Graduate Spotlight:

Richelle De Jesus

RATTLERS for JUSTICE



Richelle De Jesus expected balancing motherhood and law school would be a challenge. She also expected to meet the challenge with success.

“Balancing law school while serving as the primary caregiver for my child has been one of the most defining challenges of my journey,” said De Jesus, a 2026 graduate. “Navigating rigorous academics alongside parental responsibilities required discipline, sacrifice, and resilience. My message to others is that your circumstances do not define your potential. With persistence, support, and belief in your purpose, it is possible."

De Jesus also has advice to future students to ensure success.

“Be intentional from day one,” said De Jesus. “Build relationships with professors, seek mentorships, and apply early to internships. Don’t be afraid to show up to spaces where you feel uncertain — those moments lead to growth. Also, protect your time and well-being. Law school is demanding, but consistency and discipline will set you apart."

These measures contributed to De Jesus' academic and professional accomplishments.

She earned a spot on the Dean’s List in Fall 2023, Spring 2025, and Fall 2025; and was selected for a summer internship with the U.S. Army Judge Advocate General’s Corps, in 2025.

De Jesus believes being a Rattler for Justice means serving with purpose, resilience, and impact.

“As a first-generation law student and mother, I understand structural barriers firsthand,” said De Jesus. “Through my work in international law and public service, I aim to advance human rights and equitable access to justice."