

Winter 12-13-2007

## 2007 Gala Program

New York Law School

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Breaking New Ground. Again.

Celebrating our heritage, alumni, and future.



THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2007

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LAW SCHOOL**

# STEVEN E. PEGALIS

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*Gala*  
Breaking New Ground. Again.

New York Law School

**Breaking New Ground. Again.**

Capital Campaign

**Thursday, December 13, 2007**

Winter Garden in the World Financial Center

**Honoring**

**Steven E. Pegalis '65**, Senior Partner, Pegalis & Erickson, LLC

**Kathleen Grimm '80**, Deputy Chancellor for Finance and Administration,  
New York City Department of Education

**Charles E. Phillips Jr. '93**, President, Oracle Corporation



## MESSAGE FROM ARTHUR N. ABBEY '59

Partner, Abbey Spanier Rodd & Abrams LLP; Chair, New York Law School Board of Trustees

*Gala*

Welcome to the *Breaking New Ground. Again.* Gala celebrating New York Law School's heritage, our alumni, and our future. Tonight we are proud to honor three extraordinary alumni—Steven E. Pegalis '65, Kathleen Grimm '80, and Charles E. Phillips Jr. '93—whose lives are shining examples of the School's credo: "Learn law. Take action."

Their accomplishments span private practice, public service, and global business. Steven Pegalis devotes his career to obtaining justice for his clients. Kathleen Grimm serves New York City as a leader in revolutionizing the education of children in the largest school district in the country. Charles Phillips runs one of the world's foremost technology companies, whose mission is to advance education in innovative ways, promote diversity, enrich the lives of communities, and protect the environment. Together, our honorees inspire all of us through their commitment to using the law to serve others, as well as through the enormous success they have achieved.

This evening, we take our first major step in the Law School's *Breaking New Ground. Again.* Capital Campaign to secure the transformation of New York Law School for the generations of students who will follow in the footsteps of our honorees and the other remarkable alumni here tonight, and elsewhere throughout the world. The name of our campaign reminds us that we are always breaking new ground. It all began in 1891, when Theodore Dwight, founding dean of Columbia College School of Law, along with faculty, students, and alumni, left the comfort of an established school and headed downtown, closer to the action even then. The Law School opened its doors to all ethnicities and offered night classes, allowing students like me to work and study. Today we continue our tradition of embracing diversity and break new ground in legal education. Again.

At the center of this campaign is the construction of our 235,000-square-foot state-of-the-art law school building; the creation of new, dynamic, and innovative programs; and the installation of cutting-edge technology that will drive all of the programmatic changes. With the kind of commitment and support that we see here tonight, from the entire New York Law School community and all of our friends, there is no question that we will achieve our goals.

This is an incredibly exciting time for the New York Law School community. We have so much to celebrate and anticipate. Thank you for joining us to honor our extraordinary alumni, and for your steadfast support. By working together, we will realize our vibrant vision for the future.



## MESSAGE FROM RICHARD A. MATASAR

Dean and President, New York Law School

*Gala*

It is my pleasure to welcome you to our Gala celebration honoring three alumni who truly embody New York Law School's values—to advance justice for a diverse society; foster integrity and professionalism; and embrace innovation. Tonight we celebrate an accomplished trial lawyer whose passion for justice for his clients drives him every day, a dedicated public servant whose legal training is the foundation for managing the financial affairs of the largest public school system in our country, and a lawyer/technologist/business entrepreneur who runs one of the world's leading technology firms. Our honorees represent the thousands of New York Law School graduates who are some of the most prominent lawyers, government officials, and executives serving our society.

There are common themes in the stories of our honorees—and in so many New York Law School stories: the drive to serve others; the commitment to constantly improve and innovate; the desire to reach beyond our most hopeful dreams; and the quest for continued knowledge and perfection of our craft. These themes are embedded in our DNA; they're part of what distinguishes New York Law School students—past, present, and future.

