

For Immediate Release  
July 17, 2008

## **Armenian General Benevolent Union Donates \$350,000 to Loyola's Center for the Study of Law & Genocide**

**Los Angeles** – Loyola Law School's Center for the Study of Law & Genocide has received \$350,000 from the Armenian General Benevolent Union, the oldest and largest Armenian charitable organization. The donation is part of charitable contributions made to the AGBU from the Armenian Insurance Settlement Fund.

The settlement fund resulted from the efforts of alumni Mark J. Geragos '82, Brian S. Kabateck '89 and attorney Vartkes Yeghiayan, whose litigation against New York Life and French insurance company AXA for unpaid claims arising from the 1915 Armenian Genocide secured \$37.5 million for victims and Armenian charities.

Previously, alumnus Berj Boyajian '74 along with Geragos, Kabateck and Yeghiayan, presented Loyola with \$100,000 from the settlement fund to create the Center. Through the efforts of Kabateck and Boyajian, an additional \$350,000 has been raised, thus bringing the total funding to \$800,000. "Loyola Law School tremendously appreciates the work of all involved," said Assistant Dean of Development Ken Ott. "Berj, also an adjunct professor, and the rest of the team have given so much back to Loyola and the future legal community."

The Center will launch in early 2009 with a genocide law class. It will focus on promoting legal scholarship on genocide and mass violations of human rights with a particular concentration on improving the accessibility and effectiveness of legal resources and remedies. It will also work to train current and future legal practitioners on using existing remedies, domestic and international, to help victims of genocide and mass violations of human rights achieve a measure of justice.

The Center will feature regular symposia and will include an academic chair on genocide law and policy, support for internships with institutions engaged in litigation on related matters and the establishment of a genocide and mass atrocities law clinic.

"Genocide proved to be the true plague of the 20<sup>th</sup> century and appears and tragically appears likely to infect the 21<sup>st</sup>," said Professor Stan Goldman, director of the Center. "The goal of the program is to inform young lawyers of potential causes of action available to them in hope of bringing a small modicum of recompense to those who survive, as well some degree of justice for those who perished."

### **About Loyola Law School Los Angeles**

Located in downtown Los Angeles—a legal, financial and media capital—Loyola Law School is home to prominent faculty, dedicated students and cutting-edge programs. Committed to legal ethics and the public interest, Loyola Law School has produced top attorneys for nearly a century. For expert commentary, please contact Brian Costello, deputy director of communications, at 213.736.1444 or [brian.costello@lls.edu](mailto:brian.costello@lls.edu). For more information on Loyola Law, please visit [www.lls.edu](http://www.lls.edu).

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