

PRESS RELEASE

United States Litigation Lawyer, Jerome Roth, New President of UIA

Jerome Roth officially took office at the closing ceremony of the association's 63rd Annual Congress on 9 November in Luxembourg, succeeding Issouf Baadhio.

Luxembourg, 10 November: Jerome Roth is a litigation lawyer practicing in San Francisco, California, United States. He is a member of both the New York and California bars, and he has been in private practice since 1991 and at his current law firm Munger, Tolles & Olson for 24 years since 1995. Before entering private practice, Jerome graduated from Harvard Law School in 1983 and served as a federal prosecutor in New York for over five years.

Specializing in civil and criminal transnational litigation, Jerome often handles matters that cross state borders in Europe, South America and Asia, as well as the United States, Mexico and Canada. His passion for different cultures, languages and legal systems, sparked in part by his study in France, Italy and Spain during his teens, led him to join the UIA almost 20 years ago, and he has been active in the association's leadership for over a decade, being respectively president of the criminal law commission and co-director of the Human rights and protection of lawyers department.

Jerome is dedicated to ensuring access to justice for marginalized groups, and maintains an active pro bono practice, including representation of indigent defendants in cross-border disputes as well as of members of the LGBT community. During his term as President of UIA, he plans to work on increasing the organization's geographic diversity, for example in Africa, Asia and South America, and to help empower women and other underrepresented groups in UIA's membership and leadership. His second and equally important objective will be to explore the critical role of the lawyer in a tumultuous era of increasing nationalism, populism and unrest in which the Rule of law has been challenged by governments across the globe in unprecedented ways. This also explains his intention to focus special attention on the right to vote and to participate in government, a right enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

"I believe that lawyers bear a unique responsibility to advance international information exchange and understanding, including learning from other countries' experiences; to serve their clients' needs consistent with the rule of law and respect for the world's legal systems; and to protect the independence and freedom of lawyers and judges around the globe", he said. "This responsibility is of even greater importance at a time when governments in many countries have been turning inward and undermining long-held values of global interaction and cooperation as well as the rights of their people to participate fully and fairly in the political process."

Jerome Roth believes that the UIA, with its long and rich history of facilitating international collegiality and learning among lawyers, provides an unequalled platform for advancing the common values and respect for the rule of law shared by lawyers and legal professionals around the world.

More about the UIA.

UIA is the global and multi-cultural organisation for the legal profession, established in 1927 and now with members in 110 countries, which provides professional development, learning, promotes the rule of law, defends the independence and freedom of lawyers worldwide, and emphasizes friendship, collegiality and networking among members.

For more information go to: www.uanet.org - uiacentre@uanet.org
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