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## Introduction

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## INTRODUCTION

*Judge John J. Farley, III\**

As the turbulent 1960s came to an end and the unsettled 1970s began, the first class entered the Hofstra University School of Law. We eighty-three gamblers, a diverse group in terms of background, age, experience, and education, joined eight charter faculty members in a bet. We met in two sections in two classrooms with a small library downstairs. In September 1971, we were joined by the second class of pioneers, a few more faculty (including one we groomed to become the current president of Hofstra University), and the incessant cacophony of construction all around, above, and below us. In the midst of that chaos and confusion, fifteen of us received letters from Dean Malachy T. Mahon informing us that, based on our first year grades and, I suspect, some sort of inspiration, divine or un-, we had been nominated by the administration and faculty for membership in the *Hofstra Law Review*. Great! Swell! What *Law Review*?

At a faculty meeting we were asked to come back with a plan for the establishment of the *Hofstra Law Review*, both the organization and the publication. We were told that, if our proposed form of governance, selection process for future classes, and outline of a publication were approved, we would receive a budget and the support of the faculty. Associate Dean Judith T. Younger was assigned to be our advisor, or as we fondly came to think of her, our resident martinet. We went to work—and, as they say—the rest is history.

On the second printed page of Volume 1 of the *Hofstra Law Review* there is a box encasing the words “Cite as 1 Hofstra L. Rev.” We chose the full, unabbreviated name of Hofstra University and the imperative form consciously and with malice aforethought. We had absolutely no idea whether anybody would follow our command but, as a brand new law review produced by a brand new school of law, we wanted to take the opportunity to make a birth announcement to the bench, the bar, and the entire legal community. Today, as I look back from the perspective

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\* First Editor-in-Chief of the *Hofstra Law Review* and a founding judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims.

of four decades, the hopes, the enthusiasm—indeed, the chutzpah—embodied in that command still remain clearly etched in my mind.

Our hopes have been realized for the form of citation stuck, the Hofstra University School of Law is firmly established as one of the nation's leading law schools, and there followed a Volume 2, and then a Volume 3 . . . and today, *mirabile dictu*, you hold in your hands Volume 40 of the *Hofstra Law Review*. Forty boards of editors, forty sets of managing editors, and forty staffs have all labored toward the common goal of serving the law by making the *Hofstra Law Review* a publication recognized for its accuracy, authority, and originality. The law grows through original thought and opinion, surveys of the past and the present which serve as building blocks for the future, and informed discussion and controversy, all of which have been presented between the covers of the forty volumes of the *Hofstra Law Review*.

I applaud the board members, managing editors, and staff of today's *Hofstra Law Review* on the publication of this fortieth anniversary issue, and I extend my heartfelt appreciation to those hundreds of Hofstra Law students who carried on and improved upon that which a small group of us began some forty years ago. And I congratulate all who have in any way contributed to the establishment and the growth of the success story that is the *Hofstra Law Review*.