Since 1891, New York Law School has been a school of the future. Throughout our history, we have expanded the boundaries of teaching from classroom to real world, never afraid to question old methods and examine new ones. We have committed ourselves to providing value to our students and to society. We have always worked to equip our students with the knowledge, skills, and experience they need to contribute to society upon leaving our halls. This is the competitive advantage of a New York Law School education. We can demonstrate the power of this education with a quick glance at generations of alumni: a Supreme Court justice, three New York City mayors, a U.S. senator, two Pulitzer Prize winners (playwright and poet), a world-renowned inventor, leaders of multi-national corporations, founders of innumerable law firms, real estate magnates, and legions of dedicated men and women in public service.

We learn from our explorations, we refine, and then we leap ahead. Time and again. Now it is time to build on this proud heritage as we launch the *Breaking New Ground. Again.* Capital Campaign. On the following pages we offer our vision of New York Law School's future, from a custom-designed physical plant to a superior faculty and revolutionary curriculum. With the support of our alumni, faculty, administration, students, and friends, we will be able to realize this vision and ensure that New York Law School has the recognition and strong, secure future it deserves. I invite you to join me in taking advantage of this special and transitory opportunity to make an enormous impact on the education our students will receive. Together, we can make New York Law School even better, as we continue to break new ground in legal education. Thank you for your support, and enjoy the celebration.

**Breaking New Ground. Again.**



## PROGRAM

# *Gala*

**6:00 P.M.**

**Cocktail Reception and Silent Auction**

**7:30 P.M.**

**Dinner and Dancing**

**8:00 P.M.**

**Welcome - Richard A. Matasar, Dean and President**

**9:30 P.M.**

**Awards Presentation**

**10:00 P.M.**

**Dancing**



## ABOUT THE HONOREES

**Steven E. Pegalis '65**  
Senior Partner, Pegalis & Erikson, LLC

*Gala*

Steven E. Pegalis '65 is a founding member and senior partner of Pegalis & Erikson, LLC. He is the author of what is currently the third edition of the three-volume *American Law of Medical Malpractice*.

Mr. Pegalis has been primarily a trial attorney who has represented seriously injured individuals for some 40 years. While he has won some precedent-setting jury awards (e.g., \$116 million in 1998 and \$111 million in 2004), what he is most proud of is the consistent achievement of good results for so many truly deserving clients for so many years. The net effect is that these clients have achieved the funds and justice they were entitled to, and each successful case added to the important accountability mechanism that discourages substandard care.

Mr. Pegalis's desire to improve the quality of health care particularly for women's health and children's disabilities has involved contributions for research and better services (e.g., he received in 2003 the Stanley Lamm Institute's Community Service Award).

Mr. Pegalis has functioned on many programs and as part of many boards involving medical and legal issues. However, his most rewarding experience has been his functioning as a member of the New York Law School Board of Trustees (since 1995) and as a member of the School's adjunct faculty.

A 1962 graduate of Queens College of the City University of New York, Mr. Pegalis holds LL.B. (1965) and J.D. (1979) degrees from New York Law School.

We are pleased to honor Steven E. Pegalis for his dedication to achieving a just result for all those who are injured by the negligence of others, his exceptional service to the legal community, and his devoted service to New York Law School.





## ABOUT THE HONOREES

### **Kathleen Grimm '80**

Deputy Chancellor for Finance and Administration, New York City Department of Education

*Gala*

Kathleen Grimm '80 is one of the top municipal finance administrators in the state.

Since August of 2002, she has served as Deputy Chancellor for Finance and Administration at the New York City Department of Education. As a key member of Chancellor Joel Klein's team, Ms. Grimm has helped shepherd the groundbreaking Children First reforms initiated in 2003 that have improved student test scores and graduation rates. Ms. Grimm provides for the integrated delivery of business, operations, and related special education services to schools, as well as oversees central functions such as food, transportation, safety, facilities, health, guidance, and the School Construction Authority. The Department has an operating budget of \$17 billion and a five-year capital budget of \$13 billion.

Before joining the DOE, Ms. Grimm spent nearly five years at the Office of the State Comptroller, where she was the Deputy Comptroller for New York City, assisting H. Carl McCall in monitoring the City of New York and related agencies (including the Board of Education). Her agency-wide responsibilities included serving as Chair of both the IT Portfolio Management Committee and the Affirmative Action Advisory Committee.

