

Snell & Wilmer

News Release

SNELL & WILMER AWARDS FOUR RECIPIENTS THE FELLOWSHIP FOR ADVANCEMENT AND RESOURCES (FAR)

PHOENIX (August 11, 2022) – Snell & Wilmer is pleased to announce that the firm has selected four recipients for the [Fellowship for Advancement and Resources \(FAR\)](#), who were interviewed and selected by the internal FAR Fellow Review Committee, as part of the firm’s Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee. The 2022 FAR Fellow recipients are Lady Dorothy Avila Elli, William Gaspard Jr., Monae Minnie Ollivierre, and Elizabeth Meza Torres.

Established in 2009, the FAR Fellowship was designed as a holistic pipeline initiative to assist self-identified diverse students with resources to support their efforts to become successful lawyers. Recipients, known as “Fellows,” receive a commercial LSAT preparation course, a readiness stipend, pre-1L law prep course, scholarship for books and a Snell & Wilmer attorney mentor. Attorney mentors maintain contact with the FAR Fellows while the students are preparing to enter law school or enrolled in law school, which distinguishes the FAR program from similar pipeline initiatives and further enriches the support available to FAR Fellows. For the 2022 FAR application cycle, the FAR Fellow Review Committee reviewed 72 applications and interviewed 12 finalists for the program.

Elli is a first-generation college student at the University of Arizona and a first-generation immigrant from the Philippines. She is a senior studying Public Health with an emphasis in Global Health and Speech, Language and Hearing Sciences. Elli continues to be a student leader through her involvements in Associated Students of University of Arizona and Asian Pacific American Student Affairs. She is also a research fellow, peer mentor and an undergraduate teaching assistant. Elli hopes to pursue a JD/MPH joint degree program. She plans to explore medical malpractice law, immigration policy and advocate for international human rights to serve marginalized communities that have been neglected in terms of receiving basic needs and healthcare. Elli loves to prioritize her mental and physical health by doing Pilates or F45 training. She also enjoys spending time with loved ones, such as making Filipino desserts with her mom through their small online dessert business: Tita’s Kusina.



Lady Dorothy Avila Elli

Gaspard is an incoming 1L at Southern University Law Center. He is a summa cum laude graduate of Louisiana State University with a Bachelor of Science in Agricultural and Extension Education. He aspires to merge his passion for agriculture and advocacy into a career in environmental and natural resource law. In 2021, Gaspard was featured in the LSU football halftime commercial for his innovative research in agricultural communications and plans to use that knowledge in his legal career. When Gaspard is not focusing on his studies, you can find him taking pictures, volunteering at church, and playing with his cocker spaniels, Willow and Aspen.



William Gaspard Jr.

Ollivierre is a first-generation African American, Jewish, cis-gender lesbian and non-traditional student who graduated magna cum laude of CUNY John Jay College of Criminal Justice in May 2022 with a Bachelor of Science in Human Services and Community Justice. Ollivierre was diagnosed with a learning disability later in life, which made her a devoted Health and Educational Equity Advocate. She has found her calling as a future healthcare compliance attorney through working directly with rape and domestic violence survivors. She volunteers as a certified rape crisis counselor and domestic violence advocate. Through this work, she responds to overnight calls at an NYC neighborhood hospital. In her spare time, Ollivierre enjoys taking improv classes. One of her favorite books is *Deep Work* by Cal Newport.



Monae Minnie Ollivierre

Torres is a proud DACA recipient who was originally born in Culiacán, Sinaloa and was raised in Delano, California since the age of six. She is an older sister of five and was raised by two hardworking farmworkers. Torres is a recent cum laude graduate of University of California, Merced with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and Spanish and is currently studying for the LSAT this upcoming August. She aspires to study law to learn to interpret and use it as a tool to not only practice immigration and litigation, but to also carve a pathway to citizenship through immigration reform. Her goal is also to create a nonprofit that will provide a pipeline for first-generation, low-income, people of color in the Central Valley to successfully gain admission and navigate higher education. Torres loves sushi and nature. She enjoys traveling to the coast of California and shares that Big Sur has the most beautiful scenery.



Elizabeth Meza Torres

About Snell & Wilmer

Founded in 1938, Snell & Wilmer is a full-service business law firm with more than 450 attorneys practicing in 16 locations throughout the United States and in Mexico, including Phoenix and Tucson, Arizona; Los Angeles, Orange County and San Diego, California; Denver, Colorado; Washington, D.C.; Boise, Idaho; Las Vegas and Reno, Nevada; Albuquerque, New Mexico; Portland, Oregon; Dallas, Texas; Salt Lake City, Utah; Seattle, Washington; and Los Cabos, Mexico. The firm represents clients ranging from large, publicly traded corporations to small businesses, individuals, and entrepreneurs. For more information, visit swlaw.com.

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