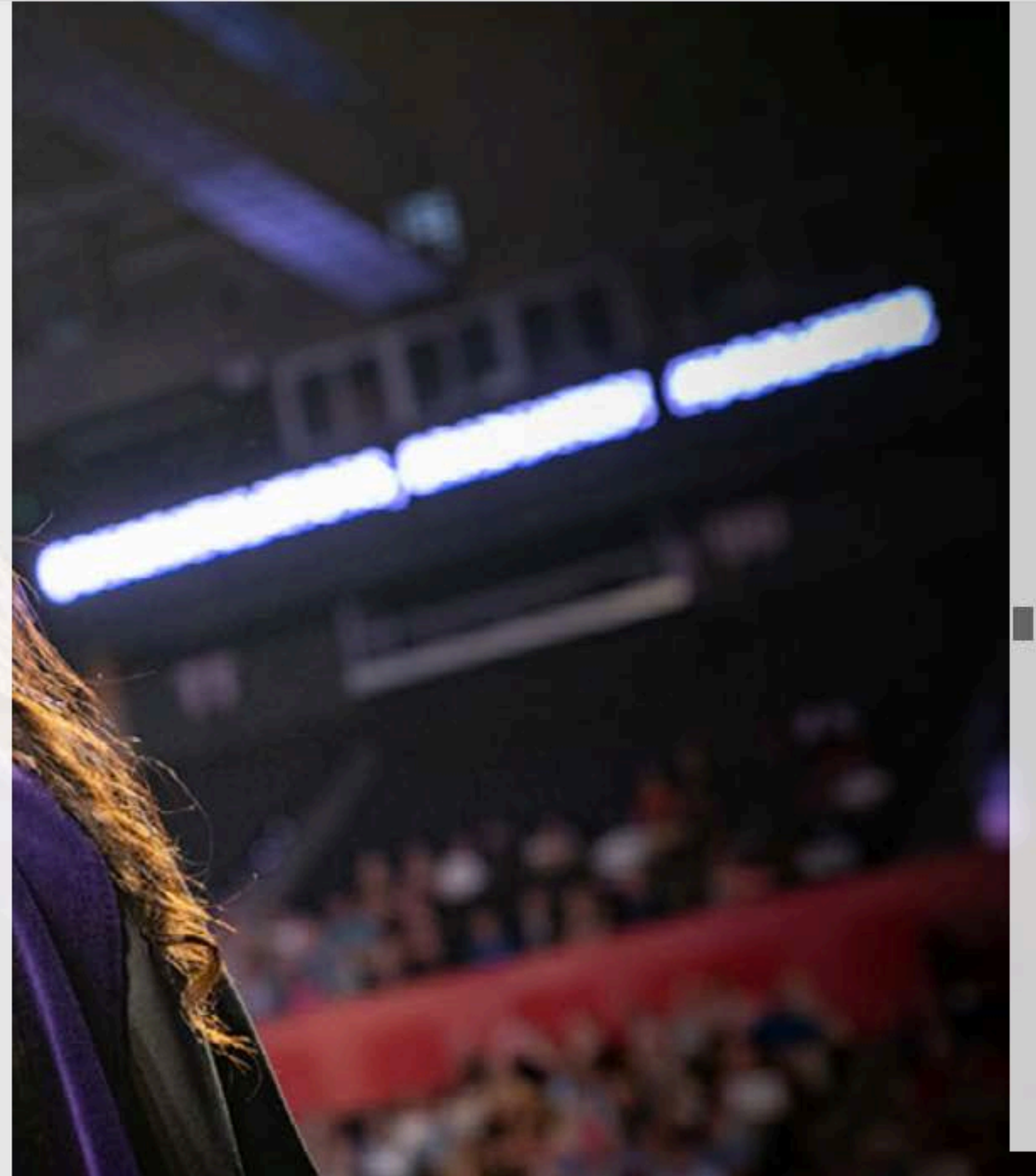


Judge Jones is a member and secretary of the Old War Horse Lawyer's Club, a member of the Lawyer's Club of Atlanta, and a member of the Advocates Club.

