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Twenty-third Commencement

16 May 1998

Franklin Pierce Law Center Concord, New Hampshire

Order of Exercises

PROCESSIONAL

WELCOME

Robert M. Viles
President of the Law Center

INTRODUCTION

James E. Duggan Interim Dean of the LawCenter

ADVICE FROM THE FACULTY

Susan M. Richey
Assistant Dean for Career Services

JD STUDENT ADDRESS

James Brian Judd Class of 1998

MIP STUDENT ADDRESS

Oladipupo Satar Omolola Class of 1998

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

The Honorable Paul Barbadoro

Chief Judge
United States District Court for the District of New Hampshire

AWARDING OF JD AND MIP DEGREES

President Viles

Dean Duggan

Mary B. Sheffer Associate Dean for Students

Dianna L. Wheeler Registrar

SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARDS

CLOSING REMARKS

NATIONAL ANTHEM

RECESSIONAL

PRESIDENT'S RECEPTION

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Susan M. Richey Assistant Dean for Career Services

> William O. Hennessey Professor of Law

MUSIC

University of New Hampshire Faculty Brass Ensemble Robert Stibler, Director

> Commencement March Composed by Robert H. Rines Arranged by Branch Sanders '77

Historical Notes

Commencements in America are as old as the first one held by Harvard University in about 1640. These early ceremonies were patterned after the English ones of Oxford and Cambridge. Since then American colleges and universities have added their own trappings, in many cases making the occasion far more festive.

Here in Concord, New Hampshire, in the bicentennial year of 1976, Franklin Pierce Law Center held its first commencement as a graduate adjunct of Franklin Pierce College. At the wish of the graduates the exercises were held in the rural setting of the Law Center's Mountain Road location, where they studied the past three years. In January of 1977 the Law Center moved to its permanent home adjacent to White Park near downtown Concord. At this, the twenty-third commencement, the Law Center is granting its degrees for the twenty-third time as an independent educational institution. We are guests in the park today through the hospitality and cooperation of the city of Concord.

The caps, gowns and hoods of those in the procession represent a tradition of academic dress which began in the 12th century when the stone buildings which housed medieval universities were not known for warmth. The gowns are an adaptation of clerical garb.

A scholar's academic hood is more than elegant and colorful attire; it denotes degree, field and alma mater. The band of velvet circling the outer edge of the hood varies in width according to the highest degree attained—narrow for the bachelor's degree, medium for the master's, and broad for the doctorate. The color represents the field of scholarship—arts and letters, white; engineering, orange; medicine, kelly green; science, gold; philosophy, blue; law, purple, etc. The hood is lined with the colors of the institution attended by the wearer. A Franklin Pierce Law Center hood, for example, is lined in crimson crossed by a broad band of silver gray.