



# HARVARD LAW SCHOOL

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DAVID B. WILKINS  
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*Faculty Director, Center on the Legal Profession*

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

On behalf of the Harvard Law School Center on the Legal Profession and our Host Committee—Kenneth C. Frazier (Chairman of Health Assurance Initiatives, General Catalyst; former Chairman and CEO, Merck), Brad S. Karp (Chairman, Paul, Weiss), and Tracey Brady Yurko (Chief Legal Officer and Corporate Secretary, Bridgewater Associates)—I am pleased to invite you to join a select group of leaders from across the legal profession and around the world for a Gala Dinner celebrating the Center’s 40th Anniversary on Tuesday, May 23, 2023 at the New-York Historical Society & Museum. This invitation-only event, Celebrating our History—Building our Future, will feature a Keynote from our 2023 Award for Global Leadership Honoree Dana Remus, former White House Counsel to President Biden.

Ms. Remus’s career exemplifies the important changes in the legal profession that the Center studies and the critical role that lawyers play in helping to solve the world’s most important problems. Since graduating law school, Ms. Remus has been a Supreme Court clerk, an associate at Cravath, Swaine & Moore, and a tenured professor at the University of North Carolina Law School, where she wrote one of the most influential articles on the implications of AI on the practice of law. Ms. Remus then left the academy to serve as White House Deputy Counsel on Ethics during the Obama Administration and subsequently General Counsel to the Obama Foundation and the personal office of President and Mrs. Obama. Ms. Remus then returned to government to serve as President Biden’s first White House Counsel, where among her many accomplishments, she shepherded the historic confirmation process for Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson. She is currently a partner at Covington & Burling LLP.

During my time leading the Center on the Legal Profession—this year will also mark my 30th Anniversary as Faculty Director—the Center has been at the forefront of studying the forces that have helped shape Ms. Remus’s journey through the legal profession—forces such as diversity and inclusion, changes in legal education, technology and disruptive innovation, ethics and professionalism, globalization, the role of general counsel, and much more. As we look to the future, the challenges facing the legal profession will be even more substantial. How can we create effective hybrid workplaces that maximize the potential of the full range of diverse talent? What are the best methods for helping lawyers to work with technology while understanding its limitations? Will we develop innovative ways to close the still yawning access to justice gap and to protect our critical but increasingly vulnerable democratic institutions and the rule of law? How can we best train lawyers to collaborate with leaders in government, business, and civil society to develop solutions to problems such as sustainability, cyber security, and inequality? To make real progress on these issues, the kind of collaboration among academics, practitioners, and students that the Center exemplifies will be more important than ever.

I hope you will be able to join this special group of leaders on Tuesday, May 23, 2023 in NYC as we gather to honor Ms. Remus, celebrate all that the Center has achieved, and rededicate ourselves to the work ahead.

Best regards,

David B. Wilkins