Judge Jones is also President of the Clarke-Carley American Inn of Court and a trustee for the Frances Wilson Wood Foundation.

Judge Jones is a former chair of the Georgia Judicial Qualifications Commission (2002–2006), the University of Georgia School of Law's Board of Visitors (2003), and the Athens Area Community Foundation (2007–2010). Judge Jones has also served on Piedmont College's Board of Trustees (2003–2011) and the Georgia Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism (2013–2019), as well as the Georgia Supreme Court's Commission on Equality (2006–2008) and Domestic Violence Committee (2001–2004).

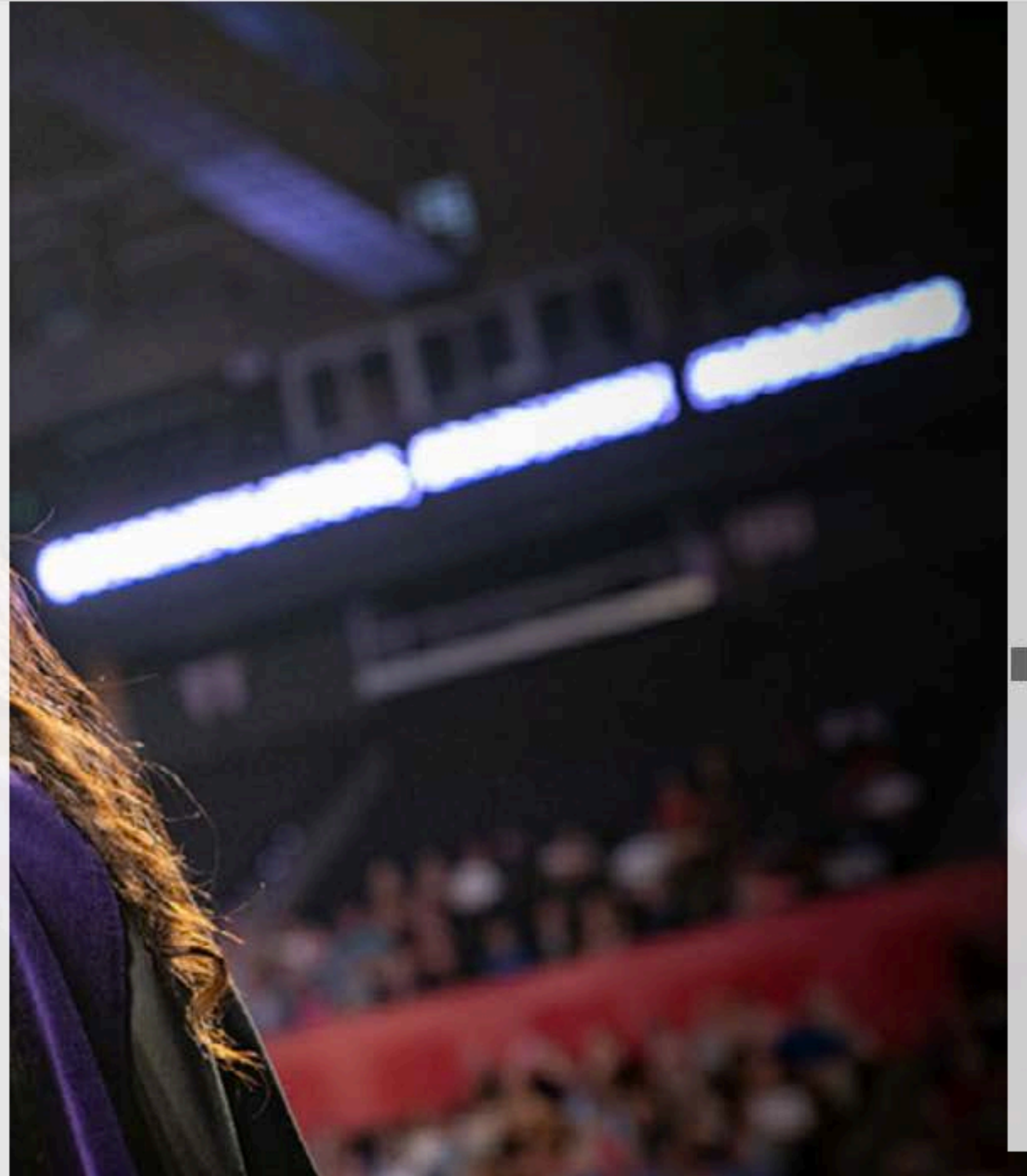
Judge Jones has won many awards for his judicial and community service. For example, in 2018, he received the Chief Justice Thomas O. Marshall Professionalism Award, presented by the State Bar of Georgia and in 2015, he received the Blue Key Service





