THE TOBY PRINCE BRIGHAM OCA SCHOLARSHIP
Owners’ Counsel of American (OCA) is a national business association of experienced eminent domain lawyers. OCA believes that the right of private property ownership is a fundamental constitutional right and the beacon of our individual freedoms as citizens of the United States. OCA was founded in 2000 by Toby Prince Brigham, one of the premier eminent domain lawyers in the country. After graduating from Yale University in 1956 and the University of Florida College of Law in 1959, Mr. Brigham devoted the next 54 years of his law practice exclusively to the defense of property rights on behalf of private landowners. At the time he began practicing law, eminent domain was not a special area of practice and few lawyers were experienced in handling such cases. In fact, Mr. Brigham was instrumental in developing the field of eminent domain and condemnation litigation as a focused and dynamic discipline—a practice area which is a unique blend of constitutional rights, civil rights, property rights, land use laws, valuation and appraisal theory, and trial advocacy. Through the ALI-CLE Eminent Domain and Land Valuation Litigation Conference, which he co-chaired for many years, Toby inspired a generation of practitioners to take up the cause of defending and protecting property owners from all manner of government takings.

TOBY PRINCE BRIGHAM (1934-2021)
In honor of Toby’s legacy of professionalism and achievement, in 2021 OCA established the Toby Prince Brigham OCA Scholarship to pay for all expenses of a second or third year law student to attend the ALI-CLE Eminent Domain conference and associated OCA events held annually in January. This unique scholarship affords the student the opportunity to learn about the substantive law of eminent domain and property rights, while also meeting and networking with the leading lawyers in these practice areas from across the country. This is what the very first Toby Prince Brigham OCA scholar, Nina Sawaya, had to say about her experience:

“Thank you Owners’ Counsel of America for the opportunity to meet and learn from the nation’s leading eminent domain and property rights lawyers. While I gained significant knowledge of substantive law, I also learned about the importance of character as a practitioner. The OCA members taught me that you can be a strong attorney for your client, while still maintaining respect for your opponent. Learning about Mr. Brigham’s commitment to inclusion inspired me to remained true to my core values, while achieving my professional goals. The entire experience was one I will never forget!”

Nina Sawaya, Denver University, Sturm College of Law

Nina with Toby’s daughter Amy and son Andy
IF YOU ARE INTERESTED

in applying for or learning more about the Toby Prince Brigham OCA Scholarship, please contact Leslie Fields, Executive Director of OCA. You can reach Ms. Fields by email at ownerscounsel@gmail.com or by phone at 303-806-5155. Note that the deadline for submitting the complete application is October 1, 2022.