

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release



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ELA Announces 2008 Newly Elected Vice President and Three New Board Members

Dayton, OH—December 13, 2007—At the Education Law Association's 53rd Annual Conference, held this past November in San Diego, California, the organization elected and announced a new Vice President and three new Board of Directors.

Brad Colwell was elected as the 2008 Vice President and will serve as President in 2010. Dr. Colwell, a professor of education law and department chairman, has been at Southern Illinois University Carbondale since 1996. He earned both his Ph.D. (1996) and a J.D. (1993) from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He teaches classes in Illinois School Law, Professional Negotiations, School Finance, and the Politics of Education. Colwell is co-editor of the national publication, *School Law Reporter*, the primary journal for ELA, and has served on the Association's Board of Directors. He is a member of the Illinois State Bar Association and serves on the Association's Education Law Section Council and was chairperson of the subcommittee for the recodification of the Illinois School Code. In 2006, he was appointed by the Illinois State Board of Education to serve on the Financial Oversight Panel for the Cairo School District. Professor Colwell is active in scholarly research in elementary and secondary education. Professor Colwell also has an active service record in elementary and secondary school districts in Illinois. His consultation services include superintendent searches, collective bargaining, and school board workshops. In addition, he has given over 100 presentations to local school districts, primarily in the area of school law.

Newly elected board members, who will each serve three-year terms, include John W. Borkowski of Hogan & Hartson LLP in South Bend, Indiana; Susan G. Clark of the University of Akron in Akron, Ohio; and Preston Green of Pennsylvania State University in University Park, Pennsylvania.

John W. Borkowski, practices in the area of trial and appellate litigation, with emphasis on education law issues arising under the U.S. Constitution, state constitutions, and federal statutes and regulations. He also actively advises public school districts, universities, and private companies in the education sector about a wide variety of matters. John currently works primarily with Hogan & Hartson's education group, both litigating and advising clients. He has worked extensively on a wide-range of school desegregation, voting rights, and reverse discrimination cases for educational institutions, as well as a variety of litigation matters for other clients.

Susan Clark is a Professor of Educational Administration at the University of Akron and has been Of Counsel with Pepple & Waggoner, Ltd. in Cleveland, Ohio, since November, 2005, a law practice limited to school board representation. Dr. Clark has numerous journal articles and book chapters published in the area of special education and school law including several book chapters in the *Principal's Legal Handbook*, an ELA publication. Additionally, Dr. Clark has served on the Program Planning Committee and Dissertation Award Committee and is a frequent speaker at local, state, and national conferences, including as an invited speaker at the Education Policy Roundtable at Oxford University, Oxford, England.

Preston Green has a joint appointment to teach educational law courses at Penn State's College of Education and Dickinson School of Law. He has also helped to develop Penn State's joint degree program in law and education. Professor Green's research has focused on legal issues surrounding school choice and the impact of the law on minority and disadvantaged students' ability to obtain a quality education. He has co-authored *Charter Schools and the Law: Chartering New Legal Relationships*, with Julie Mead. He is also co-author of *Financing Education Systems*, with Craig Richards and Bruce Baker. He also publishes regularly in law reviews and education journals.

The Education Law Association, formerly NOLPE, is a nonprofit, non-advocacy organization that promotes interest in and understanding of the legal framework of education and the rights of students, parents, school boards and school employees. ELA brings together educational and legal scholars and practitioners to inform and advance educational policy and practice through knowledge of the law. Together, our professional community anticipates trends in educational law and supports scholarly research through the highest value print and electronic publications, conferences, seminars, and professional forums. For information about ELA, visit the ELA website at www.educationlaw.org.