

News Release

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Legendary Lawyer Michael Tiger to Appear at TJSL

Will Speak on Worker's Rights and Teach Cross-Examination Skills

SAN DIEGO - Michael E. Tigar, who is considered to be one of America's greatest lawyers, will make two presentations at Thomas Jefferson School of Law on Tuesday, October 23, one of which is a crossexamination skills training session from 3 to 5 p.m. in the Moot Courtroom. Tigar, who is Emeritus Professor at Washington College of Law and at Duke Law School, will speak earlier in the day to the TJSL community about "Worker Rights Under Attack: Outsourcing and Globalization" in Room 323 from 11:30 a.m. -12:50 p.m.

"Michael Tigar is one of the most prominent criminal defense attorneys in the United States," said TJSL Professor Marjorie Cohn. "A brilliant speaker, Professor Tigar's work encompasses both incisive legal-political analysis and practice strategies for lawyers. This is a great opportunity to learn from a legal legend."

Professor Tigar has recently worked with labor and community organizations who are seeking a new set of legal protections for worker rights, nationally and globally. In this struggle many of the same themes can be seen that dominate discourse about transnational standards of accountability in other areas – environmental protection, financial fraud, and violation of human rights norms. As a new generation of lawyers prepares for practice, the "new" labor law provides them tools and opportunities.

In the past twenty years, the traditional legal analysis of worker rights has been altered. Labor law, as traditionally understood, is now transnational. Militant unions have worked to organize low wage and vulnerable workers in the United States. Powerful public and private forces, including major multinational corporations, have resisted these campaigns in four ways:

- outsourcing jobs within the United States,
- globalization sending jobs to foreign countries where worker rights are fragile
- legislation to curtail or eliminate worker rights
- litigation attacks on union organizational campaigns

"Michael Tigar is an incredible speaker and an inspirational attorney," said TJSL Professor Meera Deo. "Faculty, students, alumni, and other local attorneys can all learn so much from his experience. We are fortunate to have him return to TJSL."

The TJSL Center for Law and Social Justice, the TJSL Faculty Colloquium Committee, the National Lawyers Guild-TJSL chapter, and the National Lawyers Guild-San Diego chapter are co-sponsoring these events, which are open to TJSL students, alumni, faculty and staff.

The cross examination skills training is also open to local attorneys and two hours of MCLE credit is available. TO RSVP for the training, please contact: dgehlken@tjsl.edu.

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