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Welcome

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WELCOME

*John D. Feerick**

DEAN FEERICK: On behalf of Fordham Law School, I would like to welcome all of you to this important Symposium entitled "The Changing Role of the Federal Prosecutor," being held in memory of William Tandy.

I would like to express our School's gratitude to a number of you for the generous financial support provided for this Symposium today, especially by Decision Strategies/Fairfax International; Howard, Smith & Levin; Jones, Day, Reavis & Pogue; Kramer, Levin, Naftalis & Frankel; Latham & Watkins; Morvillo, Abramowitz, Grand, Iason & Silberberg; O'Melveny & Myers; Schulte, Roth & Zabel; and Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz.

I extend a special welcome to the Symposium's distinguished speakers, and I thank our illustrious panelists, who include members of the bench, U.S. Attorney's Office, attorneys in private practice, members of public interest organizations, and members of the academic community.

It is very appropriate that today's Symposium on "The Changing Role of the Federal Prosecutor" should be held in memory of William Tandy, for in his life and career he embodied the very best qualities of a federal prosecutor and public citizen. He was both a role model and a mentor to a generation of prosecuting attorneys and made an impact on the profession which continues to this day.

Commenting in 1970 on his performance, one member of Congress called him "the ablest, best-informed, most-effective narcotics prosecutor in the United States" — a sentiment that was echoed, and has been echoed in the years since, by colleagues and citizens alike.

In 1986, the *National Law Journal* published an editorial on the occasion of Bill's thirtieth year in public service, entitled "Well Done, Mr. Tandy." It said in part:

U.S. Attorneys come and go with the changing of administrations, but the high caliber of the offices they represent often is maintained by career public servants who provide the continuity needed for such important federal institutions. There is no better example of such a career than William A. Tandy, the Deputy United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York,

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who has served as a bulwark of federal law enforcement and is well known among his colleagues for his outstanding commitment to his duties.

All of us here today who had the privilege of knowing Bill Tandy recognize the truth of those words. They also know that there was never a public servant of more admirable character, nor a lawyer more worthy of the trust which is invested in our federal prosecutors.

Those of us here at Fordham Law School, from which he graduated, are so proud that he was one of our own. We are also so proud that, because of the generosity of a number of his colleagues and friends, there is a scholarship at our School in his memory.

I thank all of you who have come together on this occasion to honor him in the best way possible, by exploring the challenges that lie ahead in the area of the profession that he loved so well.

I mention to all of you that this afternoon we will have a reception and very short program to honor graduates of our School who are currently serving in the Justice Department and the U.S. Attorney's Offices across the United States. Our School, to commemorate this particular occasion, has created a special certificate we would like to present to each of the graduates of our School who have served in those offices as a way of saying "well done." The certificate has the words: "Where the public service prevails, liberty is secure."

I would also like to announce that, inspired by this particular program, our School is establishing today a William Tandy Law Enforcement Award to be given each year to one graduate of the Law School who epitomizes the ideals and values that we look for in somebody engaged in the law enforcement process. It could be as a police officer, as an investigator, as a prosecutor in the state system, as a prosecutor in the federal system. Each year we are going to hand this out to a graduate of the School as expressing those ideals.

The *Fordham Urban Law Journal* has agreed to administer the program, and I am asking Professor Green and Professor Richman to put together the criteria, so that this annual award might in time rival some of the other recognitions our School gives, such as the Stein Prize.

It is now my great privilege, and a truly great privilege, to introduce your keynote speaker, Louis Freeh, Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

I will give just a short summary of his career. It is well known to all of you, but I do see a number of students here, so I would like to just say a few words about his career.

He was born in Jersey City. He was an Honors Graduate of Rutgers College and Rutgers Law School. He also holds with distinction an LL.M. from New York University Law School.

He served as a Special Agent of the FBI from 1975 to 1981 in the New York Field Office and at FBI Headquarters in Washington.

In 1981, he joined the United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York as an Assistant United States Attorney. Subsequently, he held positions there as Chief of the Organized Crime Unit, Deputy United States Attorney, and Associate United States Attorney.

During this time, he was the lead prosecutor in many important cases. One, in particular, was the largest and most complex investigation ever undertaken by the Federal Government. The case involved an extensive national drug trafficking operation by Sicilian organized crime members who used pizza parlors as fronts. Following the investigation, Director Freeh served as the Federal Government's principal courtroom attorney in the fourteen-month trial which resulted in the conviction of sixteen of seventeen co-defendants.

In May 1990, he was appointed a Special Prosecutor by the Attorney General to oversee the investigation into the mail bomb murders of Federal Judge Robert Vance of Alabama and civil rights leader Robert Robinson in Georgia. After extensive investigation, the suspect was apprehended, prosecuted, and convicted.

In July 1991, President George Bush appointed Director Freeh a United States District Court Judge for the Southern District of New York. He was serving in this position when he was nominated to be the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation by President Clinton, and he took office in that position in September of 1993.

Director Freeh has been recognized on numerous occasions for his exemplary accomplishments. I am not going to go through the countless honors, except to say that among these are the Attorney General's Award for Distinguished Service, the John Marshall Award for Preparation of Litigation, awarded annually by the Attorney General, and the Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association Award.

I am also very pleased to note that Director Freeh, at the time he became Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, also

served this Law School as a member of our Adjunct Faculty, and he is remembered very fondly.

On behalf of Fordham Law School, I am very pleased to welcome him back and very privileged to give him to you.