

10-1-2005

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Recommended Citation

UB Law Forum (2005) "Professor Peter Pitegoff Leaves UB Law: Named Dean of the University of Maine School of Law," *UB Law Forum*: Vol. 18 : No. 1 , Article 33.

Available at: https://digitalcommons.law.buffalo.edu/ub_law_forum/vol18/iss1/33

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Faculty

Professor Peter Pitegoff Leaves UB Law

*Named Dean of the
University of Maine School of Law*

In July of this year, Peter Pitegoff, Vice Dean for Academic Affairs at the University at Buffalo Law School, became the sixth dean of the University of Maine School of Law, the only law school in Maine and one of only two public law schools in New England. Located in the City of Portland, it is a unit of the University of Maine System and is administratively affiliated with the University of Southern Maine.

A law professor at UB since 1988, “Peter has both the vision and leadership to become the dean of a law school. He possesses a unique blend of law teaching experience, substantive academic scholarship, public service and administration skills that were invaluable in helping our Law School grow in reputation and effectiveness,” said Dean Nils Olsen. “He will be greatly missed by his colleagues in Buffalo.”

Prior to his academic career, he was legal counsel for the ICA Group, a Boston firm that assists community economic development initiatives nationwide. While in practice, he taught on an adjunct basis at Harvard Law School and at New York University School of Law.

“With mixed emotion, after 17 years at UB Law School, I plan to leave for coastal Maine at the end of this academic year,” Pitegoff said.

“This move presents a refreshing opportunity, and a chance to return to New England, where my wife and I met and where our first son was born. Of course, I will miss a wonderful group of colleagues and friends here in

Buffalo. UB Law School sets a standard of excellence and innovation that I will take with me to another public law school.”

As Vice Dean for the past seven years, Pitegoff’s role at UB Law School ranged from curriculum and faculty development to administrative management, external affairs, and strategic planning. In this role, Pitegoff worked with faculty, judges, and lawyers to implement a wide-ranging and flexible curriculum, combining theory with practice. He helped create two new post-professional LL.M. degree programs within the Law School and reached out to other departments and schools to craft interdisciplinary dual degree programs combining a J.D. with a Masters or Ph.D.

As a law professor, Pitegoff has taught corporation law, business transactions, labor policy, community development law, and legal ethics. He has worked and written extensively in the areas of economic development, labor and industrial organization, nonprofit

corporations, employee ownership and alternative enterprise forms, welfare and employment policy, and urban revitalization. He founded a law school clinical program in community economic development law, which has served as a model for transactional clinics at many other law schools throughout the United States and which continues to thrive today. Pitegoff has been actively involved in public policy, including most recently an organized bar initiative to revise and restate the New York Not-for-Profit Corporation Law and appointment by the Chief Judge of New York State to serve on the Judicial Institute for Professionalism in Law. At UB, he has been a leader in charting a strategy for University engagement with the community.

Pitegoff is a 1975 graduate of Brown University and a 1981 graduate of New York University School of Law, where he was a Root-Tilden Scholar. His wife, Ann Casady, is an accomplished graphic designer and art professor. They have two teenage sons.



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– Dean and Professor Peter R. Pitegoff