

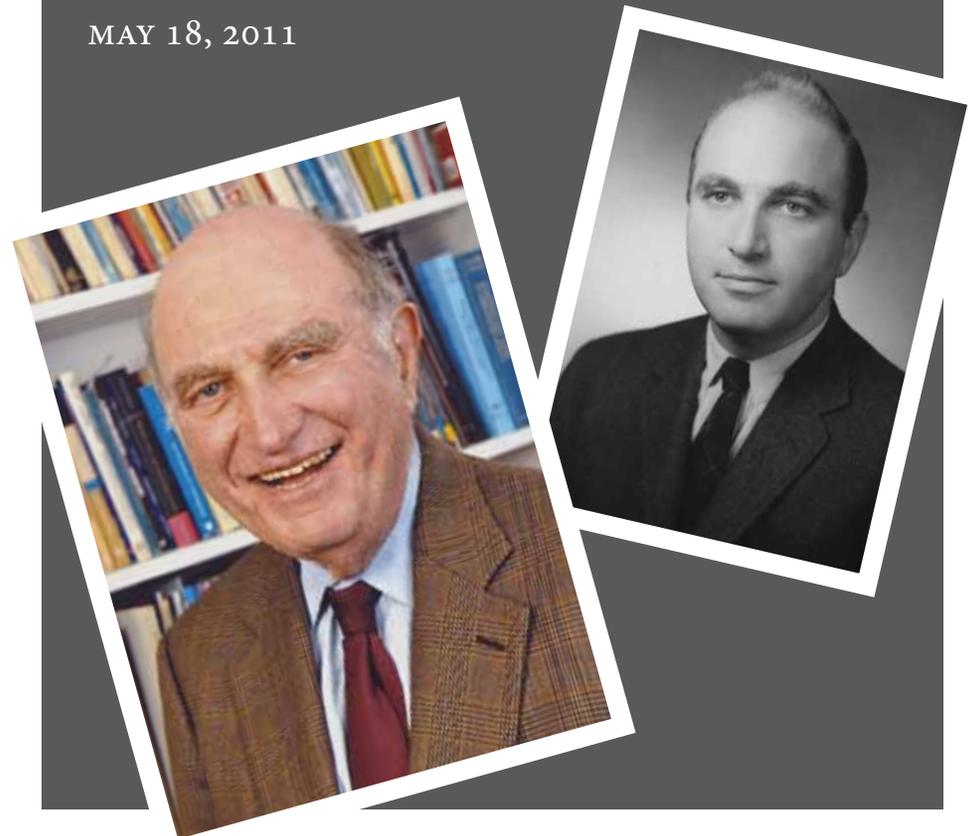


NYU  LAW

Celebrating 50 Years: New York University School of Law Honors Norman Dorsen

*Frederick I. and Grace A. Stokes Professor of Law
Co-Director of the Arthur Garfield Hays Civil Liberties Program
Counselor to the President, New York University*

MAY 18, 2011



Norman,
the Law School community
thanks you for half a century
of remarkable service.

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NORMAN DORSEN is a graduate of Columbia College and Harvard Law School, where he was an editor of the *Harvard Law Review*. In his first year after law school, he served in the office of the Secretary of the Army, where he helped represent the Army against Senator Joe McCarthy during the celebrated Army-McCarthy hearings of 1954. Following a Fulbright grant to the London School of Economics in 1955–1956, he was law clerk to Chief Judge Calvert Magruder of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit and to Justice John Marshall Harlan of the U.S. Supreme Court. He then practiced law in New York City for two years.

Dorsen joined the faculty of New York University School of Law in early 1961, when he began to direct the Arthur Garfield Hays Civil Liberties Program. In 1994 he founded and became director of the innovative Hauser Global Law School Program, the world's largest of its kind. In 2001 he was appointed counselor to the University President. He founded the *International Journal of Constitutional Law* (I.CON) in 1997 and served as editorial director until 2008.

Dorsen has written law school reports that reorganized the Moot Court Board; revised the required curriculum; provided guidelines for the Personnel Committee; structured the Clinical Program, including voting rights of clinicians; recast the LL.M. and J.S.D. programs; reformed the grading system (three times); set out procedures for appointing and evaluating adjunct professors (CORAF); and instituted elective courses in the first year. Dorsen has been a visiting professor at Harvard Law School; the University of California, Berkeley, School of Law; and the London School of Economics.

