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NEWS RELEASE

**PRESIDENT OF THE AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION
 TO OFFER ADVICE TO UNIVERSITY OF DAYTON LAW GRADUATES**

DAYTON, Ohio — The president of the American Bar Association will paint a picture of the 21st century legal profession and offer advice to 120 aspiring lawyers at the University of Dayton School of Law graduation ceremony at 10 a.m. on Saturday, May 10, in the UD Arena.

Alfred P. Carlton Jr., a UD alumnus, was appointed in August, but first became active in the ABA in 1979. Now he commands the bully pulpit, responding to reporters about the legal questions of the hour, from rights of enemy combatants to military tribunals to lawyers' ethics. During his one-year term, he is focusing on improvements in state judicial selection as well as increasing public awareness of rule of law.

Carlton graduated from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill with a bachelor's in business administration "and an abiding interest in politics," he said. He was a first lieutenant stationed at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in the early 1970s when he enrolled in the master's in public administration program in UD's political science department.

"It was a cutting-edge program," Carlton said, noting that it was unusual at the time to offer the equivalent of an MBA for public service managers. He graduated in 1973 and went on to receive a juris doctor in 1975 from the North Carolina School of Law. He is currently a partner with Kilpatrick Stockton LLP in Raleigh, N.C.

Nearest Carlton's heart is a desire to correct a mistaken image of the ABA as left-leaning. The ABA is non-partisan, Carlton said; its main concern is for a legal system that is fair and accessible. The organization takes positions on legal/political issues only after debating pros, cons and gray areas. Whatever the issue, he said, be it the death penalty or national security vs. individual rights, "we're looking at it as lawyers."

The ABA is the largest voluntary professional membership association in the world. With more than 400,000 members, the ABA provides law school accreditation, continuing legal education, information about the law, programs to assist lawyers and judges in their work and initiatives to improve the legal system for the public.

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