

FOREWORD

The Howard University School of Law is pleased that our BALSAs Chapter is responsible for this issue of the *Black Law Journal*. Our school is now in its 115th year and we remain in the forefront in our continuing struggle to bring equal justice to black Americans. It was at Howard that former Dean Charles H. Houston first instilled in the hearts and minds of black law students the fact that we have a special role in fighting for the legal rights of black people. It was at Howard that former Dean James M. Nabrit, Jr. set up the first course in Civil Rights Law to be taught at any law school.

Howard Law faculty members and students have been involved in the research and writing of briefs and other legal memoranda in nearly every major civil rights case that has gone to the United States Supreme Court during the past fifty years. We still provide dry run arguments for counsel on their way to the Supreme Court with important civil rights cases. This kind of interest in the legal problems confronting black people has become a tradition for us . . . a proud one that we continue with dedication.

Thirty-five years ago, Howard University produced more than half of all the black lawyers in this country. Now, black students can attend any law school and Howard produces a much lower percentage of black lawyers. It is our hope that black lawyers all over this country will help share the responsibility for exhibiting a special concern for the continuing legal struggle confronting us. Through the *Black Law Journal*, we can share our thoughts and ideas and provide a forum for the expression of mutual concerns. We thank you for the opportunity to share in our common goals in our quest for dignity, respect and justice.

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