Prior to her time at the Comptroller's Office, Ms. Grimm was First Deputy Commissioner at the New York City Department of Finance, where she was responsible for all departmental operations involved in the city's assessment, taxation, and collection services. Ms. Grimm managed a departmental downsizing of 35 percent through implementation of an innovative technology system. In her nearly 10 years at the DOF, she served with seven commissioners and three mayors.

For more than 10 years, Ms. Grimm has been an adjunct professor at New York Law School, teaching a municipal finance course that provides a detailed study of the financing of state and local governments, including state and local taxes, user charges, special assessments, state and local borrowing, debt and expenditure limitations, impact of federal tax policy, and related litigation issues.

Earlier in her career, Ms. Grimm briefly taught English in Mexico.

Ms. Grimm has a B.A. from Manhattanville College in Westchester and an LL.M. (Tax) from New York University. She is a *cum laude* graduate of New York Law School, and is a member of the Board of Trustees, where she serves as Chair of the Budget and Audit Committee.

We are pleased to honor Kathleen Grimm for her dedication to public service, her commitment to education and to the children of New York City, and her devoted service to New York Law School.



## ABOUT THE HONOREES

**Charles E. Phillips Jr. '93**  
President, Oracle Corporation

*Gala*

Charles E. Phillips Jr. '93 is President of Oracle Corporation, widely recognized as the gold standard for database technology and applications in enterprises worldwide.

Oracle is the world's leading supplier of software for information management, and the world's second largest independent software company. Oracle technology can be found in nearly every industry, and in the data centers of 98 of the Fortune 100 companies. Oracle is the first software company to develop and deploy 100 percent Internet-enabled enterprise software across its entire product line: database, business applications, and application development and decision support tools. Oracle has 70,000 employees and operates in 145 countries.

As President, Mr. Phillips is responsible for global field operations including consulting, marketing, sales, alliances and channels, and customer programs, as well as corporate strategy. Mr. Phillips is a member of the Oracle Board of Directors.

From 1986 to 1994, Mr. Phillips worked at various investment banking firms on Wall Street. Prior to that, Mr. Phillips served as a Captain in the United States Marine Corps, 2nd Battalion, 10th Marines, an artillery unit.

Mr. Phillips holds a B.S. in Computer Science from the United States Air Force Academy and an M.B.A. from Hampton University.

Mr. Phillips serves on the boards of Viacom Corporation, Jazz at Lincoln Center in New York City, Viacom Inc., Morgan Stanley, and the American Museum of Natural History. He joined the Board of Trustees of New York Law School in 2003.

We are pleased to honor Charles E. Phillips Jr. for his leadership role in the development of new technology, his commitment to exceptional business practices and standards, and his devoted service to New York Law School.



## THE BREAKING NEW GROUND. AGAIN. CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

# Gala

At New York Law School, we know that schools that lead share three characteristics: first rate facilities, a singular educational approach, and a superb faculty. Throughout the past several years, the Law School's faculty and administration have been engaged in an intense process of self-assessment and strategic planning aimed at improving what the School has to offer in each of these three areas. To date, we have made significant progress—with a brand-new building currently under construction, a newly-designed curriculum that will provide our students with a competitive edge, and an outstanding faculty of legal scholars and activists. Building on our success so far, we are now poised to move beyond our initial steps and roll out a platform for legal education that will position us as one of the leading law schools in the country. With the launch of the *Breaking New Ground. Again.* Capital Campaign, we ask our community of family and friends to act as one to realize our common vision for the future of the Law School, and enhance the cutting-edge reputation we have earned.

The purpose of the campaign is to support the creation of a new academic program as advanced as the Law School's new facility. We plan to implement this new program by increasing scholarships, adding more top-notch faculty, establishing new academic centers, engaging all students in meaningful real-world projects, and bringing the latest technological innovations to the study of law. As a result, our fundraising efforts are now more crucial than ever.

