



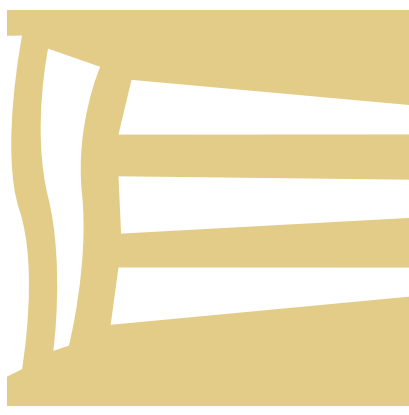
CHARLOTTE'S FIRST LAW SCHOOL

BY JAY WEISBERGER

The banquet room of the Uptown restaurant is almost filled to capacity. Wait staff arrange hors d'oeuvres and fill glasses with iced tea while Victoria Taylor Carter moves from table to table, greeting the regulars and welcoming the unfamiliar faces.

Monthly information sessions attract a variety of people from all around the Charlotte region who are interested in learning more about Charlotte School of Law (CharlotteLaw). Some are paralegals with grown children, others are police officers, social workers or recent college graduates. Their common thread is excitement at the prospect of attending Charlotte's first law school.

CHARLOTTE SCHOOL OF LAW



“Charlotte is the largest city in the country that, until now, didn’t have a law school,” says Carter, assistant dean of admissions for Charlotte School of Law. “With 13 people applying for every one available seat at North Carolina’s existing law schools,

“Charlotte School of Law has put together the best people, invested the needed resources, and gathered the community support necessary to develop this new kind of law school.”

- Arthur Gallagher

CharlotteLaw will provide an excellent alternative, particularly for area residents who have always wanted to attend law school, but couldn’t travel to other schools in the state.”

A New Approach to Legal Education

When the school opens in fall 2006, it will offer a full-time program, as well as flexible day and evening part-time programs for working professionals. In addition to gaining a strong foundation in legal academics, students will graduate with the leadership, practical, management and interpersonal skills necessary for career success. It’s a practice-ready approach to legal education that allows students to graduate from law school and begin adding immediate value to their employer – a model that provides a tangible career advantage to graduates.

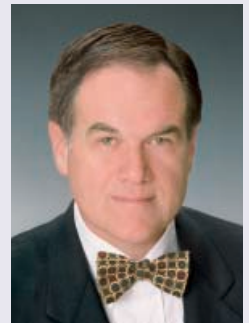
CharlotteLaw is part of the InfiLaw System, a consortium of independent, community based law schools that’s establishing itself as a leader in making legal education more responsive to a changing legal profession. The InfiLaw mission is to launch student-centered,

American Bar Association (ABA) accredited law schools in underserved markets that graduate students with the skills of second-year law associates – an unfulfilled expectation that InfiLaw research shows employers have of recent graduates.

CharlotteLaw will foster professional and personal growth through a wide variety of networking and practical learning opportunities. Administrators and faculty will make a personal commitment to establish a student-centered learning environment that is supportive for growth. They believe tomorrow’s leaders must reflect and interact effectively with a wide variety of people and cultures. Therefore, a primary objective is to provide a high-quality, forward-thinking and relevant educational experience for a diverse and traditionally underserved population.

As the school’s first hire, Carter is busy meeting prospective students and talking to community leaders about CharlotteLaw while InfiLaw conducts an international search for a dean. She brings a strong background of legal and educational experience to her role: A juris doctor degree from the North Carolina Central University School of Law in Durham, and service in various educational positions, including as Assistant Dean of Admissions for the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Law.

With an admissions advisor and communications specialist now on staff, the CharlotteLaw team is building community awareness about the program out of temporary offices in Uptown. Once a dean is hired, the team will find a location for the school and begin to build faculty.



Arthur Gallagher

A Model for Success

CharlotteLaw will be based on the same educational model as the other schools within the InfiLaw System. Florida Coastal School of Law (FCSL) in Jacksonville is the flagship school. FCSL is fully accredited by the ABA and has achieved the number one ranking in both bar passage among first time test takers and career placement of all of Florida's 10 law schools. In addition to FCSL, The InfiLaw System also includes Phoenix International School of Law in Scottsdale, Arizona. All three schools focus their curriculum and support system on student success from academics to the bar exam and throughout their careers.

Charlotte School of Law is governed by a regional Board of Trustees and The InfiLaw System National Policy Board. Both boards include national and international authorities in law, education, government and business. Dennis Archer, the immediate past president of the American Bar Association, chairs the National Policy Board. Archer served as a Justice of the Michigan Supreme Court and two times as Mayor of Detroit.

CharlotteLaw's regional board is chaired by the Honorable Shirley Fulton, retired North Carolina Superior Court Judge and partner in the Charlotte firm Tin, Fulton, Greene and Owen.

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CharlotteLaw received licensure last March from the University of North Carolina's Board of Governors. Its

national and regional boards are working closely with the ABA leadership to prepare for the accreditation process in fall 2006. As required by the ABA, a school can apply for accreditation after it has been open a full year. All of CharlotteLaw's planning reflects its goal of meeting, or exceeding, ABA requirements.

On CharlotteLaw's regional board, Judge Fulton is joined by a number of respected community leaders. Among them is Johnny C. Taylor, Jr., senior vice president of human resources for Lending Tree, who joined the board in August. Taylor is the chairman of the Society for Human Resource Management and a frequent media commentator on human resource issues with significant legal and public relations implications.

Another recent addition is Arthur J. Gallagher, the president of Johnson & Wales University Charlotte campus. He's been involved with university student life and residential life issues for more than two decades and holds leadership roles in many Charlotte business and civic organizations. Gallagher visited prospective students during a recent information session, and talked with the enthusiastic crowd about the establishment of Charlotte's first law school.

“Consider yourselves pioneers taking part in an evolution in legal education,” Gallagher says. “Charlotte School of Law has put together the best people, invested the needed resources, and gathered the community support necessary to develop this new kind of law school that focuses not only on teaching theory but also on developing graduates who are ready to practice law in real world applications.” **V**



Victoria Taylor Carter