

University of Massachusetts School of Law

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Commencement

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2006

### Commencement Program: May 27, 2006

Southern New England School of Law

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***Southern New England  
School of Law***



***Commencement***

***Saturday.  
May 27, 2006  
11:00 a.m.  
North Dartmouth, Massachusetts***



## **Processional**

*Pomp & Circumstance No. 1*  
*Sir Edward Elgar*  
*The New England Brass-Guild*

## **Invocation**

*The Reverend Dr. Edward R. Dufresne*

## **National Anthem**

## **Welcoming Remarks**

*Margaret D. Xifaras, Esq.*  
*Chair, Board of Trustees*

## **Student Address**

*Matthew D. Pillsbury magna cum laude*  
*Class of 2006*  
*Valedictorian*

## **Awarding of the Honorary Degrees and the Reading of the Citation**

*Presenter*  
*Robert V. Ward, Jr.*  
*Dean*

**Honorable John F. Street**  
**Mayor of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania**

*Presenter*  
*Honorable Elizabeth O'Neill LaStaiti*  
*Board of Trustees*

**Charles Austin**  
**WBZ-4 Award-Winning Reporter**

*Presenter*  
*Francis J. Lynch, Esq.*  
*Board of Trustees*

**Leslie Walker, Esq.**  
**Executive Director, Massachusetts Correctional Legal Services**

*Presenters*  
*Margaret D. Xifaras, Esq.*  
*Chair, Board of Trustees*

*Honorable Francis J. Larkin*  
*Chancellor and Professor of Law*

**Honorable John M. Greaney**  
**Associate Justice of the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court**

### **Commencement Address**

*Honorable John M. Greaney*

### **Awards**

*Presenter*  
*Dean Robert V. Ward, Jr.*

### **Academic Achievement Award**

*Highest Cumulative Grade Point Average in the Course of Study*

*Matthew D. Pillsbury, magna cum laude*  
*Laurel K. Spallone, magna cum laude*

### **Dean's Service Award**

*Dedication and Service to Fellow Students and to the Law School*

*Jacqueline D. Chappell*  
*Jennifer L. Fessler*  
*Frank L. Gelormini*  
*Robert J. Peragine*  
*Michael Wilson*

### **Rikki J. Klieman, Esq. Advocacy in Scholarship Award**

*Jill M. Liberatore*

### **Student Bar Association** **Hon. Francis J. Larkin Amicus Awards** **Presented to**

*Brian M. Gacek*  
*Jennifer R. McKenney*

### **Adam Pauley Prize**

*Matthew J. Koes*

### **St. Thomas More Award**

*Claudette M. Graham*

### **Thurgood Marshall Social Justice Award**

*Darryl A. Packard*

### **Pro Bono Program for 2005-2006 Academic Year Award**

*CarolAnne Rowe*  
*James F. McIntyre*  
*John P. Masella*

### **Conferral of Earned Degrees**

*Robert V. Ward, Jr., Dean*  
*Margaret D. Xifaras, Chair*  
*Board of Trustees*

### **Degree Candidates**

**Joan Aanavi**  
**Nicholas James Adamucci**  
**Nnamudi E. Amobi**  
**Jerry E. Attanasio**  
**Laurie Ann Barcelos ♦**  
**Joan M. Barrett ♦**  
**John Francis Bellofatto**  
**Margaret Anne Brahen**  
**Denise M. Bronsdon ♦**  
**Karin E. Burns \*\***  
**Joseph M. Cavaco**  
**Hoth G. Chan \*\***  
**Jacqueline Cameron Chappell**  
**Tammi Joh Clary**