Dorsen has written numerous scholarly and popular articles on aspects of constitutional law and civil liberties, and he has delivered about 15 named lectureships at law schools and universities. He is the co-editor of three casebooks — *Political and Civil Rights in the U.S.* (3rd and 4th editions), *Regulation of Lawyers* (with Stephen Gillers), and *Comparative Constitutionalism* (1st and 2nd editions), and he prepared an extensive supplement to *Hart and Sacks, The Legal Process*. He has written or edited 11 other books, including *Frontiers of Civil Liberties*, *The Rights of Americans*, *None of Your Business: Government Secrecy in America*, *Disorder in the Court*, *Our Endangered Rights*, *Human Rights in Northern Ireland*, and *Democracy and the Rule of Law*. He has directed the James Madison lectures since 1977 and has edited two volumes of the Madison lectures, *The Evolving Constitution* (1989) and *The Unpredictable Constitution* (2002). He served as general editor of the ACLU's series of more than 40 books on the rights of vulnerable groups and individuals.

From 1969 to 1976 Dorsen served as general counsel of the ACLU and successfully argued several cases before the Supreme Court, including *In re Gault*, which first established the rights of juveniles to due process in delinquency hearings; *Levy v. Louisiana*, which first recognized constitutional rights of non-marital children;

and *See v. Seattle*, a leading Fourth Amendment decision. In 1971 he argued *U.S. v. Vuitch*, the first abortion rights case heard by the Court, and he helped write the brief and was counsel of record in *Roe v. Wade*. He wrote the brief in *Brandenburg v. Ohio*, a leading political speech case, and he wrote briefs amicus curiae in many leading cases, including *Gideon v. Wainwright*, *The Pentagon Papers Case*, and *U.S. v. Nixon* (the Tapes case). In 1969 he brought one of the earliest petitions for certiorari challenging discrimination against gay people. Many Arthur Garfield Hays Fellows, most of whom he mentored, worked on these cases and those of the other Hays directors.

In 1976 Dorsen was elected president of the ACLU, a post he held until 1991. Earlier, he was the founding president of the Society of American Law Teachers. He has been a member of the New York City Commission on the Status of Women, and he has served as a consultant to many other institutions, including Random House Publishers, the Native American Rights Fund, Rutgers University, the BBC, and a unit of the NYC Landmarks Commission.

In 1996 he was elected the first president of the U.S. Association of Constitutional Law, which is affiliated with the International Association of Constitutional Law. With Professor Carl Monk, former executive director of the AALS, he organized the International Association of Law Schools and served on its governing board from 2000 to 2008. He was chairman of the Lawyers Committee for Human Rights (Human Rights First) from 1996 to 2000, and is a trustee of the Thomas Jefferson Center for the Protection of Free Expression. He also led delegations for Human Rights Watch and Human Rights First that investigated notorious conditions in the Philippines and Egypt.

From 1975 to 1977 he chaired the U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare's Review Panel on New Drug Regulation. In the mid-1990s, he chaired the U.S. Treasury's Citizen's Review Panel that investigated racism, sexism, and other improper conduct by law enforcement officers at the annual Good O' Boy Roundups in Ocoee, Tennessee. He has advised many other government agencies, including the Justice Department, the Social Security Administration, the Defense Department, and the Commerce Department.

Dorsen has received honorary degrees from Ripon College and the John Jay College of Criminal Justice. The French Minister of Justice awarded him a medal for his civil liberties work, and he has been honored by the Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights, the Society of American Law Teachers, and other organizations. Four law review issues have contained tributes to him: *The Harvard Civil Rights–Civil Liberties Law Review* (1992), *The Annual Survey of American Law* (2001), and the *International Journal of Constitutional Law* (2010 and 2011).

In December 2000 President Bill Clinton honored Dorsen with the Eleanor Roosevelt Human Rights Award, and in 2007 the Association of American Law Schools presented him with its first triennial award for "lifetime contributions to the law and to legal education."