South Texas COLLEGE OF LAW HOUSTON

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GRADUATE DAY OF EVENT INSTRUCTIONS
Fall 2026 Commencement Ceremony

South Texas College of Law Houston – Joe Green
Auditorium Saturday, December 12, 2026, at 10:00 AM
Graduate Robing Room: 316

8:30 AM Arrive in full regalia.

- Your guests may start arriving at 8:30AM and will be directed to Joe Green Auditorium, 4th floor, using either elevator in Tower or Cullen Building.
    - Guests may sit anywhere in Joe Green Auditorium – except the areas marked "reserved".
    - Guest hooders are to report to Room 317 and will be provided further instructions regarding seating location and hooding instructions.
        - Note: Guest hooders will be a part of the processional into the auditorium. If your guest hooder arrives late after the processional has started, they will be asked to wait until after the processional is completed and will then be directed to the reserved section of the auditorium for guest hooders.
        - Please share the following guest hooder instructional video with your guest hooder https://www.youtube.com/shorts/iqevZZtq3ko. The video can also be viewed in Room 317 on the day of commencement.
- Graduates are to go to the Graduate robing room 316 until it is time to line up for procession. You may leave your personal items in this room. Security personnel will be on hand to secure the room.

9:45 AM Begin lining up alphabetically for procession on 3rd floor of Tower building. At the appropriate time you will be instructed to fall in line behind the Asst. Dean Student Services- Chandra Gonzalez.

- Order of procession
    - Bagpiper, Mace Bearer, Dean Valencia, Nick Lanza '89, Board Chair, Associate Deans, President Alumni Assoc. BOD, BOD, Faculty Hoodmasters, BOD, Faculty, Guest Hooders, Asst. Dean Student Services, Graduates
    - Graduates line up alphabetically.

10:00 AM The bagpiper leads procession into Joe Green Auditorium through the doors on 3rd floor far stage left followed by the remaining stage participants. Graduates will process in behind Asst. Dean Chandra Gonzalez and will be directed to seating in Section 2 where you will sit in alphabetical order- an usher will be standing there to guide you**.**

10:07 AM National Anthem.

10:09 AM Welcome and Introduction by Dean Valencia

- Dean Valencia's Opening Remarks
- Student Speaker
- President Alumni Association Board of Directors
- Commencement Speaker

10:38 AM Presentation of the Graduates

- Rise when you are given instructions by Associate Dean Ortiz.
    - If you have a guest hooder they will enter the stage (stage left)
- Hand your named index card to the Assoc. Dean at the podium (Dean Burnett or Ortiz) then walk to Dean Valencia.
- Dean Valencia will hand you a faux diploma, shake your hand and you will face forward for a photograph.
- Then proceed to the hooding station to be hooded.
- Hand your hood to the hooder, turn your back to them, and face the photographer.
- Hooders place the doctoral hood around your neck and pat you on your shoulder to signal completion.
- After receiving signal smile for the photographer to take photo.
- After taking photo exit the stage and an usher will be standing in the aisle to direct you out the auditorium where you will take a left and go to 3rd door to re-enter auditorium. Another usher will be standing in the aisle to guide you back to your seat.

11:09 AM Dean Valencia's Closing Remarks

11:10 AM Ceremony ends.

- Listen to additional information from Dean Valencia.
- Bagpiper plays to initiate recessional. Exit the auditorium after the stage guests use the stage right exit door (opposite door you entered auditorium)
- Return to robing Room 316

Livestream

Visit and share with your loved ones and friends the following link, www.stcl.edu/commencement to view the livestream. The livestream link will be available one hour prior to the start of the ceremony.

Photos

Share your photos online with #STCLGrad.