

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Loyola Law School Mourns the Loss of Johnnie L. Cochran, Jr.

*Member of Loyola Law Class of 1962 Was Longtime Advocate for Victims of Police Abuse;  
Known for High-Profile Clientele*

Los Angeles—Loyola Law School Los Angeles mourns the loss of Johnnie L. Cochran, Jr., a 1962 graduate of the school. An avid advocate of victims of police abuse, Cochran gained worldwide fame for successfully defending O.J. Simpson.

Loyola Law School Dean David W. Burcham said of Cochran, “Johnnie was an extraordinary lawyer and human being. He was an intensely loyal alumnus and took a great deal of interest in legal education. Our students benefited greatly from his numerous visits to campus.”

Cochran won victories in landmark police misconduct cases and defended high-profile clients, in addition to O.J. Simpson, like Michael Jackson, actor Todd Bridges, rappers Tupac Shakur, Sean “P. Diddy” Combs and Snoop Dogg and Black Panther Elmer “Geronimo” Pratt. After graduating from Loyola Law School, he began his legal career as a deputy city attorney in Los Angeles criminal court, and entered private practice by co-founding Cochran, Atkins and Evans. Cochran returned to public service in 1978 when he became the first African-American to be named assistant district attorney in Los Angeles. In 1981, he founded the Law Offices of Johnnie L. Cochran, Jr., specializing in civil rights, personal injury litigation, criminal defense, sports, entertainment and governmental affairs.

Dedicated to community service, Cochran’s contributions to the community include the Johnnie L. Cochran, Jr. Scholarship at UCLA, the Johnnie L. Cochran, Jr. Center for Early Learning at the Second Baptist Church and Cochran Villa, a 10-unit complex of low-income housing. Throughout his career, he received multiple accolades and awards for his professional and philanthropic achievements.

About Loyola Law School Los Angeles

Located in downtown Los Angeles—a legal, financial and media capital—Loyola Law 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 more information on Loyola Law, please contact Kira Poplowski, director of communications, at 213.736.1445, 213.798.0558 or [kira.poplowski@lls.edu](mailto:kira.poplowski@lls.edu).

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