

For Immediate Release
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“Wanda M. Akin Inducted into the Atherton High School Hall of Fame”

Louisville, Kentucky – The Atherton High School Alumni Association is inducting Wanda M. Akin as a member of the Atherton Hall of Fame. The 5th Annual Atherton High School Hall of Fame Banquet will be held on Thursday, February 23, 2006 at the Galt House Hotel. Akin, Class of 1975, was selected from a long list of distinguished, fellow graduates and faculty involved in academics, athletics, clubs and organizations.

After graduating from Atherton with distinction as Sr. Class Treasurer, Captain of Varsity Cheerleading Squad, Wanda went to the University of Louisville as a Scholarship Cheerleader where in 1979 she obtained her B.A. in Political Science and then went to the Seton Hall University School of Law as a Centennial Scholarship Recipient where she obtained her Juris Doctorate degree in 1982. She was a Law Clerk to a distinguished judge in New Jersey’s Appellate Division for a year after graduation and then went on to become the first African American Associate at Shanley & Fisher, PC, then one of New Jersey’s oldest, largest and most distinguished law firms. Wanda was formerly the Managing Attorney for Chubb & Son, Inc.’s, New Jersey House Counsel law firm, Scanlon & Akin, and a Senior Trial Attorney and Of Counsel to Podvey, Sachs, Meanor, Catenacci, Hildner & Coccoziello from November 1994 through January 1998. Ms. Akin now maintains her solo practice known as **Wanda M. Akin, Attorney at Law** in Newark, NJ and is an Adjunct Professor at Seton Hall University School of Law and at Seton Hall University’s John C. Whitehead School of Diplomacy And International Relations.

Akin has over 22 years of experience as a trial lawyer in a wide variety of types of cases including criminal defense (in US and International Courts), complex product liability, property claims, construction accident litigation, catastrophic personal injury, employment/labor, trademark and copyright, and other complex litigation (Representing three New Jersey Municipalities and their respective Police Departments and personnel in complex employment and personal injury litigation). She has been trial counsel in numerous cases in New Jersey State Courts and Federal Courts, New York State and Federal Courts, Maryland State Courts, and in many other Federal Court actions throughout the United States. She served as co-counsel, with her husband, Raymond M. Brown, to an Accused at the **UN backed Special Court for Sierra Leone in West Africa.**

She is a member of the New Jersey Supreme Court’s Committee on the Rules of Evidence, for 18 years was a Trustee of the Trial Attorneys of New Jersey, formerly a Master in the Seton Hall Law School Alumni Association Inn of Court and served as a Presidential Appointee to the New Jersey State Bar Association’s Committee on Judicial Administration. In 1999 she served as the **President of the Seton Hall Law School Alumni Association.**

Ms. Akin co-taught with Raymond M. Brown International Criminal Law in the **Seton Hall Law/American University In Cairo summer program in Cairo, Egypt** during the summers of 1998, ‘99 and ‘00 and International Criminal Law (Winter/Spring 2000, 2002, 2003, 2004 and 2005) and Peacemaking and Peacekeeping In Contemporary World (Winter/Spring 2005) at the **Seton Hall University John C. Whitehead School of Diplomacy And International Relations.** She teaches **Criminal Trial Practice at Seton Hall Law School** and has lectured and presented widely in the areas of trial advocacy, international law, media and persuasion, publishing/literary ventures and criminal trial preparation to lawyers, students, bar groups and to a wide variety of businesses and other citizens on various topics.

Ms. Akin is also a periodic guest commentator on **Court TV, MS-NBC, Inside The Law,**(PBS) FOX News Channel’s **In Depth** and **Fox On Family,** CNBC’s **Rivera Live,** CNN’s **Talk Back Live,** NJN (New Jersey Network); UPN 9 News and was **CN8 It’s Your Call’s** (Comcast) Legal, Media and Political Observer For **CN8 It’s Your Call.** Wanda made numerous appearances on the matter

of the Impeachment of President Clinton. She was MS-NBC's political commentator during the 2000 Republican and Democratic National Conventions and the 2000 Presidential Election. Wanda is also counsel to three publishing houses as well as authors and writers in literary matters. She has appeared on *TODAY*, *Good Morning America*, *Larry King Live*, *Entertainment Tonight* and **NewsChannel 4** with respect to cases and with clients on literary matters.

Last, Ms. Akin is the founding agent of the **Akin & Randolph Agency** for representation of authors, artists and athletes. The Agency represents numerous published authors and has provided consultation to professional athletes, coaches and organizations with respect to communications, employment and motivational issues.

To attend this significant event, contact Nick Gardner (502) 568-4267 or Sandy Callahan (502) 491-8872. Individual tickets are \$36.00 and tables of eight (8) are \$288.00. The Atherton Alumni Association and the Hall of Fame, both 501-c3 charities, are associated with and endorsed by Atherton High School. All proceeds from this charity benefit Atherton High School.

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