Con't--Graduation List-- So. New England School of Law

Rafael Clemente, Jr.  
Claire Noel D'Elia  
Patricia Anne DeRoche  
Michael DeAngelo DiGioia, *cum laude*  
Catherine Mary Dunning ♦  
Jennifer Parkas Ellis \*\*  
Farah Jacqueline Ferris  
Jennifer Lynn Fessler  
Kelley J. Fifield  
Tiffany Fitzpatrick  
Brian Michael Gacek  
Frank Lawrence Gelormini  
Tara M. George  
Claudette M. Graham ♦  
Lisa M. Green  
Linda J. Greene  
Nicole Yvette Jordan  
Viral L. Keshwala  
Matthew J. Koes  
Tamara Laracuenta-Rissolo  
Jill M. Liberatore  
Chong Lo \*\*  
Lindsey Patrice Luneau  
G. Thomas MacLean Jr., *cum laude*  
Nerissa Enid Malcolm ♦  
Nancy J. L. Mara-Aldrich  
John Patrick Masella  
Nnete Khothatso Adelaide Matima  
James F. McIntyre  
Jennifer Rosina McKenney  
Kristen Anne Menard  
Chau Ngo  
Darryl K. Packard  
Jeffrey Patrick Pagliuca  
Bonnie L.A. Paiva  
Beverly Jeanette Parsons  
Erica A. Penardo  
Robert J. Peragine  
Matthew Dean Pillsbury, *magna cum laude and Valedictorian*  
Mary Beth Pitonak

Con't--Graduation List-- So. New England School of Law

Marcus Terrell Riley  
Lisa Lafleur Rogan ♦  
CarolAnne Rowe ♦  
Sarita Rivera Sasa \*\*  
Lauren Hope Shapiro  
Laurel Kimmel Spallone, *magna cum laude*  
Harry Maurice Terrien ♦  
Dennis Joseph Tosoni ♦  
Minhtram T. Tran, Esq. ♦ ^  
Erica Lynn Trundy, *cum laude*  
Kathleen M. Ursini  
John Xiong Wang  
Grace Ellen Wiley  
Maria A. Williams, Esq. ♦ \*  
Michael Paul Wilson

Degree conferred May 23, 2006

♦ Degree conferred on December 30, 2005

\*Member of the Massachusetts Bar

^Member of the Connecticut Bar

\*\* Subject to completion of requirements

This program contains the names of candidates for graduation at this Commencement.  
Certification is subject to the completion of the requirements.

**Benediction**

*The Reverend Dr. Edward R. Dufresne*

**Recessional**

*A reception for the Graduates, Honorary Degree Recipients, Board of Trustees,  
Faculty, Family and Friends will be held immediately following the  
Commencement Exercises.*

## Honorary Degree Recipients

### **Honorable John F. Street** **Mayor of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania**

John F. Street was sworn in as the 97<sup>th</sup> mayor of Philadelphia on January 3, 2000. He was elected to a second term beginning in 2004. He is a Democrat and became mayor after serving in the Philadelphia City Council for 19 years including 7 years as the Council President.

Mayor Street was born into rural poverty in Norristown, Pennsylvania where he was raised on a farm. The stamina and work ethic of his early years carried him throughout his life. He understood at an early age that education was the key to a better future. He received a degree in English from Oakwood College in Alabama. He earned his Juris Doctor from Temple University Law School in 1975.

Upon graduation, Mayor Street became a community activist. In 1979 he was elected to the Philadelphia City Council. Known for his expertise on a range of issues, he was involved in areas of fiscal matters, city budgeting, housing, crime and education for the next 19 years. He was one of the most knowledgeable and effective leaders in Philadelphia City Council history.

During his tenure as mayor, Street has supported the "Neighborhood Transformation Initiative." He has also had to make some difficult decisions about the Philadelphia public school system, one of the worst in the country. A compromise in November 2001 allowed the public schools to become privatized. He also promoted community policing and tougher gun laws and is currently promoting a city-wide WI-FI/wireless internet network, which would make Philadelphia the largest city in the United States to have wireless internet service.

Mayor Street is an avid physical fitness enthusiast and frequently jogs 15 to 20 miles and bicycles 20 to 30 miles. When Philadelphia was named the fittest city in the nation, he created the Office of Health and Fitness and he has pledged to take a leading role in helping Philadelphia become a "physically fit" city.

### **Charles Austin** **WBZ-TV Award-Winning Reporter**

Charles Austin has been a general assignment television reporter for WBZ-4 since September 1972. Mr. Austin was the first African-American general news assignment journalist in the history of Boston. Recognized for his integrity, dedication and professionalism in crime and court reporting, Austin has been cited for his fair and accurate coverage of landmark stories such as the Depositors Trust bank robbery and the Charles Stuart murder case.