Award, presented by the Georgia Chapter of the Blue Key National Honor Society. In 1998, he was the recipient of the Chief Justice Robert Benham Award for Community Service. In 2007, he received the Volunteer of the Year Award, presented by the Junior League of Athens and Athens First Bank & Trust. Also in 2007, he was named Omega Citizen of the Year by the Zeta Beta Beta Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity. Judge Jones has also received the Gate City Bar Association's Outstanding Jurist Award (2009); the University of Georgia's Alumni Merit Award (2018); the University of Georgia School of Law's Distinguished Service Scroll Award (2013); and the University of Georgia's Fulfilling the Dream Award (2007). Other awards and honors received: Leadership Georgia's E. Dale Threadgill Community Service Award (2011); the Association of Legal Professional's Legal Professional of the Year Award (2003); and the State Bar/YLD Judicial Service Award (2002). Judge Jones has also been named an Honorary Member of the Blue Key Honor Society (2014), an honorary member of Sphinx, a fellow of the Lawyers Foundation of Georgia, Inc. (1998), and a Rotary Club Paul Harris fellow (1997).

Judge Jones attended The University of Georgia and received his B.B.A. in 1978 and J.D. in 1987.

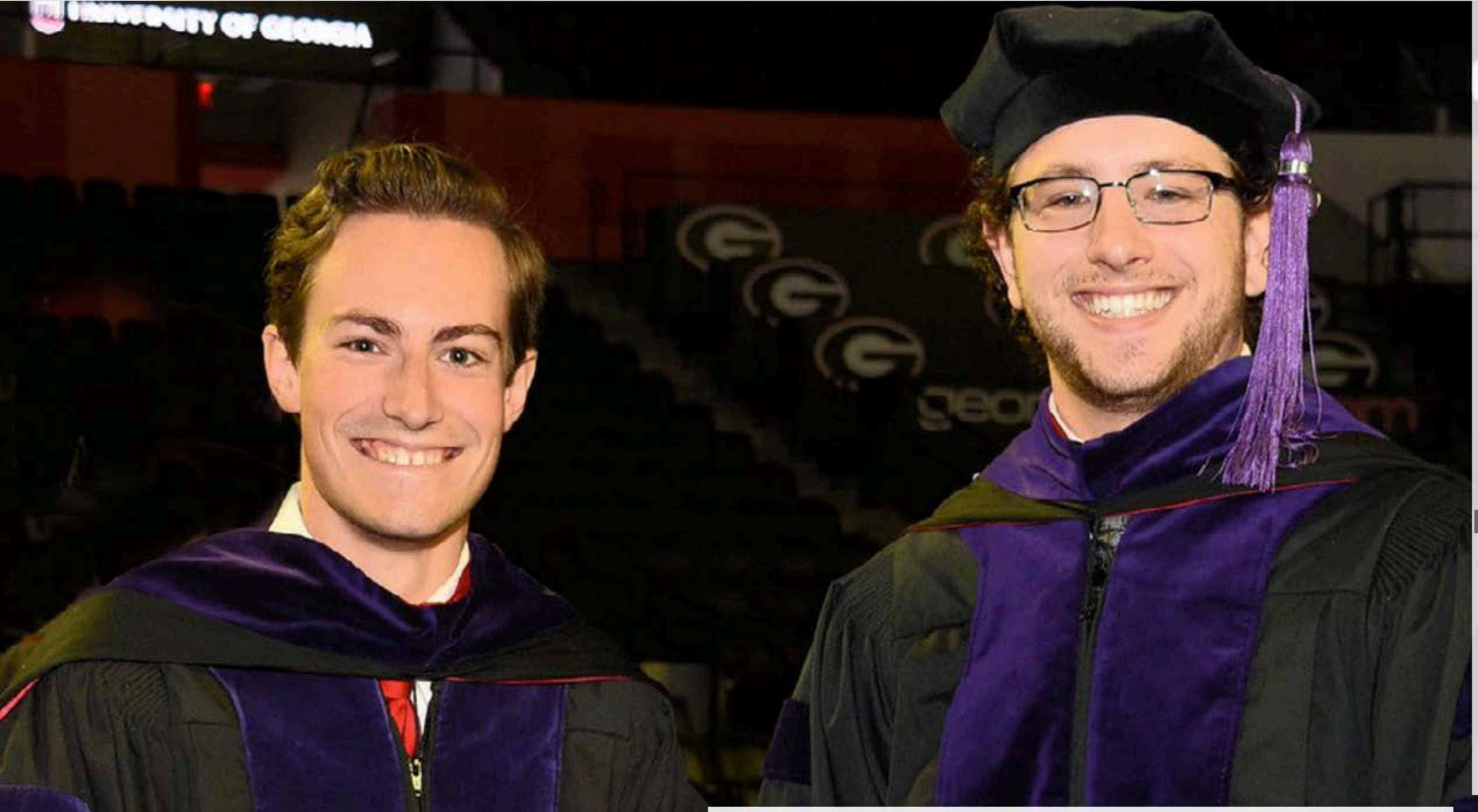




Judge Jones is married to Lillian Kincey.











## *SEATING*

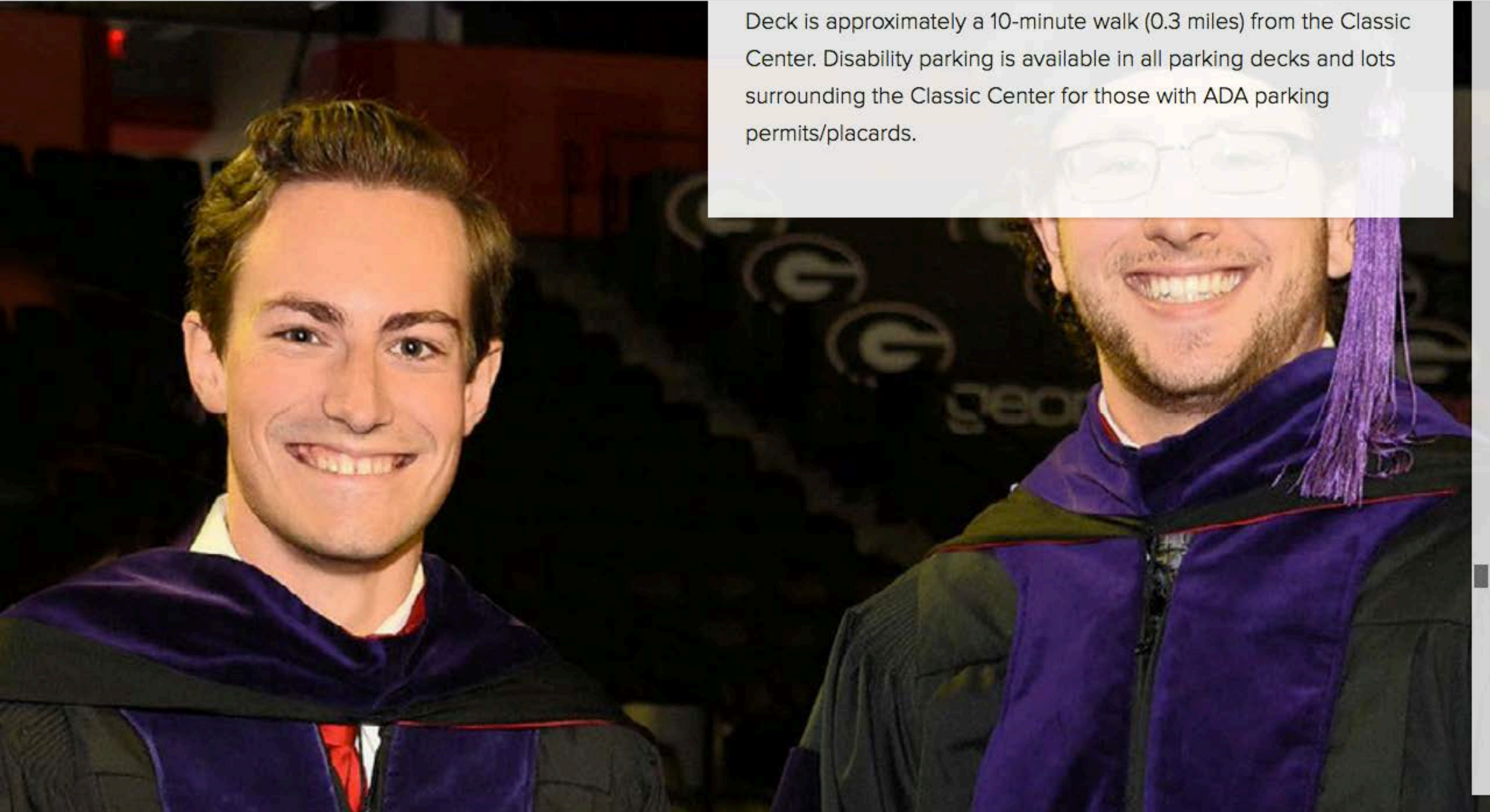
Guests may sit in any open seats in Classic Center Grand Halls 7 or 8. There is no assigned guest seating.

