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Boston College Law School

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BCLS Law Day Celebration a Great Success

5/15/01--Boston College Law School is pleased to report that the Alumni Association's Law Day celebration, held on May 1 at Boston's Seaport Hotel, was a great success. Close to 50 law firms participated and a full house was in attendance, including the Hon. Attorney General Tom Reilly. Special Law Day awards were given to R. Lisa DiLuna, Thomas Barnico, Thomas Maffei and Arnold Rosenfeld.

(Photo: Members of the AG's office, including Attorney General Tom Reilly, to the left of award-winner Tom Barnico)

"It's a difficult task each year for the Law Day Committee to single out four or five special individuals, because there are so many wonderful alumni doing great work and leading good lives," said Linda Glennon, Director, BCLS Alumni Relations. "But it is a task that we take on with great enthusiasm and vigor."

The Alumni Association awards individuals for their contributions to the legal community and Boston College Law School at the annual event, which drew over 400 people this year. It was an evening of laughter and tears as the awardees were praised by their colleagues and presented with their awards as their family and friends looked on.

Father William Leahy, S.J., President of Boston College, and Dean John H. Garvey, Dean of BCLS, addressed the crowd prior to the awards ceremony. (Photo: A full house for Law Day '01) Law Day Committee members included Maureen Curran, Co-Chair, and William McCormack, Co-Chair; and MaryBeth Basile, Prof. Robert Bloom, George Field, Joseph Hernandez, Dennis McKenna, William Robinson III, James Sweeney, Teresa Walsh, and Linda Glennon. Award Winners (left to right): Arnold Rosenfeld, Lisa DiLuna, Tom Barnico, Tom Maffei

The St. Thomas More Award, given to a member of the legal community who best represents the ideals of St. Thomas More in his or her professional and private life, went to Arnold Rosenfeld. An expert in the field of legal ethics, Mr. Rosenfeld is a former Chief Bar Counsel to the Board of Bar Overseers and Of Counsel at Kirkpatrick & Lockhart. He has served as Executive Director for the Massachusetts Committee on Law Enforcement and Administration of Justice, as Deputy Chief Counsel, Massachusetts Defenders Committee, and Chief Counsel, Massachusetts Committee on Public Counsel Services. He is an adjunct professor at Boston University Law School and Northeastern University Law School, a member of the Supreme Judicial Court Standing Advisory Committee on Rules of Professional Conduct, member of the ABA Center for Professional Responsibility, and the Advisory Committee on ABA Ethics 2000. He was graduated from BCLS in 1967.

The William J. Kenealy, S.J., Alumnus/Alumna of the Year Award, given to the member of the BCLS alumni community who has given of him/herself to benefit the Law School, went to
Thomas F. Maffei. Mr. Maffei has served as a volunteer in BCLS fundraising efforts for more than 12 years, and served as Chair of the Leadership Gifts Committee for a number of those years. A past President of the MBA, and former member of the House of Delegates of the ABA, he was a partner at Choate Hall & Stewart before becoming a partner at Griesinger, Walsh and Maffei, LLP. Mr. Maffei was Alumni Representative to the Dean Search Committees in 1997 and in 1999, and a member of the Law School Building Campaign Executive Committee. He teaches professional responsibility at BCLS and serves as Editor of the Boston College Industrial and Commercial Law Review. He was graduated from BCLS in 1971.

The Hon. David S. Nelson Public Interest Law Award, given to the member of the BCLS alumni community who has made significant contributions to the public sector or in public interest law, went to Tom Barnico. Mr. Barnico has been an Assistant Attorney General under four Attorney Generals and has argued three times before the U.S. Supreme Court. He directed the Boston College Government Bureau Internship Program for 15 years, and served as the Alumni contact at the AG's office. Mr. Barnico is credited with teaching generations of BCLS students to be skilled and principled advocates, and introducing them to the public sector. He was graduated from BCLS in 1980.

The Special Service Award, given to a faculty member for extraordinary service to the Law School, went to R. Lisa DiLuna. Ms DiLuna was Associate Dean, Dean for Students and Adjunct Assistant Professor from 1987-1998. She served as the BCLS Harassment Advisor, on the Alumnae Steering Committee, and the Steering Committee for Women in Law Day 1990. She taught Introduction to Lawyering and Professional Responsibility, a Supreme Court Seminar, and Advanced Writing. Despite significant health limitations, her dedication and commitment to the students at BCLS never wavered. She was graduated from BCLS in 1982.

Law Day was first established by Presidential proclamation in 1958. In 1961, the first of May was set aside by Joint Resolution of Congress as a "special day of celebration by the American people in appreciation of their liberties and the reaffirmation of their loyalty to the United States of America." The purposes of Law Day are to advance equality and justice under law, to encourage the observation and enforcement of law, and to foster respect for law and understanding of its essential place in the life of every citizen. The Boston College Law School Alumni Association takes great pride in having sponsored Law Day ceremonies since the first observance of the Day in 1958.