



Dear Colleague:

As NACDL's President and on behalf of the Foundation for Criminal Justice, I cordially invite you to attend NACDL's 50th Anniversary Gala Dinner and Celebration in New York Friday, May 2, 2008 at Cipriani Wall Street. The event will include a cocktail reception, a gourmet dinner, an outstanding band, dancing and a program that will recognize that the mission of the criminal defense bar is of singular importance in a democratic society.

This promises to be an extraordinary event at one of New York's most glamorous and historic venues. Cipriani Wall Street is a treasured landmark that was originally the home of the Merchants Exchange, designed by architect Isaiah Rogers and constructed from 1836 to 1842. It is renowned for its magnificent dome and 18 massive Ionic columns, each standing 38 feet high and carved from a single solid block of granite weighing 45 tons. The venue is just east of Federal Hall, the nation's first capitol building and the location where the First Congress adopted the Bill of Rights.

It is fitting that NACDL, the nation's preeminent organization advancing the mission of the nation's criminal defense lawyers, should gather at such an historic location to mark our golden anniversary. From the handful of lawyers that gathered in Chicago in 1958 to found the association, NACDL has grown into a major national institution with 12,500 members dedicated to steadfastly safeguarding our fundamental constitutional rights on a daily basis in every courthouse in the country. This celebration is an opportunity to commemorate and acknowledge our many organizational accomplishments and our proud record of seeking due process and access to justice for all.

The event is sponsored by NACDL's related organization, the Foundation for Criminal Justice (FCJ), which will allocate the proceeds to support NACDL's ambitious criminal justice reform program.

Space is limited, so please RSVP today!

Tickets can be purchased individually or by the table. For those who are cost conscious, please note that the other social event in connection with the New York meeting, a cocktail reception at the New York County Lawyers' Association, another landmark building in lower Manhattan, is free for all seminar registrants complements of our local affiliates: The New York State Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, The New York Criminal Bar Association, The New York Criminal Courts Bar Association of Nassau County, The Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers of New Jersey, and The Connecticut Criminal Defense Lawyers Association. Sponsorship for public defenders and other financially eligible members attending the New York seminar is available for attendance at the Gala. Please contact Viviana Sejas at (202) 872-8600 x232 or email viviana@nacdl.org for further details.

If you have any questions about the event or would like more information on the various ways you can contribute or sponsor a portion of the event, please contact James Bergmann at (202) 872-8600 x229 or email james@nacdl.org.

I hope to see you in New York!

Regards,
Carmen Hernandez
President, NACDL

[Reserve Now!](#)