

Long Beach

Area Chamber of Commerce



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Pacific Coast University School of Law

Rule of Law

P.C.U. Law Serves Long Beach Area For 91 Years

By Jerry LaMartina



SCHOOL OF LAW
Founded 1927

"We produce the everyday workhorse attorney," Carmona said. "A lot of them go into workers comp, the public defender's office and the kind of law that your everyday person would need, like family law and wills and trusts or personal injury. We also have people who go into civil service."

Pacific Coast University School of Law this year marks 91 years of serving communities in the Long Beach area.

The school, founded in 1927, is a night and weekend law school that provides an affordable, quality legal education for working adults, Dean of Students Maren Carmona said.

Among those P.C.U. Law-trained civil servants are Long Beach City Attorney Charles Parkin and City Auditor Laura Doud; William Ross, the first African-American superior court judge in Southern California; and Kathleen Parker, the first woman elected to the Los Angeles Superior Court, said Dean Andrea Lua.

"Throughout the years, P.C.U. has stayed true to its mission to provide an excellent legal education for those who would otherwise not be able to attend law school," Lua said.

The average age of a P.C.U. Law student is in the mid- to late 30s, which is older than most law schools. The school had 43 graduates last year and has an average of 200 students enrolled per year.

The school has about 25 faculty, all of whom teach part time and are either practicing attorneys or judges in superior court or administrative law court in the Long Beach area.