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Commencement 2014: CT Gov. Malloy '80 Urges Grads to Improve Lives of Others

Boston College Law School

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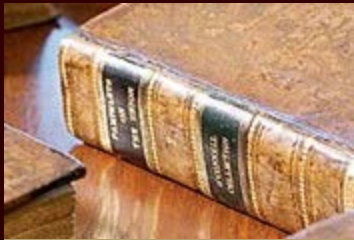
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Commencement 2014: CT Gov. Malloy '80 Urges Grads to Improve Lives of Others

2014 NEWS ARCHIVE

04/23/14

Watch the Commencement Ceremony



Newton, MA--Addressing the Boston College Law School class of 2014, Connecticut Governor Dannel Malloy, BC A&S '77, Law '80, told the graduates that they should use their law degree to improve the lives of others.

"Whether you pursue corporate or criminal law or some other endeavor, use what you have learned during this time to leave the world a better place than you found it," Malloy said. "There will be – for lack of a better term – trials along the way, but always know that you have passed many tests to get to this point, and that you have what you need to get through whatever life throws at you."

Dean Vincent Rougeau praised Gov. Malloy for his years of service, and urged the graduates to deliver justice. "As we gather here today, I am struck by the extraordinary promise each of you holds in your hands," he said. "You possess the knowledge and the ability to change the world, one person at a time. Nelson Mandela said "education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world." It is our hope and belief that as you leave here today, you leave with the tools and the knowledge to

use that weapon wisely, and that you will embrace that promise as future leaders of the profession.”

Two hundred and seventy-five J.D. graduates received degrees at the Law School's 82nd Commencement exercises. Fourteen LL.M. students also received degrees.

Dannel Patrick Malloy was born in Stamford, Connecticut—the same town where he would later serve as mayor. After graduating from Boston College and Boston College Law School, Malloy served as an Assistant District Attorney in Brooklyn for four years before joining the Stamford law firm Abate and Fox as a partner, where he remained until 1995.

In 1995 he ran for Mayor of Stamford and defeated the two-term incumbent. Malloy was Stamford's longest serving mayor, holding the office until 2009, when he began his run for Governor.

Elected as Governor of Connecticut in November 2010, Governor Malloy's top agenda items have included reinventing the state economy by growing jobs, improving public education and stabilizing Connecticut's finances. He has been responsible for bringing a number of corporate headquarters to Connecticut, and his “Small Business Express” programs have invested in over 700 small businesses across the state.

In 2012, Malloy signed into law a school reform bill that has provided hundreds of millions of additional money to school districts, in exchange for holistic changes that will prepare students to compete in the 21st century economy. He has helped champion further investment in the University of Connecticut as well as in programs to support careers in bioscience and digital media, and has funded the creation of a new Office of Early Childhood to ensure that Connecticut children have access to a quality early childhood learning experience.

Malloy has also focused on fiscal responsibility through reduction in state employees and agencies and a focus on technology to improve efficiency.

Following the Newtown shooting tragedy at Sandy Hook Elementary School, Governor Malloy signed what some have called the most comprehensive gun violence prevention legislation in the country.

Governor Malloy and his wife, Cathy, whom he met while at Boston College, have three sons: Dannel, Ben, and Sam.

Boston College Law School opened in 1929 in a small downtown Boston office building with 54 students and two full-time faculty members. Currently ranked 36th in the country by the annual US News & World Report survey, the law school's highly qualified students are drawn from more than 230 colleges and universities across the United States, as well as in other countries. The law school's 13,000 alumni practice in 50 states and many foreign countries, holding positions in major law firms, corporate in-house legal departments, the judiciary, government agencies, private industry, academic and public interest organizations, and serving as elected state legislators and members of the U.S. Congress.

[Watch the Commencement Eve Awards Ceremony](#)

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