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UCLA School of Law Inaugurates A. Barry Cappello Courtroom

Inaugural events include special sitting of Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals and celebration in honor of Lori and A. Barry Cappello '65

LOS ANGELES, CA, November 2, 2009 – UCLA School of Law inaugurated the A. Barry Cappello Courtroom on Wednesday, October 28, 2009 with a special sitting of the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit and a reception in honor of A. Barry Cappello '65 and his wife Lori for their \$1.25 million gift to endow UCLA Law's trial practice program. In recognition of their generosity, the law school named its newly renovated ceremonial courtroom the A. Barry Cappello Courtroom.

“We are truly thankful for the philanthropic leadership of Barry Cappello, one of the nation's preeminent trial lawyers, and his wife Lori, who made the first seven figure gift to the law school early on in my deanship,” said Dean Michael H. Schill. “The newly renovated Cappello Courtroom will be a great place for our students to learn advocacy skills and a wonderful, state-of-the-art classroom for our faculty. We are honored that Barry and his family were able to join us as we dedicated this beautiful new room, made possible through their generosity.”

Three additional esteemed UCLA School of Law alumni, justices on the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, attended the courtroom dedication after hearing arguments in the room. Chief Judge Alex Kozinski '75, Senior Circuit Judge Dorothy W. Nelson '53 and Circuit Judge Kim McLane Wardlaw '79 held a special sitting at UCLA School of Law where they heard appeals of decisions from the U.S. District Court for the District of Hawaii and the U.S. District Court for the Central District of California.

The A. Barry Cappello Courtroom will serve as UCLA Law's primary courtroom where students compete in mock trials, moot courts and simulated trials, gaining experience arguing in a realistic courtroom environment. In addition, the courtroom provides an excellent location for intimate lectures and faculty, alumni and attorney presentations.

Barry Cappello, who aspired to be a trial lawyer from the age of 12, is recognized as one of the nation's leading trial lawyers and an authority on complex commercial litigation. He is the managing partner of the Santa Barbara, California law firm Cappello & Noël, LLP, recognized as the pioneer in the field of lender liability. During his career spanning more than four decades, he has obtained jury verdicts in the hundreds of millions of dollars for individuals and small businesses harmed by some of the world's largest corporations. Before entering private practice, he served a seven-year tenure as city attorney of Santa Barbara, during which he was the chief

litigator against Union Oil, Mobil, Gulf and Texaco for the massive 1969 Santa Barbara Channel oil spill. The disaster and the ensuing litigation awakened the nation's consciousness to the dangers to our environment and the tragic consequences if not protected.

About UCLA School of Law

Founded in 1949, UCLA School of Law is the youngest major law school in the nation and has established a tradition of innovation in its approach to teaching, research and scholarship. With approximately 100 faculty and 970 students, the school pioneered clinical teaching, is a leader in interdisciplinary research and training and is at the forefront of efforts to link research to its effects on society and the legal profession. For more information, visit <http://www.law.ucla.edu>.