Honored with more than 50 awards for broadcast excellence and community service, Austin's focus has been in the fields of law enforcement and public health awareness. An inspiration to many, he is a survivor of two aneurysms, a stroke and prostate cancer. He has been volunteering with the Department of Public Health to get the word out to men over 40 about the importance of testing and early detection for prostate cancer.

Austin joined WBZ-4 in April 1968 as a film processor. He went on to work as a film editor, booth announcer, and reporter for weekend sports, in addition to news anchor duties. In 1984 he was the first television reporter from Boston to travel to Sudan and Ethiopia to cover the famine crisis.

In 1997, Austin received the Gilda Radner Award from the Greater Boston Wellness Community which honors individuals who have engendered inspiration in cancer patients through their fight with the disease.

## Honorary Degree Recipients Continued....

Austin studied piano and voice at the New England Conservatory of Music. He also attended the Bergoff School of Acting in New York in 1965, and Boston University in 1972, where he studied broadcast journalism. He received a doctor of humane letters degree from Fitchburg State College in May 1996. A native of Worcester, Massachusetts, Austin currently resides in South Dartmouth with his wife and three daughters.

### **Leslie Walker, Esq.** **Executive Director of the Massachusetts Correctional Legal Services**

Leslie Walker was appointed as executive director in 2001 of the Boston-based prison advocacy group, Massachusetts Correctional Legal Services. Established in 1971, Massachusetts Correctional Legal Services is a not-for-profit agency that contracts with the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court to provide civil legal advocacy for indigent Massachusetts prisoners. MCLS also assists the courts and the legislature, civil rights and criminal defense attorneys and families of prisoners.

As a prison advocate, Attorney Walker has spoken out for the need to have an oversight agency to the Department of Corrections in Massachusetts to prevent a "closed door" attitude to the media and the public. Recently, she has spoken out about the death of pedophile priest John Geoghan and the alleged mismanagement and intimidation from the Department of Corrections in handling the investigation.

Ms. Walker is a 1985 graduate of Northeastern University School of Law in Boston and was at the Committee for Public Counsel Services, the statewide public defenders' office for 16 years in the trial and appellate divisions, before joining Massachusetts Correctional Legal Services. She has a bachelor's degree from the University of Connecticut and a master's degree from Michigan State University in special education.

### **Honorable John M. Greaney** **Associate Justice of the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court**

Honorable John M. Greaney, Associate Justice, was born in Westfield, Massachusetts, on April 8, 1939. He received his B.A. from the College of the Holy Cross with honors, and his J.D. from New York University School of Law, where he was a Root-Tilden Scholar.

Justice Greaney served with the 104th Tactical Fighter Group of the Massachusetts Air National Guard and engaged in the general practice of law with the Springfield law firm of Ely and King for 10 years. Since 1974, Justice Greaney has lectured and written extensively for legal and judicial education programs.

In 1974, he was appointed by Governor Michael S. Dukakis as the Presiding Justice of the Hampden County Housing Court. In 1976, he was appointed as an Associate Justice of the Superior Court. In 1978, he was appointed as an Associate Justice of the Massachusetts Appeals Court, and in 1984 as that Court's Chief Justice.

He was appointed to his present position by Governor Dukakis as an Associate Justice of the Supreme Judicial Court on September 9, 1989. Justice Greaney has served as Chair of the Appellate Judges Conference of the American Bar Association. He is Co-Chair of the Supreme Judicial Court Judiciary/Media Committee, and President and Dean of the Flaschner Judicial Institute.

**Southern New England School of Law  
Board of Trustees**

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Hon. Elizabeth O'Neill LaStaiti  
Hon. George N. Leighton  
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Angelo S. Rotella, Esq. '89  
Norman J. Shachoy, Esq.  
Stephen J. Shechtman, Esq.  
Bradford Selland, M.D.  
Joshua Teverow, Esq.  
Sumner James Waring, Jr.*

