



Press Release:

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For Immediate Release

Attorney General Gansler to Speak at Burton Awards Luncheon for Finest General Counsel

New York, New York: The Burton Awards, a program in association with the Library of Congress, announced that Attorney General Douglas F. Gansler will be the guest speaker at the first annual luncheon honoring the top general counsel in the nation. These prominent corporate attorneys were named 2013 "Legends in Law" by the Burton Awards program. The announcement that Attorney General Gansler will participate in the program was made jointly by Thomas L. Sager, Chair and Les Parrette, Vice-Chair of the Committee which recognizes the winning corporate general counsel. The luncheon will be held on June 3, 2013 at the Library of Congress. The awards ceremonies and Gala will also be held that day.

Douglas F. Gansler is the current Attorney General of Maryland. He was elected in 2006 and re-elected in 2010. AG Gansler also served as State Attorney for Montgomery County, Maryland. He was first elected in 1998 and re-elected in 2002. Prior to serving as State Attorney, from 1992 until 1998, AG Gansler was an Assistant U.S. Attorney.

He has prosecuted several high-profile cases including the Beltway Snipers, John Allen Muhammad and Lee Boyd Malvo. Since taking office as Attorney General, he has focused on environmental protection, consumer protection, public safety and civil rights.

In 2012, AG Gansler was elected as the President of the National Association of Attorneys General (NAAG). He currently serves in that capacity. He has also held the position of Chair of the Democratic Attorneys General Association (DAGA) until becoming President-Elect at the NAAG. He also chaired NAAG committees on Youth Access to Alcohol, the Environment and Energy.

AG Gansler is a graduate of Yale University. He earned a law degree from the University of Virginia School of Law. He served as Law Clerk to Hon. John F. McAuliffe, Judge on the Maryland Court of Appeals.

Thomas Sager and Les Parrette issued a joint statement that said: "We are honored and delighted that AG Gansler has accepted our invitation and will be the guest speaker at our luncheon. The Attorney General is one of the true leaders in law enforcement and his experiences and successes will make for an extremely informative and intriguing presentation. We thank Bernard Nash from Dickstein Shapiro LLP for making the arrangements."

The "Legends in Law" winners include: Denise F. Keane, Executive Vice President and General Counsel, *Altria Group, Inc.*; Betty A. Whelchel, General Counsel, *BNP Paribas*; Daniel Troy, Senior Vice President and General Counsel, *GlaxoSmithKline*; Eric G. Klein, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary, *Kyocera International, Inc.*; J. Michael Wilder, Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary, *Marathon Petroleum Corporation*; Edward A. "Ed" Ryan, Executive Vice President and General Counsel, *Marriott International, Inc.*; D. Cameron Findlay, Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary, *Medtronic, Inc.*; Felix R. Ehrat, PhD, Group General Counsel, *Novartis International AG*; Brian Eduardo Cabrera, Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary, *Synopsys, Inc.*; and Shari H. Wolkon, Managing Director and General Counsel, *Thomas H. Lee Partners*.

The following criteria were used in making the selection of this year's "Legends in Law:" Reputation in the legal profession; demonstration of competence in a specialized area of law; extensive background and experience; complexity and scope of matters handled; success in global or national issues; and exemplary leadership in law. The winning general counsels were chosen from nominations received from managing partners in the nation's 1,000 largest law firms.

The Honorary Board of Directors of the Burton Awards Program includes: Judge Richard Posner, US Court of Appeals for the 7th Circuit; Judge Alex Kozinski, US Court of Appeals for the 9th Circuit; Justice Carol A. Corrigan, California Supreme Court; Judge Judith S. Kaye, former Chief Judge of the New York Court of Appeals; US Senator Robert P. Casey, Jr. (Pennsylvania); US Senator Michael F. Bennet (Colorado); US Senator John Cornyn (Texas); US Senator Mike Crapo (Idaho); US Congressman Spencer Bachus (Alabama); Thomas L. Sager, Senior Vice President and General Counsel for DuPont Legal; and Les Parrette, Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Compliance Officer for Novelis Inc; Keith C. Wetmore, Chair Emeritus, Morrison & Foerster LLP; Sabine Curto, Senior Director of Administration, Kirkland & Ellis LLP; Dennis Smith, Former Senator and Member of the Judiciary Committee, Missouri Legislature; and Stephen R. Mysliwicz, Partner, DLA Piper.

THE BURTON AWARDS PROGRAM

The Burton Awards is funded by the Burton Foundation which is a non-profit, academic effort devoted to recognizing and rewarding excellence in the legal profession. Since its inception in 1999, the organization has focused on great achievements in law, including accomplishments by general counsel, writing, public service and public interest. The program honors partners in law firms and law school students who use plain, clear and concise language in their writing.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

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