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# U.S. Solicitor General to Speak at Fordham Law School Groundbreaking Ceremonies

University Communications, Fordham University

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# FORDHAM Press Release

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## U.S. SOLICITOR GENERAL TO SPEAK AT FORDHAM LAW SCHOOL GROUNDBREAKING CEREMONIES

Rex E. Lee, United States Solicitor General, will be the principal speaker at the groundbreaking ceremonies for the new wing that is being added to Fordham University Law School, according to an announcement by John D. Feerick, dean of the Law School. The ceremonies will be held on Wednesday, September 28, from 10 to 11 a.m. at the construction site adjacent to the Law School at Columbus Avenue and 62nd Street.

The four-story semicircular wing, which features an atrium with a soaring glass arch, and renovations to the existing building, are expected to be completed by next fall at a cost of nearly \$8 million. This new construction is the largest single building project undertaken at Fordham University in the last 15 years.

The new construction and the renovations, which will nearly double the Law School's present space, is being undertaken to meet the needs of the current faculty and student population. The original building, built in 1961, was designed to accommodate 750 students and a faculty of 26. The School's current enrollment is 1,200 while the faculty now numbers over 100 full- and part-time teachers.

"When it was first built, our present building was hailed as a model law school," Dean Feerick said. "Its facilities greatly contributed to the enhancement of the School's reputation over the last twenty years. This much-needed new construction will further enhance the quality of Fordham's legal education and add considerably to the extra-curricular life of students and faculty."

The major facilities in the new wing will include a 256-seat amphitheater, two 140-seat tiered lecture halls and a new cafeteria that can accommodate 275 students. Renovations to the existing structure will nearly double the School's library

capacity as well as provide space for a computer center and other technological study aids. Reconfiguration of classrooms and offices will also allow for new faculty offices, seminar rooms and the expansion of the admissions and placement offices and other student facilities.

Participating in the ceremonies will be Edward I. Koch, Mayor of New York; Rev. James C. Finlay, S.J., president of Fordham University; Rev. Laurence McGinley, S.J., president-emeritus, under whose tenure the Law School was built; William Hughes Mulligan, former dean of the Law School and now a senior partner at Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom; and Paul Curran, president of the Fordham Law Alumni Association and partner in the law firm of Kaye, Scholer, Fierman, Hays & Handler.

A tour of the construction site will be followed by a reception on the Robert Moses Plaza adjacent to the Law School, 140 West 62nd Street.

As Solicitor General, Rex Lee is the fourth ranking official in the Department of Justice, responsible for representing the United States before the Supreme Court. He was appointed by President Reagan in July, 1981.

A native of Los Angeles, the 48-year-old Solicitor General earned a B.A. degree from Brigham Young University in 1960 and a J.D. degree from the University of Chicago Law School in 1963. After serving for a year as law clerk to Supreme Court Justice Byron White, he joined the law firm of Jennings, Strouss, Salmon & Trash in Phoenix, Arizona in 1964. He became a partner in 1967.

In 1971, Lee was appointed the founding dean of the J. Reuben Clark Law School at Brigham Young University, a position he held until 1975 when he was named Assistant Attorney General in charge of the Civil Division of the Justice Department. He returned to the deanship in 1977 and remained until his appointment to his present post.

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NOTE TO EDITORS: Press coverage is invited.

9/15/83