

For Immediate Release

January 20, 2009

Media Advisory

**Obama presidential campaign advisor to address Law Society & CABL
Black History Month celebration, February 5**

A prominent US lawyer and Obama presidential campaign advisor will headline a special reception at the Law Society on Thursday, February 5 to celebrate the inauguration of President Barack Obama as the first Black president of the United States – and to commemorate Black History Month.

Dennis Wayne Archer will share some of his experiences from the US presidential campaign trail and talk about the significance of President Obama's inauguration to Black Americans.

Well-known as a legal and political trail-blazer, Archer served as the first African American president of the American Bar Association (2003-04), as well as the State Bar of Michigan (1984-85). He also served as president of the National Bar Association (1983-84).



Dennis Wayne Archer

He earned his law degree in 1970 and worked as a trial lawyer and partner in several Detroit firms while also serving as associate professor at the Detroit College of Law and as adjunct professor at Wayne State University Law School. He is a former Associate Justice of the Michigan Supreme Court and a former mayor of Detroit. He is currently the chairman of the Detroit law firm, Dickinson Wright.

Archer holds several honorary degrees and has been named one of the “100 Most Influential Black Americans” by *Ebony* magazine, as well as one of the “100 Most Powerful Attorneys in the United States” by *National Law Journal*. In 1996, *Newsweek* named him one of “The 25 Most Dynamic Mayors in America.” Archer has served as National Democratic Party General Co-Chair from 1999 to 2000, and as 1996 Democratic Convention Platform Committee Co-chair.

This special reception is being hosted by the Law Society of Upper Canada and the Canadian Association of Black Lawyers (CABL) in honour of Black History Month, and to pay tribute to the numerous achievements and contributions of Black lawyers. The event is part of the Law Society's Public Education Equality Series.

Admission to the reception is **free** to members of the profession and the public. To attend, please register by **Tuesday, February 3**, by calling **416-947-3413** or **1-800-668-7380, ext. 3413**, or by sending an e-mail to rticzon@lsuc.on.ca.

Details

Date: Thursday, February 5, 2009
Reception: Convocation Hall - 6 to 8 p.m.
Location: The Law Society of Upper Canada
130 Queen Street West
(Enter at eastside doors facing Nathan Phillips Square)

Media interested in attending are encouraged to confirm their attendance in advance if possible, to help ensure adequate space and audio requirements.

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