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**2010 Wickersham Award is Presented to Harold Hongju Koh, Legal Adviser to the United States Department of State by the Friends of the Law Library of Congress**

The Friends of the Law Library of Congress will present the 2010 Wickersham Award to Harold Hongju Koh on Tuesday, May 4, 2010, at 6:00 p.m. The event will take place at the Willard Hotel, located at 1401 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., in Washington, D.C. Members of the public may purchase tickets at the Friends of the Law Library of Congress' website: [www.friendsllloc.org/](http://www.friendsllloc.org/). Seating is limited.

The U.S. Senate confirmed Professor Koh as Legal Adviser to the United States Department of State on June 25, 2009. He had been teaching at Yale Law School since 1985 and served as the fifteenth Dean of the Yale Law School since 2004. From 1998 to 2001, he served as U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for Democracy, Human Rights and Labor, and previously had served on the Secretary of State's Advisory Committee on Public International Law. From 1982 to 1983 Harold Koh practiced law at Covington and Burling, and from 1983 to 1985 served in the Office of Legal Counsel at the Department of Justice.

Professor Koh is a leading expert on public and private international law, national security law, and human rights. He has argued before the United States Supreme Court and he has testified before the U.S. Congress more than twenty times. He has been awarded 11 honorary doctorates and three law school medals and has received more than 30 awards for his human rights work. A Korean-American native of Boston, Mr. Koh holds a B.A. degree from Harvard College and B.A. and M.A. degrees from Oxford University, where he was a Marshall Scholar. He earned his J.D. from Harvard Law School, where he was Developments Editor of the Harvard Law Review, and served as a law clerk for Justice Harry A. Blackmun of the United States Supreme Court and Judge Malcolm Richard Wilkey of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit.

The Friends of the Law Library established the Wickersham Award in 1996 to pay tribute to the legacy of its founder, George W. Wickersham, by recognizing an individual who exemplifies exceptional public service and dedication to the legal profession. Previous recipients of the Wickersham Award include: Louis Auchincloss, James A. Baker III, William J. Brennan, William T. Coleman, Lloyd Cutler, Talbot D'Alemberte, Jamie Gorelick, Charles F.C. Ruff, George Mitchell, Sandra Day O'Connor, Dwight D. Opperman, and Patricia Wald.

In 1932, a group of prominent attorneys and jurists, led by former U.S. Attorney General George Wickersham, organized the Friends of The Law Library of Congress. The non-profit organization was created to encourage awareness and support of the Law Library, contribute to its collections, and sponsor programs that promote a better understanding of law. The Friends of the Law Library of Congress seek to stimulate interest in the largest and most comprehensive source of legal information in the world. Many of its resources and activities can be accessed through its website at [www.friendsllloc.org/](http://www.friendsllloc.org/).

Founded in 1800, the Library of Congress is the nation's oldest federal cultural institution. The Library seeks to spark imagination and creativity and to further human understanding and wisdom by providing access to knowledge through its magnificent collections, programs, and exhibitions. Many of the Library's rich resources can be accessed through its website at [www.loc.gov](http://www.loc.gov) and via interactive exhibitions on a personalized Web site at [myLOC.gov](http://myLOC.gov).

Founded in 1832, the Law Library makes its resources available to members of Congress, the Supreme Court, other branches of the U.S. Government, and the global legal community and sustains and preserves a universal collection of law for future generations. With more than 2.6 million volumes, the Law Library contains the world's largest collection of law books and other resources from all countries and provides online databases and guides to legal information worldwide through its website at [www.loc.gov/law/](http://www.loc.gov/law/).

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