

**For immediate release
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Loyola Law School Swearing-In Ceremony to Feature Oaths by Judges Arakaki, Hatter *Event will include many of the 84% of Loyola alumni first-time takers who passed July 2011 bar exam*

Los Angeles – Loyola Law School, Los Angeles will host a swearing-in ceremony for those who passed the July 2011 California Bar Examination at 10 a.m. on Thursday, Dec. 1 on its downtown L.A. campus. Judge Akemi D. Arakaki '98, Los Angeles Superior Court, will administer the state oath; Judge Terry J. Hatter Jr., U.S. District Court for the Central District of California, will administer the federal oath. An academic awards ceremony will precede the event at 8:30 a.m.

Loyola Law School leaders and prominent alumni will speak at the ceremony. They include David W. Burcham '84, president, Loyola Marymount University; Victor Gold, Fritz B. Burns Dean, Loyola Law School; Anthony J. Napolitano '03, president, Loyola Law School's Alumni Association Board of Governors; Douglas NeJaime, associate professor of law; and Michael Waterstone, associate dean for research and academic centers.

Loyola's California July 2011 bar exam pass rate for first-time takers was 84 percent, eight percentage points above the statewide average of 76 percent for first-time takers from all ABA-accredited schools in California. Loyola had the same pass rate in 2010, when it improved its margin over the average by 50 percent from the previous year and was nine percentage points above the 75 percent pass rate for first-time takers from all ABA-accredited schools.

"The bar-passage rate is a credit to our students, who take the test very seriously and commit to working hard, including taking the Fundamentals of Bar Writing class," said Professor Jean Boylan, associate dean for clinical programs and experiential learning.

Susan Bakhshian, director of Bar Programs & Academic Success further echoed that sentiment. "Success on the bar exam actually begins long before the bar exam," she said. "It begins in the first year of law school, when students learn the core subjects tested on both the essays and the multiple-choice exam. Later, the bar-writing course gives students a way to practice and plan as they enter their final year of school, but success comes from much more than that, including a lot of hard work during law school and during the bar preparation courses."

About Loyola Law School, Los Angeles

Located in downtown Los Angeles—a legal, financial and media capital—Loyola Law School is home to prominent faculty, dedicated students and cutting-edge programs. Committed to legal ethics and the public interest, it has produced top attorneys for 90 years. The Princeton Review ranked Loyola ninth for "Best Classroom Experience." Loyola was ranked 29th on the 2010 *Super Lawyers* U.S. Law School Rankings. *National Jurist* magazine ranks it eighth on its list of "Best Law Schools for Public Interest Law." It was ranked fifth in the nation for trial advocacy, ninth for diversity and 10th for tax law by *U.S. News & World Report*. For more information, please see www.lls.edu.

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