Winter 2008

Warren E. Burger Prize - Foreward

Walter F. Pratt Jr.
University of South Carolina School of Law

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WARREN E. BURGER PRIZE
FOREWORD

WALTER F. PRATT, JR.

Professor Oseid’s essay is a splendid contribution to the line of winners of the Warren E. Burger Prize, sponsored by the American Inns of Court. Chief Justice Burger would be especially pleased with this essay for at least three reasons. First, because he placed such importance in “virtue.” In that, he avowedly followed the generation of Founders who had drawn on a rich, historical tradition which saw a nation’s future as depending on its leaders’ civic virtue. Professor Oseid nicely places virtue at the core of the mentoring relationship, as the foundation of the profession. For Chief Justice Burger and Professor Oseid alike, the future of both the nation and the profession depend on leaders following selfless goals, guided by a true sense of virtue.

Second, and, in truth, third, Chief Justice Burger would be delighted to find one of his former clerks, Carter Phillips, serving as a mentor to Professor Oseid. Those of us who served with Chief Justice Burger near the end of his career saw time and again the warm delight he took in following the careers of those who came before us. He would have echoed Professor Oseid’s ten virtues—better yet, her other word, “habits”—in talking about what made those careers a success.

In sum, this essay is a wonderful continuation of the work of the American Inns of Court in honoring the memory of one of its founders through the award of the Warren E. Burger Prize.

* Dean, Educational Foundation Distinguished Professor of Law, University of South Carolina School of Law. Dean Pratt clerked for Chief Justice Burger from 1978 to 1979, as did Carter Phillips.