If you or your guests need wheelchair seating accommodations, contact [lcmathis@uga.edu](mailto:lcmathis@uga.edu). Wheelchair seating is limited. Please note that The Classic Center does not provide wheelchairs on-site.

## *PARKING*

Graduates and guests may park in either The Classic Center Parking Deck (\$10) located at 300 N. Thomas Street or the North Campus Parking Deck (Free) located at 231 S. Jackson Street. Please allow ample time for parking. The Classic Center Parking Deck is adjacent to the venue but there will be a large number of vehicles accessing the gated deck. The North Campus Parking Deck is approximately a 10-minute walk (0.3 miles) from the Classic





Deck is approximately a 10-minute walk (0.3 miles) from the Classic Center. Disability parking is available in all parking decks and lots surrounding the Classic Center for those with ADA parking permits/placards.









## *LEAVING THE CEREMONY*

After the ceremony, graduates will recess out of the Grand Hall through the first floor doors. We encourage guests and graduates to predetermine a meeting location and take advantage of photo opportunities outside the Classic Center. There will be no re-entry once a graduate or guest has exited the Classic Center.





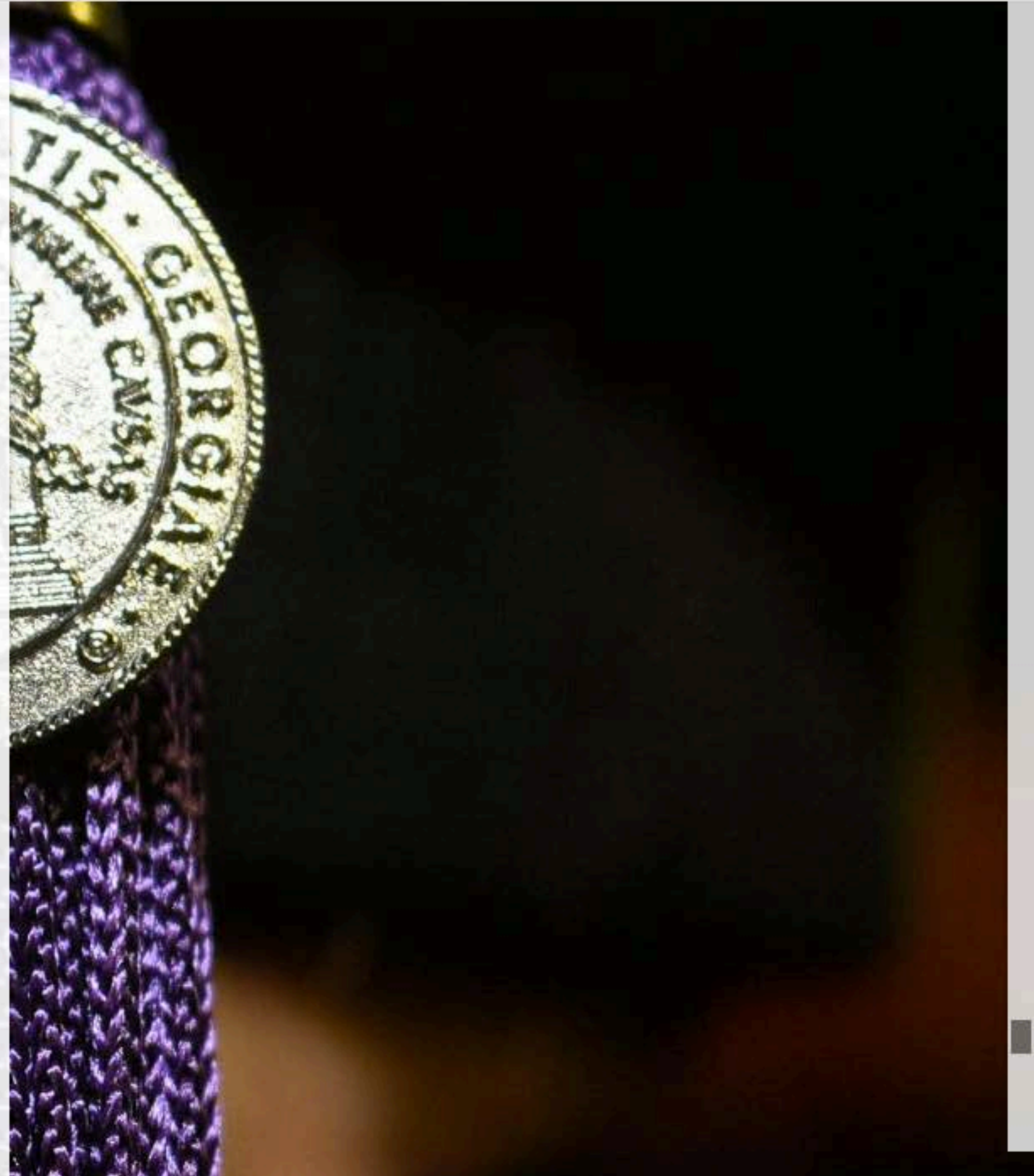


## STAY CONNECTED

Upon graduating, you automatically become a member of the School of Law's graduate network, which is approximately 11,500 Law Dawgs strong. You will also receive information at the end of the semester regarding registration for the Law School Mentorship Program. We hope you will consider signing up to be a Professional Mentor to a future law student.

You should receive an email from EITS notifying you that your MyID and UGAMail accounts will be disabled in May 2024. Be sure to stay connected to the law school by visiting our alumni website at [www.law.uga.edu/alumni](http://www.law.uga.edu/alumni) and by sending an updated (non-UGA) email address to [lawalum@uga.edu](mailto:lawalum@uga.edu).

If you have any questions on how to stay engaged and/or financially support the law school, contact Lisa C. Mathis, Associate Director of Annual Giving and Alumni Relations at [lcmathis@uga.edu](mailto:lcmathis@uga.edu) or 706-542-5075.







Questions? Email [lawalum@uga.edu](mailto:lawalum@uga.edu) or call 706-542-7959.



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