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Boston College Law School

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Rougeau Named to OBABL 'Power 100' List

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Newton, MA--Boston College Law School is pleased to announce that for the second year in a row, Dean Vincent Rougeau has been named to On Being a Black Lawyer’s (OBABL) list of the 100 most influential black attorneys in the United States.

OBABL will publish the 2nd annual edition of “The Power 100” on February 1, 2013 in honor of Black History Month. The publication will be available online and will feature profiles of the nation’s most influential black attorneys working in government, academics, and both the public and private sectors. It will also include profiles of non-black attorneys who have championed diversity.

Dean Rougeau joined BC Law in July 2011. He previously served as a professor of law at Notre Dame, and served as their Associate Dean for Academic Affairs from 1999-2002. He received his A.B. magna cum laude from Brown University in 1985, and his J.D. from Harvard Law School in 1988, where he served as articles editor of the Harvard Human Rights Journal.

An expert in Catholic social thought, Dean Rougeau’s most recent book, Christians in the American Empire: Faith and Citizenship in the New World Order, was released in 2008 by Oxford University Press. His current research and writing consider the relationship between religious identity and notions of democratic citizenship and membership in an increasingly mobile global order, one that is marked in certain regions by high levels of economic inequality and political instability. He is currently the leader of a research group on global migration and cosmopolitanism as part of the Contending Modernities project sponsored by the Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies at Notre Dame.

Dean Rougeau’s teaching interests are in contract and real estate law, as well as in law and religion. Before entering the academy, he practiced law at the Washington, DC office of Morrison & Foerster from 1988-1991. Prior to his arrival at Boston College, Dean Rougeau was a Senior Fellow at the Contextual Theology Center (“CTC”) in London and co-founded an effort called “Just Communities: Christian Witness in a Pluralist Society.” He also served as the director of the Notre Dame Law School’s Center for Law and Government and supervised the Journal of Law, Ethics, and Public Policy while a member of the faculty.

OBABL’s editorial team, together with a group of advisers, spent months researching prospective candidates. The selection committee read trade publications, blogs, and critical reviews. A portion of the candidates had appeared on past lists of influential lawyers. For this group, the committee considered whether the candidate’s influence and relevance had increased since the time he or she was last honored. In addition to naming the 100 most influential black attorneys, the committee also included profiles of ten up and coming black attorneys.

OBABL publisher, Yolanda Young notes that according to the American Bar Association, less than 5% of U.S. attorneys are African American. OBABL seeks to help advance diversity in the legal profession.

On Being a Black Lawyer, which is owned by Lawyers of Color Inc., has been recognized by the American Bar Association, National Black Law Students Association, and National Association of Black Journalists. Founded in 2008 as a news and resource center, the company has grown to become the largest online news source for African American attorneys and the leading source of news and resources for the intersection of race and the law in the United States.
Honorees will be toasted at a cocktail reception in Washington, DC on Wednesday, February 27, 2013 from 6 P.M. to 8 P.M.