

*Thomas Jefferson School of Law  
requests the honor of your presence  
at the dedication of  
The Honorable Earl B. Gilliam Moot Courtroom  
five thirty to seven thirty  
on the evening of  
Friday, November seventeenth  
Nineteen hundred and ninety-five  
2121 San Diego Avenue*

*Please RSVP to 297-9700  
no later than Tuesday, November fourteenth*

*Formerly Western State University College of Law San Diego  
Established 1969*



THOMAS JEFFERSON  
SCHOOL OF LAW

OFFICE *of the* DEAN

1155 Island Avenue, San Diego, CA 92101



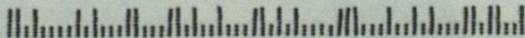
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Rebecca Prater  
2121 Paradise Street  
San Diego, CA 92114

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# EARL B. GILLIAM MOOT COURTROOM

## DEDICATION CEREMONY

Thomas Jefferson School of Law  
Wednesday, June 22, 2011 5:00 – 7:00 P.M.

Welcome & Acknowledgments

**Marvin Mizell**

*President-Elect, San Diego County Bar Association*

**Rudy Hasl**

*President and Dean, Thomas Jefferson School of Law*

## HONORED GUEST SPEAKERS

**Dennis Archer**

*First African American President of the American Bar Association,  
Former Mayor of Detroit and  
Former Justice of the Michigan Supreme Court*

**Valoree Wortham**

*TJSL Alumna and President of the Earl B. Gilliam Bar Association*

**Dennis Dawson**

*Deputy Attorney General and Founding  
Member of the Earl B. Gilliam Bar Association*

**A. Thomas Golden**

*Professor of Law, Thomas Jefferson School of Law*

Closing Remarks

**Marvin Mizell**

*Please join us on the Eighth Floor Terrace  
for hors d'oeuvres and refreshments.*



## *The Honorable Earl B. Gilliam*



On November 17, 1995, Thomas Jefferson School of Law proudly dedicated The Honorable Earl B. Gilliam Moot Courtroom in the Law Library Building at the school's Old Town campus on San Diego Avenue. Surrounded by colleagues, friends and former students, Judge Gilliam made his final visit to the law school as guest of honor at the ceremony.

Today, we once again celebrate and acknowledge his valued service and immeasurable contributions to our law school and to the legal profession with the dedication in his name of the moot courtroom at our new East Village campus.

Judge Gilliam's commitment to legal education and the training of law students in trial practice skills remained steadfast during the 24 years he taught at our law school. He became an adjunct professor in 1969, the year the school opened as Western State University College of Law's San Diego campus. With a combined background in business administration, economics, civil and criminal law, and trial practice, Judge Gilliam proved to be an inspirational and devoted instructor as well as a role model and mentor.

His many years of distinguished public service began in 1957 when he was admitted to the California Bar and appointed Deputy District Attorney for the County of San Diego. In 1961, he started his own general law practice. Two years later, he was appointed to the Municipal Court, becoming the first African American to sit on the San Diego bench. He was elected Presiding Judge in 1971. California Governor Jerry Brown elevated Judge Gilliam to the Superior Court in 1975 and, five years later, President Jimmy Carter appointed him to serve on the United States District Court for the Southern District of California. He remained a member of the Federal bench until his death in January 2001. Thomas Jefferson School of Law is grateful to be able to display personal mementos of his legal career, graciously donated by his wife, attorney Rebecca Prater.

Judge Gilliam's distinguished career has been acknowledged widely. He earned the prestigious San Diego Trial Lawyers Association's Trial Judge of the Year award in 1981. In 1982, San Diego's African American lawyers organization honored him by changing its name to the Earl B. Gilliam Bar Association. He was named Legal Professional of the Year in 1994 by the City Club and Chamber of Commerce. In 1995, Judge Gilliam received the NAACP's Civil Rights Pioneer Award, followed by the Wiley A. Branton Award from the National Bar Association in 1997 and, in 1998, the Judicial Pioneer Award from the California Association of Black Lawyers.