### OUR PLACE

Integral to our vision for the future is building a facility that will provide the optimal space for our students to learn and our faculty to teach. In August 2006, we broke ground on a \$190 million expansion and renovation program that will increase the School's educational space by 70 percent. The centerpiece of the program is the construction of a new glass-enclosed, 235,000-square-foot, state-of-the-art facility that will integrate with the Law School's three existing buildings. The new facility will house the law library, public events spaces, student collaboration areas and lounges, and a variety of "smart" classrooms designed to maximize teaching and learning opportunities and accommodate New York Law School's expanded use of new, technologically-oriented teaching methods. Scheduled for completion in late 2008, the construction of the new building will be followed by the renovation of the School's existing buildings, set to be finished by 2010.



# *Gala*

## OUR PROGRAM

Over the last seven years, we have embarked on a mission to create a program that will differentiate New York Law School from all others, giving our students a competitive advantage in the marketplace. Early on, we identified the key to our new program—producing graduates who can function well in the workplace immediately, who do not need employers to train them for the real world as they need to do with graduates from other law schools. Since then, we have been developing a practical, hands-on learning approach that meshes rigorous legal scholarship with meaningful professional experience and takes advantage of technology to improve the way we teach, learn, and practice law. We have piloted our approach in a number of areas, and your support through this campaign will enable us to expand it across the entire curriculum to bring our model of project-based learning to all students.

So far, we have created seven specialized academic centers where students find multiple ways to learn law and take action, working side by side with professors on real-world projects. Beyond the centers, we have implemented several new initiatives including the John Marshall Harlan Scholars Program, an enriching honors program for top students, and the Comprehensive Curriculum Program, which supports students in developing fundamental skills in legal analysis and writing. In addition, we have revamped our first-year curriculum to include an integrated, more focused approach to ensure students acquire the skills they need to excel in the legal profession. We have also designed a new first-year section—which will be piloted in fall 2008—that will deploy the latest technology and methodology to enhance law teaching and learning in and outside of the classroom.

Looking ahead, we have an even greater wish list to enable us to fulfill our promise to create the “right program for each student,” regardless of his or her standing in the class. Our goal is to provide the maximum return on investment for all of our students by providing them with a bridge to their desired careers. In addition to rolling out the plans and programs mentioned above across the entire curriculum, we also want to establish two more academic centers and increase scholarships to ensure that we can continue to attract and support wonderful students, without regard to their financial circumstances.



## THE BREAKING NEW GROUND. AGAIN. CAPITAL CAMPAIGN *(Continued)*

# *Gala*

### OUR PEOPLE

The key to making the program changes we envision is bringing in more world-class faculty. We need more faculty to implement our new first-year program, which will give students the tools they will need to succeed in their projects in the upper levels. We need more faculty to staff the two new academic centers. And we need more faculty to supervise the real-world projects that are central to our new educational model, and which require an improved student-faculty ratio. As the demands of the profession change, the need for faculty with greater special knowledge increases as well. We are deeply committed to recruiting leading professionals from a wide range of fields who demonstrate impressive expertise as scholars, researchers, and activists, and possess the desire and the talent to work side by side with students—as mentors and as partners.

### OUR FUTURE

The new building will mark the beginning of the next era for New York Law School. We will have a true opportunity to make an enormous impact on the education our students will receive and to create important distinctions between our program and those of other law schools. But this opportunity is a special, and transitory one: if we do not take advantage of this moment to build a school for the future, the moment will pass.

The success of our campaign, powered by the participation of every member of our community—alumni, faculty, administration, our friends—at whatever level is appropriate for that individual, is essential, because its success will bring about the extraordinary transformation of this great institution, which we all envision, and take advantage of this historical moment in time.



## GALA COMMITTEES *IN FORMATION* (AS OF 11.29.07)

# Gala

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Michelle Zierler  
Marlene Hess and James D. Zirin



THANK YOU

*Gala*

New York Law School wants to express its great thanks to our wonderful honorees and their guests, to the auction committee, to the staff and faculty of the Law School, and to all of the generous people and companies who have made this evening possible, and who are taking our School into a new era.

