

Emory Law Honors 2008 Distinguished Alumni

by Liz Chilla

John M. Dowd 65L, Susan Hoy 74L, and Teri Plummer McClure 88L were honored at the 2008 Distinguished Alumni Awards Ceremony in November

“All will agree the three alumni we have identified are exemplars of lives well lived in our profession of service,” said Dean David F. Partlett. “We are proud to honor John, Susan, and Teri for their commitment to the legal community and their service to the law school.”

Established in 1985, the Emory Law Distinguished Alumni Award recognizes outstanding alumni who achieve distinction in legal practice, teaching, research, or public administration, and who demonstrate distinguished service to Emory Law, the Emory Law Alumni Association, or Emory University. The recipients’ photos and biographies were added to the Emory Law Hall of Distinguished Alumni on the fifth floor of Gambrell Hall.

“They may have entered law school in three different decades,” said Emory Law Alumni Association President Halli Cohn 90L, “but they all shared the same Emory community and the common purpose to define the law school for its future.”

Distinguished Alumni Award Nominations

Nominations for the Distinguished Alumni Award are accepted throughout the year from Emory Law alumni and members of the community. Nominations are reviewed by the Emory Law Alumni Association based on the nominees’ credentials and record of service to the legal profession. The association’s executive committee selects the recipients. For information on nominating someone, contact Ethan Rosenzweig, director of alumni relations, at erosenz@emory.edu or 404.727.6857.

John M. Dowd 65L heads the criminal litigation group of Akin Gump Strauss Hauer and Feld in Washington, D.C., focusing on complex civil and criminal cases. Widely known for his work as special counsel to three Major League Baseball commissioners, he led the highly publicized investigation of Pete Rose, a team manager, and others, resulting in the “Dowd Report.” Dowd also represented Monica Goodling before Congress in the



firing of nine U.S. attorneys, Sen. John McCain during the Senate’s Keating Five Hearings, and former Governor Fife Symington of Arizona in a high-profile criminal trial.

Before entering private practice, Dowd was a trial attorney in the U.S. Department of Justice’s Tax and Criminal divisions and chief of an organized crime strike force. He is listed in *Who’s Who in America* and has been recognized for more than 10 years in *The Best Lawyers in America*.

Dowd graduated cum laude from St. Bernard College. After Emory Law, he was a captain in the U.S. Marine Corps and a member of the Judge Advocate General Corps. He previously served as general counsel on the board of trustees of the Marine Corps University Foundation. Dowd serves on the board of the Injured Marine Semper Fi Fund and is a founder of the National Museum of the Marine Corps.

Susan Hoy 74L is assistant general counsel and assistant vice president for the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta. She began her practice with the Atlanta law firm of Alston, Miller, and Gaines (now Alston & Bird) and joined the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta in 1986. Hoy focuses on



litigation and real estate, representing the Federal Reserve Bank in its acquisition of property for its Midtown Atlanta headquarters and its construction, which opened in 2001.

Hoy is a 2002 graduate of Leadership Midtown. Since 2004, she has served on the board of trustees for the Center for the Visually Impaired, including now as vice chair. An avid international traveler, Hoy is active in her church and is a member of the board of Galaxy Music Theatre, a neighborhood music theater company in Decatur, Georgia.

A native of Marshall, Missouri, Hoy received her bachelor's from University of Missouri. She remains a dedicated Emory alumna, having served as chair of the Emory Law School Fund and a mentor in Emory Law's Alumni Mentor Program.

Teri Plummer McClure 88L is senior vice president and general counsel of United Parcel Service, overseeing the company's legal, compliance, and public affairs activities worldwide. McClure, who began her career with UPS in 1995 as an employment counsel, is the first woman and the first African-American senior vice president in the company's legal department.

McClure serves on the boards of the UPS Foundation, the Annie E. Casey Foundation, Junior Achievement Worldwide, Children's Healthcare of Atlanta, the Atlanta Legal Aid Society, and the Lawyer's Committee for Civil Rights. She is co-chair of the Georgia Supreme Court Committee on Civil Justice.



Originally from Kansas City, Kansas, McClure earned her bachelor's from Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri. While at Emory Law, McClure was involved in Moot Court Society and the Black Law Students Association (BLSA). She delivered the keynote address at Emory BLSA's 25th anniversary scholarship banquet and was a featured speaker at Emory Law's "No More Early Exits" conference, which addressed women in the legal field.

Alumni Award Winners Join Forces To Help Injured Soldiers and Families

At the Distinguished Alumni Awards Reception, recipients John M. Dowd 65L, Teri Plummer McClure 88L, and Susan Hoy 74L bonded.

That bond became collaboration when Dowd and McClure joined forces to benefit the Injured Marine Semper Fi Fund, www.semperfund.org.

Shortly after Thanksgiving, board member Dowd noticed the fund spent about \$800,000 a month on express mail charges to ensure injured Marines and soldiers could access money for immediate needs.

Founded in 2004 to aid injured soldiers and their families with travel, home, or medical expenses, the fund works to keep its administrative costs below 5 percent.

"I called the director of one express mail company—a former Marine—to see if he could help, Dowd said. "He could not, so I called this magnificent lady at UPS to see if she could."

Within hours, McClure contacted the appropriate UPS officials to work a rate deal for the fund.

"I knew if we could do something, we would," said McClure, who is senior vice president and general counsel for UPS. "The fact that the money goes immediately to the families for immediate care struck a cord with us."

The new significantly lower rate cuts costs, said Karen Guenther, founder and executive director. "It will help us save money so we can apply it to the wounded."

Dowd, a former Marine, said soldiers with catastrophic injuries recover twice as fast with their family members present. In the last four years, the Semper Fi Fund has given more than \$26 million through 11,000-plus grants to injured soldiers.