Third Annual
James M. Nabrit, Jr.
Lecture Series

Thursday, March 2, 2006
A gain this year we are proud to sponsor the Annual James M. Nabrit, Jr. Lecture at the Howard University School of Law. The 2004 inaugural event featured Professor Charles Ogletree of the Harvard Law School and last year we were fortunate to have The Honorable Alphonso M. Kennedy, Associate Justice of the United States Supreme Court, and Professor Drew S. Days, Ill, Alfred M. Rankin Professor of Law at Yale Law School.

The Nabrit Lecture honors a great man and a great mission. And it does so at a time in which that mission invites and deserves revitalization and renewed commitment. The cause of racial equality in the United States is and will continue to be a defining test for our nation. That the historical roots of the cause are centuries long does not detract from its continuing relevance. To the contrary, through events such as the Nabrit Lecture, we are able to underscore the contemporary importance of the mission while celebrating its many brilliant and courageous champions, not least among whom was James Nabrit, Jr.

We thank you for your attendance at this year's lecture, the third year of our partnership with Howard University.

I t is with pride and pleasure that the Howard University School of Law joins with Kirkpatrick & Lockhart Nicholson Graham LLP to present the James M. Nabrit, Jr. Lecture Series, in honor of an extraordinary individual, a legal giant, and a hero for all of us today and for future generations.

For many people, when they think of James M. Nabrit, Jr., the lawyer, they think of his outstanding work in the school desegregation case that was the companion case to Brown v. Board of Education. Historians of the law recognize that it was Nabrit's advocacy and scholarly skills that helped to lead the direct attack against segregation in the United States. In addition to this work, Nabrit and his colleague, George E.C. Hayes, were among the country's most distinguished lawyers fighting to protect First Amendment rights and other civil liberties when those rights were threatened by the excesses of the McCarthy era. Nabrit and Hayes represented celebrities and common working folks in the effort to uphold the principles of the United States Constitution in the face of attacks by those with narrow political agendas. Lessons learned from Nabrit's work are as relevant today as they were 50 years ago.

We thank you for joining us on this special day to honor the former Howard University president, former Howard Law School dean, and civil rights attorney, James M. Nabrit, Jr.

Kirkpatrick & Lockhart Nicholson Graham LLP

www.lawhoward.edu

Kirkpatrick & Lockhart Nicholson Graham LLP

www.klng.com
James M. Nabrit, Jr. was a graduate of Morehouse College and Northwestern University Law School. He joined Howard University's law faculty in 1936 and, two years later, taught the first formal civil rights law course at an American law school.

In the 1940s and in the early 1950s, Nabrit handled a number of civil rights cases for the NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund, working with Charles Hamilton Houston, Thurgood Marshall, and others. He was one of the lead counsel on the Washington, D.C. case of *Bolling v. Sharpe*, a companion case to *Brown v. Board of Education*, but which was decided under the Due Process Clause of the 5th Amendment instead of the 14th Amendment Equal Protection Clause.

Nabrit was Dean of Howard University School of Law from 1958 to 1960. He was Howard University’s second Black president, serving in the post from 1960 to 1965, and again from 1968 to 1969. In 1966, he represented the United States as a deputy ambassador to the United Nations. Nabrit was considered one of the leading constitutional and civil rights lawyers of his generation.

James M. Nabrit, Jr. died in Washington, D.C. in 1997. He was married and had one son, James M. Nabrit, III, also a lawyer.

Howard University School of Law: A Brief History

One of the oldest law programs in the country, Howard University School of Law started as the Howard University Law Department on January 6, 1869, under the leadership of Professor John Mercer Langston. In 1870, Langston was appointed dean. The department opened its two-year LL.B degree program with six students, and increased to 22 by the close of the session on June 30, 1869. Ten of the initial students graduated on February 3, 1871, eight of whom were admitted to practice in the District of Columbia on the following day. The school officially extended its requirements for graduation from two years to three years in 1900.

