

Skadden, Arps and City College of New York Launch Landmark Program to Promote Diversity in the Legal Profession

NEW YORK, NY, April 17, 2008 — Skadden, Arps and The City College of New York (“CCNY”) today announced the creation of a program to increase diversity in law schools and the legal profession. The **Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom Honors Program in Legal Studies at The City College of New York** (“Skadden, Arps Honors Program”) will provide talented students of diverse racial and socioeconomic backgrounds with the education, groundwork and experience necessary to gain admission to, and succeed in, competitive law schools. The announcement comes as Skadden, Arps celebrates its 60th anniversary.

Skadden, Arps initially has committed \$9.6 million over the next ten years to the Honors Program, which is expected to welcome participants in the Fall 2008-09 school year into a pre-honors sequence for CCNY freshmen and sophomores to help cultivate their interest in legal studies and careers in law, and to help recruit and assess interested and qualified students as junior and senior-level program scholars. When the program is fully implemented, up to 100 juniors and seniors, selected through a highly competitive process, will benefit from a two-year scholar program that provides participants with:

- an honors curriculum of special courses and seminars to complement a wide range of majors and further prepare the students to enter and thrive in the nation’s top law schools;
- need- and merit-based financial assistance;
- LSAT preparation;
- paid summer internships at law firms, corporations and public interest organizations nationwide;
- assistance in transitioning to law school; and
- mentoring by attorneys at Skadden and other leading legal employers.

In addition, the program will:

- include an endowed professorship;
- be housed in the Skadden, Arps Legal Honors Center on The City College campus, where students can gather as well as meet with tutors and advisors; and
- offer dormitory space for students from outside New York, in order to attract the most promising individuals from across the country.

“Since our founding in 1948, Skadden has recognized that excellence and diversity are intertwined and we have sought to address the persistent lack of diversity in the legal profession,” said Joseph H. Flom, Skadden Senior Partner.

Mr. Flom continued, “Based on its long history of diversity and academic excellence, combined with the deep commitment of its administration, CCNY is our ideal partner as we work to identify the most

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motivated students across the country at an important crossroad in their academic lives. As we move ahead, we are delighted to have the counsel of the most experienced legal educators and administrators on this Program's Board of Advisors.

Gregory H. Williams, President of The City College, added, "For 160 years, City College has provided a world-class education to, in the words of the first president of CCNY, 'the children of the whole people' - not only giving them access to the American dream, but also bringing their talents to every area of American society. By creating a nationally recognized program in legal studies at one of the most diverse colleges in the nation, we will help attract promising students across all ethnic and economic backgrounds to careers in the law."

According to U.S. Census reports, approximately 11% of lawyers are minorities, compared to approximately 25% of physicians/surgeons, 21% of accountants/auditors, and 18% of college/university teachers.

"I am delighted to be a member of the Honors Program's Board of Advisors. We hope the Skadden, Arps Honors Program will serve as a model to ensure that the next generation of lawyers better reflects the diversity of our society," said Harvard Law School Dean Elena Kagan.

In addition to Messrs. Flom and Williams and Dean Kagan, the Advisory Board of the Skadden, Arps Honors Program includes: Dennis W. Archer, Chairman, Dickinson Wright PLLC and past president of the American Bar Association; Vincent Boudreau, Director of the Colin Powell Center for Policy Studies at The City College of New York; Dean Michael A. Fitts of the University of Pennsylvania Law School; Dean Harold H. Koh of Yale Law School; Dean Larry D. Kramer of Stanford Law School; Dean Saul Levmore of the University of Chicago Law School; Michele Coleman Mayes, General Counsel of The Allstate Corporation; Dean Richard L. Revesz of New York University School of Law; Gloria Santona, General Counsel of McDonald's Corp.; Dean David M. Schizer of Columbia Law School; Dean Kurt L. Schmoke of Howard University School of Law; and Robert C. Sheehan, Executive Partner of Skadden, Arps.

According to Dean Schmoke, "The pipeline of talented, motivated young women and men exists in every segment of our society and must be continually cultivated in a variety of ways. With the right resources and support, such as those provided through the Skadden, Arps Honors Program, many of those students will go on to make great contributions to the legal profession and society."

"I'm thrilled to be a part of this innovative Skadden Arps effort to try to redress the persistent lack of diversity in our profession. Like Skadden's successful Fellowship program, which has encouraged so many terrific young lawyers to pursue work in the public interest, this new Skadden Honors Program seeks to provide life-changing opportunities," said Dean Revesz. (The firm launched another unprecedented program in 1988 with the Skadden Fellowship Foundation, which supports lawyers pursuing careers in public interest law. Over the past 20 years, Skadden has paid for 536 academically outstanding law school graduates and judicial clerks to work full-time for two years for legal and advocacy organizations, more than 90 percent of whom continue to work in the public sector.)