

## **Justice Initiatives Announces Changes to its Board of Directors**

**(Charlotte, NC) September 23, 2013** - After many years of dedicated service, Dennis Stone, former President of Charlotte School of Law, has resigned from the Justice Initiatives (JI) Board of Directors. JI Board Chair, Tom Myrick, a trial attorney with Moore & Van Allen, stated “we will certainly miss the energy and innovative thinking that President Stone brought to the Board. It has been a true pleasure to work with him and we wish him well in his new role as President of Florida Coastal School of Law.”

Dean Daniel F. Piar has recently accepted a position on the JI Board of Directors. Daniel F. Piar is Professor of Law and an Associate Dean at the Charlotte School of Law. He started law practice as an associate and then a partner at Kilpatrick Stockton LLP in Atlanta, where he litigated labor and employment matters for a wide range of clients. He next worked in Athens, Georgia as an Assistant District Attorney, prosecuting state felony cases. He began his academic career at Atlanta’s John Marshall Law School, where he served as Professor of Law and Associate Dean for Scholarship before moving to Charlotte. He joined the CharlotteLaw faculty as the Associate Dean for Faculty Development and Teaching, followed by a term as Associate Dean for Academics. He currently serves as Associate Dean for Practice-Ready Education, coordinating clinics, internships, externships, pro bono, and other opportunities for students to gain practical experience in preparation for the practice of law. His academic interests include constitutional law, jurisprudence, and civil procedure. His teaching has been recognized with school-wide awards, while his legal scholarship has appeared in a number of national law reviews and other venues. His administrative experience includes budgeting, operations, programming and strategic planning. He is a graduate of Harvard College and the Yale Law School.

Chairman Myrick said: “I am looking forward to working with Dean Piar and continuing the valued relationship with CharlotteLaw. There is a clear nexus between CharlotteLaw and JI. Both are interested in advancing the rule of law and educating others on the critical role it plays under our constitutional democracy. CharlotteLaw students are well positioned to help JI further the public’s understanding and appreciation for such as they graduate and enter the workforce.” Chairman Myrick also stated that “Dan’s enthusiasm and passion for the administration of justice subject are catching. Working with him toward achieving JI goals will be a pleasure.”

Justice Initiatives, Inc. was formed in 2004 by a group of civic leaders, lawyers, business owners and concerned citizens in North Carolina who understand the rule of law is the bedrock of our civilized society, that a healthy court system is critical to safeguarding this foundation and that the effective and efficient administration of justice is essential to a strong, prosperous and vibrant community.

We develop programming to address the deficits in the public’s understanding and appreciation for the rule of law and the role of courts in our republican form of government. We demonstrate the interconnectedness between each individual’s and each community’s quality of life and the courts’ ability to fairly adjudicate legal rights. We seek to ensure that the judicial branch receives the funding it needs to provide timely access to justice for all and defend against policies that undermine the independence, fairness, or integrity of the courts. We raise money to use as seed funding to initiate smarter and innovative judicial programs and services that build public trust and confidence in our courts and we study new ideas about justice and our courts with our academic partners.

To learn more please visit [www.justiceinitiatives.org](http://www.justiceinitiatives.org) or email [administration@justiceinitiatives.org](mailto:administration@justiceinitiatives.org).