During this fledgling period, classes were held three nights a week in the homes and offices of four instructors. Classes were also held in a room at the Second National Bank, 509 Seventh Street, N.W., in the Lincoln Hall building on Ninth and D Street, N.W., until December 5, 1886, when the building was destroyed by fire; and in a room located at Seventh and E Street, N.W., which served as the site of the law school until it was moved to the main campus in 1886. In 1914, the school purchased the Dunbarton College campus at 2900 Van Ness Street, N.W., its current location.

In 1913, the law school was accredited by the American Bar Association and, in the same year, was granted membership in the Association of American Law Schools. From its humble beginnings, the school has grown in size and structure under the leadership of its deans. Among the more nationally noted are Charles Hamilton Houston, 1930 to 1935; William Henry Hastie, 1939 to 1946; James M. Nabrit, Jr., 1958 to 1960; Spottswood Robinson, III, 1960 to 1963; and Wiley A. Branton, Sr., 1978 to 1983.

In 1931, Howard University School of Law developed the nation’s first civil rights law curriculum. In 1995, it reestablished the Criminal Justice Center. In 2002, the law school established the Alternative Dispute Resolution Clinic and the Institute of Intellectual Property and Social Justice. In 2005, the law school opened the Fair Housing Law Clinical Program to train future fair housing lawyers.

On October 29, 1998, the groundbreaking ceremony took place for the new law library, and on May 29, 2001, the grand opening of the Howard Law library took place. The 7,600-square-foot, four-story, crescent-shaped structure with expansive windows and grand stone staircase leading to the Main Reading Room is a magnificent achievement in architectural design.

Today, Howard University School of Law confers an average of 115 Juris Doctor and Master of Law degrees annually to students from the United States, Africa, Asia, South America, and the Caribbean.

Third Annual
James M. Nabrit, Jr. Lecture Series
March 2, 2006

About James Madison Nabrit, Jr.

James M. Nabrit, Jr. was a graduate of Morehouse College and Northwestern University Law School. He joined Howard University’s law faculty in 1936 and, two years later, taught the first formal civil rights law course at an American law school.

In the 1940s and in the early 1950s, Nabrit handled a number of civil rights cases for the NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund, working with Charles Hamilton Houston, Thurgood Marshall, and others. He was one of the lead counsel on the Washington, D.C. case of *Bolling v. Sharpe*, a companion case to *Brown v. Board of Education*, but which was decided under the Due Process Clause of the 5th Amendment instead of the 14th Amendment Equal Protection Clause.

Nabrit was Dean of Howard University School of Law from 1958 to 1960. He was Howard University’s second Black president, serving in the post from 1960 to 1965, and again from 1968 to 1969. In 1966, he represented the United States as a deputy ambassador to the United Nations. Nabrit was considered one of the leading constitutional and civil rights lawyers of his generation.

James M. Nabrit, Jr. died in Washington, D.C. in 1997. He was married and had one son, James M. Nabrit, III, also a lawyer.

"Let the Supreme Court take the blame if it dares to say to the entire world: 'Yes, democracy in the United States rests on a legalized caste system. Segregation of races is legal.' Make the court choose..."

James Madison Nabrit, Jr.
Anthony M. Kennedy, Associate Justice, United States Supreme Court

Anthony M. Kennedy, was born in Sacramento, California, on July 23, 1936. He is married to Mary Davis and has three children. Justice Kennedy received his B.A. from Stanford University and the London School of Economics, and his LL.B. from Harvard Law School. He was a Professor of Constitutional Law at the McGeorge School of Law, University of the Pacific.


Justice Kennedy was appointed to the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit in 1975. President Reagan nominated him as an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, and he took his seat on February 18, 1988.

Kirkpatrick & Lockhart Nicholson Graham LLP

K&LG serves a dynamic and growing clientele that includes representation of leading global corporations in every major industry, nationally and internationally. Currently, approximately 1,000 lawyers strong with offices throughout the U.S. and in London, England, K&LG’s practice embraces three major areas—litigation, corporate and regulatory—and related fields.