**New York Law School is very proud and very grateful tonight.**

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Christine Madden, C. Madden Productions LLC

#### Catering

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#### Venue

Brookfield Properties

#### Room Design and Florals

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#### Music and Entertainment

Hank Lane Music

#### Cocktail Music

Adam Matasar

#### Program

Design – Regina Chung

Editor – Andrea Juncos

Production – Amelia Jonakait

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Longview Photography

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#### Groundbreakers Video

Peter Steep/Producer Director for Snapshot Productions

#### Video

ScharffWeisberg

#### Awards

Steuben Glass

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### SPECIAL THANKS

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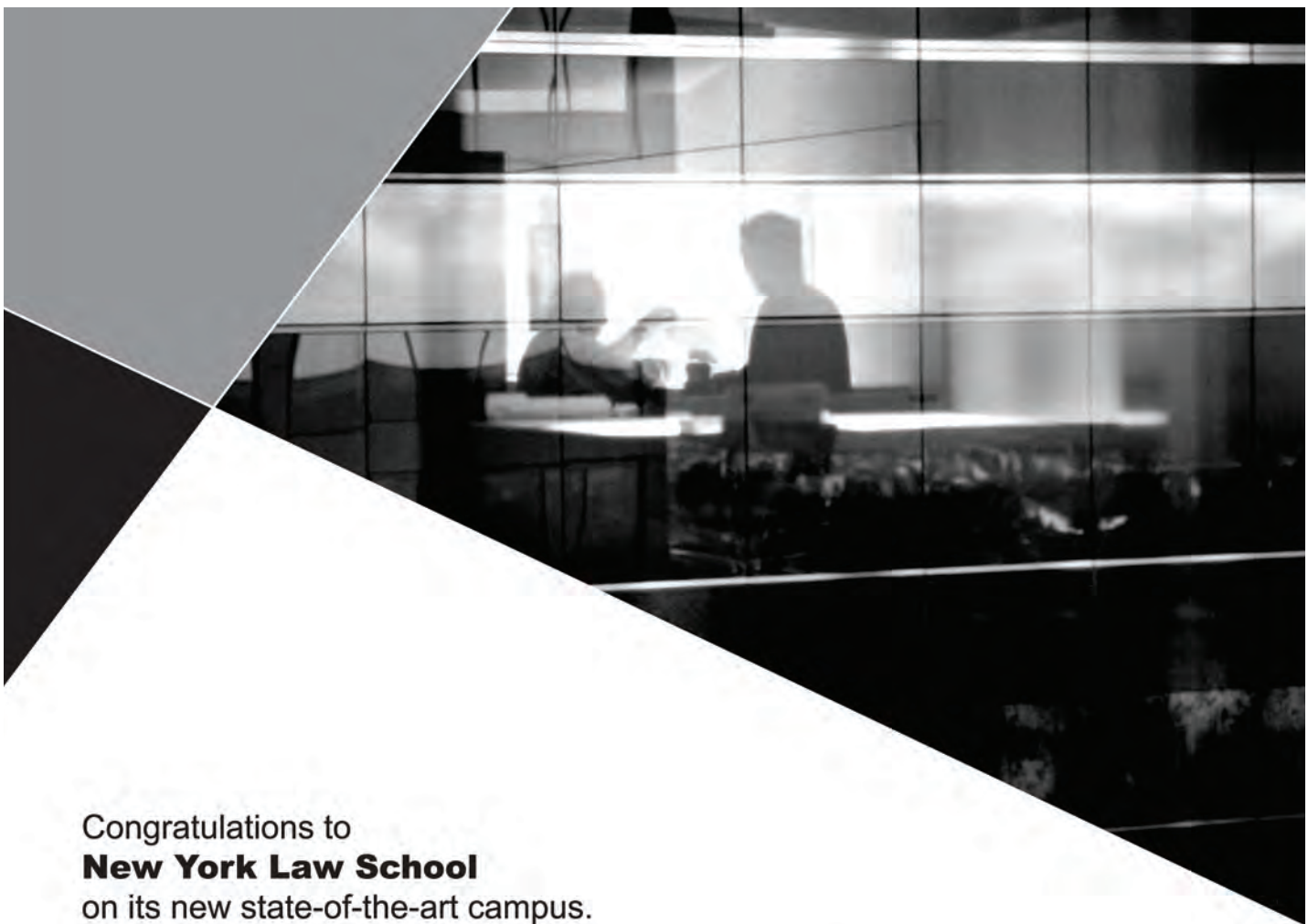


