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2015 Gala Program

New York Law School

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125TH ANNIVERSARY GALA
Wednesday, December 2, 2015

CIPRIANI 25 BROADWAY
New York City

HOSTED BY
Arthur N. Abbey ’59
Chairman of the Board of Trustees, New York Law School

HONORING
Joe Plumeri
Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors, First Data Corporation
Norman Radow ‘81
Founder and CEO, The RADCO Companies
NOTE FROM DEAN ANTHONY W. CROWELL

This year we begin the celebration of our 125th Anniversary. Since 1891, New York Law School has been committed to the highest ideals of the legal profession, and is dedicated to providing diverse routes to achievement through innovation in legal study, professional training, and community service. These are core values, and as such, we are proud to recognize this year’s Gala honorees, Joe Plumeri and Norman Radow ’81. Their respective paths reflect a commitment to these values and to the pursuit of a unique path to success.

I would also like to thank tonight’s host, Arthur N. Abbey ’59. His leadership has been critical to NYLS in so many ways. As we celebrate this momentous milestone in the School’s history, we also recognize Arthur’s tireless support and immeasurable contributions to the School.

Thank you all for joining us to celebrate our honorees and our School’s 125th anniversary.
Arthur N. Abbey ’59 graduated from New York Law School 56 years ago. His legal education at New York Law School enabled him to build a law practice as a litigator and to start his own firm. Mr. Abbey is the Senior and Founding Partner of Abbey Spanier, LLP, and is a leading practitioner in the field of securities, antitrust and consumer litigation. He was invited to become a member of the Board of Trustees of the Law School in 1995, and has served as its Chairman for the last 16 years.

Mr. Abbey was nominated for the 2010 Trial Lawyer of the Year Award. The Public Justice Foundation presents this nationally prestigious award each year to the attorney or legal team that made the most outstanding contribution to public interest through precedent-setting or otherwise extraordinary litigation.

For the fourth year in a row, Mr. Abbey was selected to the Lawdragon 500 Leading Lawyers in America for 2014-2015. The Lawdragon 500 profiles annually the practitioners, judges, and academics who are handling the biggest cases and deals that are making the greatest impact on the law.

A leading law publication recently said the following about him: “This master securities litigator uses expert strategy and a straight shooter approach to win over courts and juries, netting the largest verdict ever in a securities class action trial.”
Joe Plumeri, a widely renowned leader in the financial services industry, is Vice Chairman and Senior Advisor to the CEO of First Data, a leading technology company that sits at the center of global electronic commerce. Mr. Plumeri is also a senior advisor to Kohlberg Kravis Roberts, the leading global investment firm, of which First Data is a portfolio company.

Mr. Plumeri previously served for 12 years as Chairman and CEO of Willis Group Holdings plc, the global insurance broker. Under his leadership, Willis delivered sector-leading organic growth and operating margins, strategic expansion, and an enduring record of shareholder returns and client service.

Prior to joining Willis, Mr. Plumeri had a 32-year career at Citigroup and its predecessor companies, including roles as CEO of Citibank North America, Chairman and CEO of Primerica Financial Services, Vice Chairman of Travelers Group, and President and Managing Partner of Shearson Lehman Brothers.

Mr. Plumeri is the author of “The Power of Being Yourself: A Game Plan for Success – by Putting Passion into Your Life and Work.” An active and committed community leader, Mr. Plumeri has been honored by numerous civic and philanthropic organizations. He received his B.A. from The College of William and Mary and attended New York Law School, from which he received an Honorary Degree. In September 2015, he generously donated $5 million to NYLS to establish The Joe Plumeri Center for Social Justice and Economic Opportunity. The Plumeri Center is the home of the School’s “law firm” and houses the School’s nationally recognized practical training programs.
ABOUT THE HONOREES

Norman Radow ’81
Founder and CEO
The RADCO Companies

Award for Real Estate Entrepreneurship and NYLS Leadership

Norman Radow ’81 is one of the most prominent real estate developers in Atlanta, and he has been involved in some of the most complex workouts and successor developer issues in the country. He established RADCO in 1994, when he redeveloped a 53-story Atlanta hotel, office, and condominium tower in distress, which later became the Four Seasons Hotel. Twenty-one years and dozens of successful developments later, RADCO is one of the most respected turnaround real estate companies in the United States, and Mr. Radow remains its CEO. Previously, he was a real estate litigation, workout, and transactional lawyer. In 2011, RADCO reentered the development business, specializing in underperforming assets with significant value-added opportunities. RADCO currently owns 14,000 apartment units in eight states throughout the southeast and central U.S.

Mr. Radow has been a coveted speaker at real estate conferences. He has been featured on CNBC and Bloomberg TV, and has been regularly sought out as an expert in real estate matters by The Wall Street Journal, The New York Times, Bloomberg News, and other news outlets.

Mr. Radow was awarded a J.D. by New York Law School and a B.A. from SUNY Plattsburgh, where he was named Distinguished Alumnus of the Year in 2015. Mr. Radow has received the Bagwell Medal for the work he has performed supporting public education in Georgia, as well as the Zaban Prize for Entrepreneurial Leadership. In 2012, he retired as the longtime Chairman of the Board of Kennesaw State University, a school with 31,000 students in metro Atlanta, Georgia.
ABOUT NEW YORK LAW SCHOOL AND THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

New York Law School was founded 125 years ago by Columbia College School of Law faculty, students, and alumni who were protesting their trustees' attempts to dictate the teaching methods used by professors. From the beginning, the Law School dedicated itself to providing diverse routes to achievement through innovative scholarship, teaching, service, and professional training. That spirit of innovation is even stronger today. As we celebrate our 125th anniversary, we are on the move in meeting the challenges and seizing the transformative opportunities the new economy presents. New ideas and enhancements are reshaping every aspect of the Law School's activities and operations. Like the great City of New York, we are continually evolving, and we are focused on ensuring a bright future for the students of New York Law School.
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