K&LG’s contribution to the Howard University School of Law is just one component of K&LG’s ongoing commitment to diversity as a core firm value. K&LG appointed the legal industry’s first management committee-level Chief Diversity Officer, a development that a prominent corporate general counsel termed “groundbreaking” and “the standard for other law firms to rise to.” Diversity & The Bar magazine identified K&LG as one of four law firms in the United States that “are stepping outside the norm, displaying an unprecedented level of commitment and new strategies for achieving diversity.”

Photograph by Robin Reid, Collection of the Supreme Court of the United States.

This photograph may not be used for any advertising or commercial endorsement purposes, or in any way conveys a false impression of Supreme Court sponsorship or approval.

About The Lecturer

Anthony M. Kennedy
Associate Justice, United States Supreme Court

Photograph by Robin Reid, Collection of the Supreme Court of the United States.

This photograph may not be used for any advertising or commercial endorsement purposes, or in any way conveys a false impression of Supreme Court sponsorship or approval.

James M. Nabrit, Jr. Day - March 2005

[Image of four individuals]
Mr. Sweeney is administrative partner of K&LNG’s Los Angeles office. He is a member of the firm’s business litigation group and specializes in handling complex business disputes and employment cases. Mr. Sweeney has handled class action lawsuits involving unfair business practices, B&P Section 17200, employment and securities claims, as well as individual actions involving contracts, trade secrets, wrongful termination, discrimination, entertainment, intellectual property and other commercial disputes. He is a graduate of the University of Southern California and Columbia University Law School.

As Chair of K&LNG’s Diversity Committee, Mr. Sweeney is active in the firm’s efforts to promote, recruit and retain a diverse workforce. Under the auspices of the Diversity Committee, minority and women lawyers continue to take on leadership roles that currently include service on the Management Committee, the international, five-partner Executive Committee as well as senior practice leadership positions in fields as disparate as mergers and acquisitions, employment, and life sciences. Moreover, minority and women lawyers at K&LNG have also been taking on leadership roles in community organizations whose missions embrace diversity goals; in professional organizations with diversity and gender agendas; and in recruitment and networking aimed at minorities and women lawyers.
About The Lecturer

Drew S. Days, III
Visiting James M. Nabrit, Jr. Professor of Constitutional Law, Howard University School of Law and Alfred M. Rankin Professor of Law, Yale Law School

Professor Drew S. Days, III was nominated by President Clinton and confirmed by the Senate as Solicitor General of the United States, the government’s lawyer, before the United States Supreme Court. He served in that capacity from May 28, 1993 to June 30, 1996, on a leave of absence from Yale Law School, to which he returned in July. He is a 1963 honors graduate in English Literature of Hamilton College in Clinton, New York. He received his LL.B. degree from Yale University in 1966. After practicing briefly with a labor firm in Chicago, he entered the Peace Corps, serving as a volunteer in Honduras from 1967 to 1969. In the Fall of 1969, Mr. Days joined the staff of NAACP Legal Defense Fund in New York City. At the Legal Defense Fund, he litigated cases in the areas of school desegregation, police misconduct and employment discrimination. Mr. Days remained on the staff of the Legal Defense Fund (except for a two-year teaching leave at Temple University Law School) until early 1977.

In March 1977, Mr. Days was confirmed by the Senate to serve as Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights, having been nominated to that post by President Jimmy Carter. He served in that capacity until the end of 1980. In January 1981, he joined the faculty of the Yale University School of Law, receiving tenure in 1986. In November 1991, he was named to the Alfred M. Rankin Chair at the Law School. At Yale, his teaching and writing have been in the fields of civil procedure, federal jurisdiction, Supreme Court practice, antidiscrimination law, comparative constitutional law (Canada and the United States) and international human rights. From 1988 to 1993, he was also the founding director of the Orville H. Schell, Jr. Center for Human Rights at Yale University School of Law.

Mr. Days is a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and of the American Academy of Appellate Lawyers and a Life Fellow of the American Bar Foundation. He serves on the boards of The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation and of Hamilton College, and is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations. He has been married since 1966 to Ann Ramsay Langdon, an artist and writer. They have two daughters, Alison, the medical director of a Head-Start Health Clinic in El Paso, Texas, and Elizabeth, an actress in New York City.