Queens Botanical Garden Visitor &  
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Top: ©Prakash Patel Photography Middle: ©Timothy Hursley Bottom: ©Jeff Goldberg/Esto







Congratulations to  
**New York Law School**  
on its new state-of-the-art campus.

Studley is honored to be a part of such an important  
time in the history of New York Law School.

Our best wishes to all of those being honored:

**Steven E. Pegalis**  
Senior Partner, Pegalis & Erickson LLP

**Kathleen Grimm**  
Deputy Chancellor for Finance and Administration  
New York City Department of Education

**Charles E. Phillips, Jr.**  
President, Oracle Corporation

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The Dream of a Groundbreaking New Building for the  
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The Vision and Contributions of Bernard Mendik

The Continued Vision and Guidance of Chairman Arthur Abbey

The Leadership and Passion of Dean Richard Matasar

The Dedication and Hard Work of the Staff and Faculty of  
New York Law School

Thank You for Making the Dream a Reality

*The New*  
New York Law School

Dr. Vincent Carbonell '00



THE CROTTY FAMILY CONGRATULATES

KATHLEEN GRIMM '80

STEVEN E. PEGALIS '65

CHARLES E. PHILLIPS, JR. '93

ON RECEIVING THE

NEW YORK LAW SCHOOL'S

*GROUNDBREAKER AWARD*



# CONGRATULATIONS TO THE HONOREES

Shannon and Andrew Penson





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Congratulations and  
Best Wishes to the  
Honorees:

**Steven E. Pegalis**

**Kathleen Grimm**

**Charles E. Phillips, Jr.**

Suzy Mendik



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Proskauer Rose congratulates  
New York Law School  
on *Breaking New Ground*

and joins NYLS in honoring

Kathleen Grimm

Steven Elliot Pegalis

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*Best Wishes to Our Honorees  
Anthony A. Capetola, Esq., '70  
and Staff*

*Including New York Law School Graduates:*

*Michelle Capetola '00*

*Laurette Harper '95*

*Danielle Seid '02*

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*Congratulations to  
Steven E. Pegalis  
for receiving the  
2007 New York Law School  
Groundbreaker Award*



*with love and admiration*

*Linda Pegalis, Andy Spitzer  
Andrew Pegalis, Debra Pegalis  
Jeffrey Pegalis, Maya Pegalis*

*To  
Dean Matasar  
Dean Wellington  
and Arthur Abbey*

*Thank you for your leadership  
and inspiration.*

*Also, a special thank you  
for your friendship.*



*Laura and Steve Pegalis*

*To Steven E. Pegalis*

*With our highest esteem*

*Congratulations*

*The Meisenberg Family*

*In honor of  
Steven E. Pegalis  
with great admiration  
and deep affection*



*Larry, Marilyn,  
Douglas, Jeanne, David,  
Ken, Barbara, Jonathan,  
Brian, and Matthew  
Stander*

Congratulations to  
KATHY GRIMM  
and  
CHARLES PHILLIPS, JR.

Sharing this honor with you  
makes this event even more  
meaningful to us.



Laura and Steve Pegalis

*The Pension Company*

*Joins*

*New York Law School  
in recognizing and honoring*

*Steven E. Pegalis*

*On his distinguished career, myriad  
accomplishments and extraordinary  
contributions to the legal community*



THE  
PENSION  
COMPANY

***Steve,***

***Congratulations on this  
very special and  
wonderful day.***



***Barry, Jackie  
and the whole family.***



*Congratulations to tonight's distinguished honorees*

STEVEN E. PEGALIS '65

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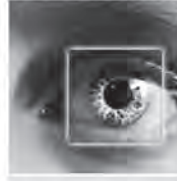
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