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The Honorable John Roberts
The Supreme Court of the United States
One First Street, N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20543

Dear Chief Justice Roberts:

I hope this letter finds you well and enjoying the beginning of an exciting new term. I would like to invite you to participate in a very special celebration of the University of Michigan Law School's history and future in the fall of 2009.

Fall of 2009 marks the beginning of the Law School's 150th anniversary. Whether through the various and wonderful contributions of the School's graduates or through the scholarship and service of its faculty, the Law School has left an important mark on the country's, and indeed the world's, legal and political landscapes. Our sesquicentennial year feels like an appropriate time to reflect on our traditions and celebrate our accomplishments.

Fall of 2009 will also likely bring a groundbreaking ceremony for the first significant new academic building to be added to our beautiful Gothic Law Quadrangle since the Depression. This will offer the perfect opportunity for us to rededicate ourselves to providing an unsurpassed legal education and to reinvigorate our contributions to law and society in the upcoming century.

I recognize that you receive many more invitations to visit law schools than you can possibly accept, but I daresay that Michigan Law can offer you something no other law school can: a seat at midfield in the Big House! Only at this great law school can you take a Saturday afternoon off, walk down the street, and sing Hail to the Victors with 110,000 of your new best friends as you (I hope?) cheer on one of the best college football teams in the nation.

Given this hat trick of opportunities, I would like to invite you to come visit the University of Michigan Law School, spend some informal time with our students, help us celebrate our anniversary and groundbreaking, and root for the Maize and Blue. We could be very flexible with respect to the nature of your actual participation in these various activities. I would envision at some point a public address as part of the festivities – the presentation could of course be as substantive and formal as you would like, but it also would be perfectly fine if you would prefer to talk less formally about the legal profession, or the contribution of law schools,

or something else appropriately tied to a ceremonial occasion rather than to a substantive legal conference. With respect to students, you could teach or visit one or more courses, and perhaps host an informal Q&A session where again you could either present something of substance or not, as you prefer. And perhaps we'd arrange a lunch or coffee session where you could have an informal opportunity to chat with our faculty. Given the many demands on your time to write formal speeches and the like, I'd like to be clear that we'd be very pleased with a set of informal occasions for interaction that would require a minimum level of advanced preparation.

At the moment, we are tentatively thinking about the timeframe of September 24-26 for the sesquicentennial and (hopefully) groundbreaking celebrations, with a home football game against Indiana scheduled for that Saturday the 26th. Another possibility might be September 10-12, leading up to the Notre Dame game. Both sets of dates have the virtue of preceding the beginning of the Court's term. But if these dates won't work, we would be pleased to work around your schedule; we might have limited options with respect to the sesquicentennial celebration, but we can be quite flexible with respect to the groundbreaking ceremony, and of course our students and faculty would cherish the opportunity to meet you at any point during the academic calendar.

We would pay your travel expenses, as well as those of appropriate travel companions (family, clerks, marshals), and we would offer a \$15,000 honorarium as well.

I hope that this invitation proves attractive to you and that your busy schedule allows for your participation.

All best wishes, and I look forward to your reply.

Sincerely,



Evan H. Caminker
Dean