

# CHARLESTON

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As you are well aware, for some time now, but which only recently became public, the founders of the Charleston School of Law have been working on a plan for the orderly succession of ownership. We are announcing today that we have signed an agreement expressing our intent to transfer ownership to InfiLaw Systems, which would become effective if approved by the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education (CHE) and the American Bar Association.

We made this decision because a majority of owners have expressed a desire to pull back and retire. We regret the delay in making this announcement, but we had held back based on advice we received from our lawyers and ABA consultants. We wish this whole situation had been handled differently and that we could have brought this to your attention more smoothly. We are sorry for that because we know that the future of the School means a great deal to you as alumni as well as the students and all members of the community. It means a great deal to us as well.

As we have stated previously, this transaction is part of a necessary succession plan that ensures that the Charleston School of Law will be viable and thrive over the long term.

We have not reached this decision in haste and in fact, have been working for quite a while to come up with a viable succession plan. We know that there has been speculation that CSOL should be sold to a private or public institution. We have not been approached at all by any public institution interested in buying our interests and private institutions that expressed an interest elected not to engage in substantive discussions. We also looked at other options, such as becoming a non-profit institution and the sale to a current owner. None of these options, in the end, would have done as much to protect the interests of the School of Law for the foreseeable future as the contract with InfiLaw. Without such an agreement, the long-term future of the law school might be in jeopardy.

It is important to understand that one of the reasons we chose to move forward with InfiLaw is because they are committed to maintaining the best of the Charleston School of Law, including our culture and vision, while at the same time bringing its strengths, including investment in the School in terms of systems, programs, and infrastructure, as well as a demonstrated commitment to public service.

However, because we have CSOL's best interests at heart, we are willing to consider well thought out and financially responsible alternative proposals that would accomplish our objective, which is why we have set up a mechanism for considering serious proposals. Accredited South Carolina non-profit colleges and universities and local Charleston community non-profit entities with a serious interest, a comprehensive proposal and the financial strength to execute it, should get in touch with our lawyer, Edward Hughes at Nexsen Pruet, LLC, 400 Main Street Office Campus, Suite 100A, Hilton Head Island, SC 29925-3526; (843) 689-6277; [ehughes@nexsenpruet.com](mailto:ehughes@nexsenpruet.com), to obtain an application. Completed applications must be received by October 1, 2013, as we must move forward with the process of securing approval from CHE and accreditation from the ABA, a process that is likely to take many months.

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We appreciate your ongoing commitment to the CSOL community and all that you do for our students. We thank you for that.

We plan to hold a series of meetings at CSOL today to respond to questions. We would like to invite alumni to come to a presentation and question and answer session today from 6:30-7:15 p.m in the Courtroom so we can address your concerns as well.

We look forward to seeing you this afternoon.



Robert S. Carr

George C. Kosko