

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Shakespeare and the Law tackles politics and race in
President Barack Obama's America**

Monday, May 4 performance features staged reading of Othello, discussion

BOSTON, April 9 -- Ralph Boyd, a former Department of Justice Civil Rights Division head, will host a discussion on racial politics in President Barack Obama's America at Shakespeare and the Law's staged reading of Othello on Monday, May 4.

In addition to Boyd, the current chairman and CEO of the Freddie Mac Foundation, the production will feature Wayne Budd, a Goodwin Procter partner, former U.S. attorney and past president of the Massachusetts Bar Association, who will play Othello. Former Civil Rights Commissioner Jennifer Braceras will also play a role.

This year's Shakespeare and the Law production will be held at 5:30 p.m. at the Virginia Wimberly Theatre at 527 Tremont St. in Boston. The event is co-sponsored by the MBA, the Federalist Society, the Commonwealth Shakespeare Company and McCarter & English, LLP.

The event will feature:

Federal judges

- Hon. Douglas Woodlock;
- Hon. Rya Zobel;
- Hon. Dennis Saylor; and
- Hon. Nathaniel Gorton.

Attorneys

- Brent Henry
Vice president and general counsel of Partners HealthCare System, Boston
- John Montgomery
Managing partner, Ropes & Gray, Boston
- Daniel J. Kelly
Partner, Ropes & Gray, Boston

The event is directed by CSC's Artistic Director Steven Maler and produced by Kelly. An

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abridged version of *Othello* is performed during the first hour. This is followed by a discussion of the legal and political issues addressed in the play and their application to today's headlines.

This event is free, Members of the public should R.S.V.P. prior to the event to the Federalist Society c/o Dottie Moore at (617) 449-6617 or dmoore@mccarter.com.

The Federalist Society is an academic oriented organization comprised of law students, attorneys, professors and judges committed to creating awareness and discussion of timely and timeless issues affecting the law and society. The Society is dedicated to ensuring that traditional legal principles -- limited constitutional government, the separation of powers, individual freedom and responsibility, and the rule of law -- remain part of the legal debate.

*Commonwealth Shakespeare Company (www.commshakes.org), best known for its annual free performances on Boston Common, is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to bringing the works of William Shakespeare in vital and contemporary productions to the people of Boston. CSC was founded in 1996 by Mr. Maler, who has directed all of its productions. In summer 2009, CSC will present *The Comedy of Errors* July 31—Aug. 16 on Boston Common.*

Incorporated in 1911, the Massachusetts Bar Association is a non-profit organization that serves the legal profession and the public by promoting the administration of justice, legal education, professional excellence and respect for the law. The MBA represents a diverse group of attorneys, judges and legal professionals across the commonwealth.

McCarter & English, LLP, established more than 160 years ago, represents Fortune 500 and mid-cap companies in their national, regional and local litigation and on important transactions. Its 400 attorneys are based in offices in Boston; Hartford; New York; Newark; Philadelphia; Stamford and Wilmington.