Thomas Jefferson School of Law Opens New Downtown Campus

Ribbon-Cutting on Monday January 17, at 3 p.m.

SAN DIEGO - Thomas Jefferson School of Law's dynamic new state-of-the-art downtown campus at 1155 Island Avenue officially opens with a ribbon-cutting ceremony and reception on Monday, January 17, at 3 p.m.

The first classes in the new building will be held on Tuesday morning, January 18, at 8 a.m.

The 8-story campus embodies the future of legal education with its unique design and advanced technology, which combine to create an atmosphere where students can achieve their greatest academic potential.

“This is the most extraordinary law school campus in the nation,” said TJSL Dean Rudy Hasl. "It is designed to facilitate interactions between everyone on campus in a comfortable, collaborative setting. That is the key to success in law school."

Here are some of the features of the new East Village campus:

Architecture: The most striking feature of the new Thomas Jefferson School of Law is its chevron roof. The iconic design has made the law school an instant landmark on San Diego’s East Village skyline.


Technology: The new campus is “wired for the 21st Century.” The classrooms are “smart classrooms,” with smarter, faster technology that makes the classroom experience come alive and enables students to virtually link with other classrooms anywhere in the world.

Interior Design: The study of law is a serious pursuit, but the interior of the new law school is designed as a welcoming, collaborative environment for law students. There are even touches of whimsy in the design and in the wall, flooring and fabric colors that reflect the palette of San Diego.

Amenities: The law school features two outdoor terraces, to be landscaped with native plants, where students can relax or study, along with a uniquely designed student lounge that looks roughly like a retro 50’s diner in the round. The law school offers students and staff a free membership in the ultra-modern FIT Athletic health club near the new campus, and there’s even a meditation room in the law school library.

Community Impacts: The law school will have a highly positive economic impact on the East Village area, with more than a thousand students and staff working and studying in the neighborhood. TJSL plans on being an important part of the community, offering meeting rooms, a café (opening later this spring) and a public law clinic, (also open later in 2011.)
Facts & Figures on the New Building:

- 8-story, 178,000 square-foot law school facility, with a 3-level, 90,000 sq. ft. subterranean parking garage with 177 spaces.

- The facility serves the needs of 1,025 students and 150 faculty and staff with 12 classrooms, 2 learning centers, 1 moot courtroom, 2 recording studios, 5 conference rooms, an executive board room, and a 40,000 square-foot library with future space for a café and public law clinic.

- Estimated Cost: $90,000,000

- Architect: Carrier Johnson

- Contractor: Bovis Lend Lease, Inc.

- Design Architect: S2 Architecture

- Interior Design: ID Studios

- Financing: CSCDA Tax Exempt Bonds

Editors: Media tours are welcome on Monday, January 17th and Tuesday morning when classes start. Interviews with administrators, faculty and students can be arranged.

LIVE SHOT Opportunity: Tuesday morning starting at 7 a.m. before classes begin at 8 a.m.

You can shoot plenty of B-Roll to use with your live shots at the ribbon-cutting on Monday

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