I.B.2 - CUNY SCHOOL OF LAW - HONORARY DEGREES TO BE AWARDED AT THE COLLEGE’S ANNUAL COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY ON MAY 17, 2013

RESOLVED, that the CUNY School of Law award Lucas Guttentag, JD, and Beth Richie, Ph.D., the degree of Doctor of Laws, honoris causa, at the Law School’s commencement ceremony on May 17, 2013.

EXPLANATION: Lucas Guttentag is Senior Counsel for the American Civil Liberties Union’s Immigrants’ Rights Project and teaches at Yale Law School. He has argued important constitutional cases involving immigrants before the Supreme Court and various United States Courts of Appeals. He is in the forefront of the fight against laws such as Arizona’s SB 1070 and anti-immigrant laws in states including Georgia and Alabama.

EXPLANATION: Beth Richie is Professor of Criminal Justice and Gender and Women’s Studies at the University of Illinois at Chicago and a graduate of the CUNY Graduate and University Center, where she received her Ph.D. in sociology in 1992. Currently, Dr. Richie is leading a multi-million dollar research project, sponsored by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, researching women and youth issues at Rikers Island Correctional Facility. She was the recipient of three major awards: the National Advocacy Award by the Department of Health and Health and Human Services, Office of Violence Prevention; the Audre Lorde Legacy Award of the Union Institute stemming from her work with the National Network for Women in Prison; and the Visionary Award of the Violence Intervention Project.
CUNY School of Law 2013
Nominations for Honorary Degrees
Statement for Lucas Guttentag

CUNY School of Law nominates Lucas Guttentag for an Honorary Degree to be awarded at our May 17, 2013 graduation ceremony. Lucas Guttentag has been selected by our faculty for this honor because his work in the area of immigration rights is an exemplar of the kind of legal work that we would like our students to aspire to. Consistent with our motto: Law in the Service of Human Needs, he has dedicated his legal career to the defense of immigrant rights.

Lucas Guttentag was the founding national director of the Immigrants' Rights Project of the American Civil Liberties Union Foundation from 1985-2011. He is now Senior Counsel to the Project and teaching at Yale Law School, where he is the Robina Foundation Distinguished Senior Fellow in Residence. He began directing the ACLU’s immigration work in 1985, founded the Immigrants' Rights Project in New York at the ACLU’s National Headquarters and opened the Project’s second office in California in 1996. Under his direction, the IRP grew into the nation’s premiere litigation and advocacy program dedicated to advancing the constitutional and civil rights of immigrants.

Guttentag is a Fellow of the American Bar Foundation, was named a Human Rights Hero by the American Bar Association's Human Rights journal (2001), recognized as one of the country's leading immigration advocates of the last twenty-five years by the National Immigration Forum in Washington, DC (2007), named among California's top 100 lawyers (2007, 2008) and as California Lawyer of the Year for Appellate Law (2002), received the annual outstanding litigation award from the American Immigration Lawyers Association (2002, 1997, 1991, 1990), honored for his contributions to immigration law by the National Lawyers Guild (1998, 1991), and recognized for achievements in civil rights, human rights and immigrants' rights by Chinese for Affirmative Action, the Immigrant Legal Resources Center, the Central American Refugee Center and other national and community-based organizations.

Mr. Guttentag designed and led the ACLU's five-year nationwide legal strategy to challenge the jurisdiction-stripping provisions in the 1996 immigration law and the Justice Department’s retroactive elimination of immigration waivers. He argued INS v. St. Cyr, 533 U.S. 289 (2001), and Calcano-Martinez v. INS, 533 U.S. 348 (2001), in the Supreme Court, which found that immigrants were entitled to habeas corpus proceedings to challenge their removal and which rejected the retroactive elimination of waiver eligibility. Other significant cases in which he served as lead or co-lead counsel include class action litigation challenging the indefinite detention of Haitian refugees at Guantanamo Naval Base, Haitian Centers Council v. McNary, 823 F.Supp. 1028 (E.D.N.Y. 1993); a nationwide class action settlement providing new asylum

Mr. Guttentag was approved by the CUNY School of Law faculty for an honorary degree at a faculty meeting in 2008.
CUNY School of Law 2013
Nomination for Honorary Degree
Statement for Beth Richie

CUNY School of Law nominates Beth Richie for an Honorary Degree to be awarded at our May 17, 2013 graduation ceremony. Dr. Richie has been selected for this honor by our faculty because her work on the ways that race/ethnicity and social position affect women's experience of violence, focusing on the experiences of African American battered women and sexual assault survivors, has made this nearly invisible population visible. Her scholarly and activist work in the area is consistent with the values of CUNY School of Law of shining a light on the social problems in the world and advocating for underrepresented populations.

Beth Richie is professor of Criminal Justice and Gender and Women’s Studies in the Department of Criminal Justice at the University of Illinois at Chicago. She received her Ph.D. in Sociology from the CUNY Graduate School and University Center in 1992.

Beth Richie is engaged in several research projects designed to explore the relationship between violence against women in low-income African American communities and violence. The specific focus of one study is girls who are both violent and perpetrators of violence. Another project is looking at the factors that influence recidivism and re-arrest rates for women and young people being released from a large urban jail. A third project is concerned with the public policy and social factors that lead to the rise in incarceration rates of women and conditions of confinement once they are sentenced. Currently, Dr. Richie is leading a multi-million dollar research project, sponsored by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, researching women and youth issues at Rikers Island Correctional Facility. She was the recipient of three major awards: the National Advocacy Award by the Department of Health and Health and Human Services, Office of Violence Prevention; the Audre Lorde Legacy Award of the Union Institute stemming from her work with the National Network for Women in Prison; and the Visionary Award of the Violence Intervention Project. She is also the author of numerous publications.

Dr. Richie was approved by the CUNY School of Law faculty for an honorary degree at a faculty meeting in 2010.