

March 24, 2020

Dear Class of 2020,

I write this evening in follow-up to the message from Chancellor Syverud yesterday announcing that Syracuse University's Commencement ceremonies will not proceed as originally planned.

I share your profound disappointment; my favorite day of the academic year as Dean is Commencement and the send-off of our new graduates. But I also share Chancellor Syverud's unwavering commitment to celebrating and recognizing all of you, the class of 2020, in a way that is most meaningful to you. That is our focus now.

To that end, I ask for your assistance by responding to [this survey](#) about your preferences for this year's College of Law Commencement. Your voice is important to me. We will review your responses this week and take them into consideration as we explore alternatives for the public and joyful celebration of your achievements. My goal is to make *your* day as memorable as possible. The good news is that no matter how we conduct this year's ceremony, it will be unlike any that has been celebrated in recent decades, and you'll have a great story to share about it.

If you have already ordered your regalia, please contact [Sarah Valenti](#) to arrange for a refund.

It seems inevitable that together we will tackle more challenges ahead. I am confident that we will persevere and conclude this academic year with a deeper sense of accomplishment than we'd ever imagined possible. Thank you again for your grace, patience and flexibility.

Best regards,

**Craig M. Boise**

Dean and Professor | College of Law