**Faculty**

<i>Robert V. Ward, Jr.</i>	<i>Dean and Professor of Law</i>
<i>Debra R. Cohen</i>	<i>Associate Professor of Law</i>
<i>Kendra Chencus</i>	<i>Assistant Professor of Law</i>
<i>Philip E. Cleary</i>	<i>Professor of Law</i>
<i>Ralph D. Clifford</i>	<i>Associate Dean and Professor of Law</i>
<i>Spencer S. Clough</i>	<i>Assistant Professor and Director of Law Library</i>
<i>Kevin Connelly</i>	<i>Visiting Assistant Professor of Law</i>
<i>Cynthia M. Conward</i>	<i>Associate Professor of Law</i>
<i>Dwight G. Duncan</i>	<i>Professor of Law</i>
<i>Justine A. Dunlap</i>	<i>Associate Professor of Law</i>
<i>Lisa McElroy</i>	<i>Visiting Assistant Professor of Law and Dean of Skills Training</i>
<i>Michael G. Hillinger</i>	<i>Professor of Law</i>
<i>Hon. George Jacobs</i>	<i>Scholar in Residence</i>
<i>Hon. Francis J. Larkin</i>	<i>Chancellor and Professor of Law</i>
<i>Frances Howell Rudko</i>	<i>Professor of Law</i>
<i>Irene M. Scharf</i>	<i>Dean for Clinical Programs and Professor of Law</i>
<i>Miriam Miquelon-Weismann</i>	<i>Associate Professor of Law and Faculty Advisor of Roundtable Law Journal</i>

**Adjunct Faculty**

<i>Henry M. Arruda, Esq.</i>	<i>Adjunct Professor of Law</i>
<i>Ana Gomez-Blanchfield, Esq.</i>	<i>Adjunct Professor of Law</i>
<i>Donald A. Berube, Esq.</i>	<i>Adjunct Professor of Law</i>
<i>Ronald A. Cavallaro, Esq.</i>	<i>Adjunct Professor of Law</i>
<i>Francis Clark, Esq.</i>	<i>Adjunct Professor of Law</i>
<i>Hon. Elspeth B. Cypher</i>	<i>Senior Adjunct Professor of Law</i>
<i>Ronald Dunbar, Jr., Esq.</i>	<i>Adjunct Professor of Law</i>
<i>Stuart J. Farkas, Esq.</i>	<i>Adjunct Professor of Law</i>
<i>Robert H. Fennessy, Jr., Esq. '01</i>	<i>Adjunct Professor of Law</i>
<i>George N. Keches, Esq.</i>	<i>Adjunct Professor of Law</i>
<i>John W. Laymon, Esq.</i>	<i>Adjunct Professor of Law</i>
<i>Tracy Little Lopes, Esq. '01</i>	<i>Acting Director of Academic Support</i>
<i>William A. Manganiello, Esq. '94</i>	<i>Adjunct Professor of Law</i>
<i>Christopher M. Markey, Esq. '95</i>	<i>Adjunct Professor of Law</i>
<i>John Markey, Jr., Esq.</i>	<i>Adjunct Professor of Law</i>
<i>Walter H. McLaughlin, Esq.</i>	<i>Adjunct Professor of Law</i>
<i>Richard McMahon, Esq.</i>	<i>Adjunct Professor of Law</i>
<i>Dr. Eileen Mills</i>	<i>Consultant for Legal Skills</i>
<i>Debra Waire Post, Esq.</i>	<i>Visiting Professor of Law</i>
<i>James P. Rooney, Esq.</i>	<i>Adjunct Professor of Law</i>
<i>Abby Shaine, Esq.</i>	<i>Adjunct Professor of Law</i>
<i>Terrence Tierney, Esq.</i>	<i>Adjunct Professor of Law</i>
<i>George M. Thompson, Esq.</i>	<i>Adjunct Professor of Law</i>
<i>John A. Walsh, Esq.</i>	<i>Adjunct Professor of Law</i>
<i>Dr. Abigail Williams</i>	<i>Adjunct Professor of Law</i>
<i>Sarah Worley, Esq.</i>	<i>Adjunct Professor of Law</i>

**Commencement Marshal**

*Dwight G. Duncan, Professor of Law*

**Commencement Herald**

*Michael G. Hillinger, Professor of Law*

**Special Thanks to the Following:**

**Donna Desirey, Assistant to the Dean**

**David Fatula, Facilities Manager**

**Patrick Roth, Director of Administration and Finance**

**Elaine Thibault, Bursar**

**Brenda Shepherd, Assistant to the Registrar**

**Graduation arrangements and program design: Carol A. Vidal, Registrar**