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Boston College Law School
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4/13/07--Boston College Law School Dean John H. Garvey has announced the appointment of Professor Michael Cassidy to the position of Associate Dean for Academic Affairs. Cassidy will replace Professor Larry Cunningham, who has held the position for the past two years. He will assume his duties on June 1.

"Michael is a widely respected teacher and scholar, and has the trust and affection of faculty, staff, and students," said BC Law Dean John H. Garvey. "I thank him for his generosity in putting the community's needs ahead of his own."

Professor Cassidy teaches and writes in the areas of Criminal Law, Evidence, and Professional Responsibility. An expert in prosecutorial ethics, he frequently provides training to public sector attorneys on their responsibilities under the Rules of Professional Conduct.

During his extensive career as a government lawyer, Professor Cassidy prosecuted hundreds of serious felony cases at both the trial and appellate levels, including briefing and arguing several high-profile criminal matters before the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court.

Among his many professional and community activities, Professor Cassidy has served as a member of the Governor's Commission on Corrections Reform, as a member of the Massachusetts State Ethics Commission, as Editor-in-Chief of the Massachusetts Law Review, and as a hearing officer for the Board of Bar Overseers.

Professor Cassidy received his B.A. degree, magna cum laude, from the University of Notre Dame, and his J.D. degree, magna cum laude, from Harvard Law School. He served as law clerk to the Honorable Edward F. Hennessey, Chief Justice of the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court.

As the new Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, Professor Cassidy will work with the Dean and faculty in areas of curriculum review, program development, faculty appointment, and research, and will oversee the delivery of academic services to students.

Professor Cunningham leaves this summer to join the faculty at George Washington University. "He has been a superb Academic Dean," said Dean Garvey. "During his tenure we have focused our attention on the central importance of scholarship in the academic life. We have reorganized the Academic Dean's Office, built our LL.M. Program, reduced faculty teaching loads through course compression, revised the first year of studies, and begun the unfinished business of expanding and improving our relations with the University's other schools and departments. I cannot thank him enough for his service. And we will miss him even more as a friend, colleague, intellectual force, and mainstay of the faculty."