

MEDIA CONTACTS

Stephanie Stadler
703-287-7819
sstadler@speakerboxpr.com

Michael Gleeson
202-776-2629
mgleeson@dowlohnes.com

Brian W. Jones, Former General Counsel, U.S. Department of Education Joins Dow Lohnes Higher Education Group

The Higher Education Group also promotes Jay Vaughan to partnership and adds Student Financial Aid expert Marjorie Arrington as Senior Manager, Higher Education Services.

Washington, DC – March 2, 2009 – Dow Lohnes PLLC today announced a further expansion of its Higher Education practice with the hiring of **Brian W. Jones**, former General Counsel of the U.S. Department of Education. Jones joins Dow Lohnes as Senior Counsel effective March 2, 2009. The Higher Education Group also promoted **Joseph J. (Jay) Vaughan** to partnership and welcomed **Marjorie Arrington**, former Corporate Director of Financial Aid and Title IV Compliance for Strayer University, as Senior Manager, Higher Education Services.

Brian Jones served as General Counsel of the U.S. Department of Education from April 2001 to January 2005. As General Counsel, Jones headed an 85-person legal team that developed policy and oversaw implementation and enforcement in all areas of higher education, as well as pre-school and secondary education matters. He was responsible for such complex areas as civil rights, women's equity and school improvement, as well as serving as principal legal adviser to Education Secretary Rod Paige.

After leaving government service, Jones served as Executive Vice President and General Counsel of College Loan Corporation, a leading company providing Federal and private student loans. Earlier in his career, Jones served as Deputy Legal Affairs Secretary to California Gov. Pete Wilson and as Counsel to the U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee where he worked on nominations, constitutional law and civil rights issues for then-Chairman Orrin Hatch (R-UT).

“Brian Jones will give further depth to Dow Lohnes’ exceptionally strong higher education practice,” said Practice Co-Leader Michael B. Goldstein, who added, “His combination of experience managing the enormous, complex legal issues confronting the Department of Education, along with his work as chief legal officer for College Loan Corporation at a time of great upheaval in the student loan industry, will serve us – and our clients – exceedingly well.”

Jones serves on the board of directors of the Alliance/Advocates for School Choice and the national advisory board of the Black Alliance for Educational Options. He is currently the Vice Chairman of Washington, DC’s Public Charter School Board, which oversees the city’s 60 charter schools. Jones also has served as President of the Center for New Black Leadership, a national public policy think tank in Washington, DC where he regularly contributed political analysis to MSNBC.

Jones earned a B.S. in Business Administration with a major in finance from Georgetown University and a J.D. from the University of California at Los Angeles School of Law.

Joseph J. (Jay) Vaughan was elected to the Dow Lohnes partnership in January 2009. He joined Dow Lohnes in 2002 as an institutional accreditation expert, and now works as part of a team of highly experienced lawyers and professionals counseling educational institutions and other clients on all aspects of accreditation by national, regional and specialized accrediting organizations. Prior to joining Dow Lohnes, Vaughan was a senior manager at the Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools (ACICS), with primary responsibility for financial reviews, change of ownership applications and administrative appeals of member and applicant institutions. Vaughan graduated with a B.S. from James Madison University and earned a J.D. from The George Washington University Law School.

Marjorie Arrington joined Dow Lohnes as Senior Manager, Higher Education Services in January 2009. Prior to joining Dow Lohnes, Arrington served as Corporate Director of Financial Aid and Title IV Compliance for Strayer University, where she spent 24 years administering the University's Title IV student aid programs and serving as the University's chief Title IV compliance officer, during which time she played a leading role in the growth of the University from 2 to nearly 60 campus locations. She also was responsible for coordination of the design and implementation of an online financial aid management system which currently is being used by more than 90 institutions. She is Past President of the Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators, past member of the Executive Council of the Eastern Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators and has been a member of the National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators, the Southern Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators and the Virginia Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators. Arrington holds a B.A. from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

"We are very excited about Brian Jones joining our firm, Jay Vaughan's promotion to partner and the great experience Marjorie Arrington brings to us," said Blain B. Butner, Higher Education Group Co-Leader. "Their skills and expertise will be tremendous assets for our clients."

About Dow Lohnes' Higher Education Practice:

With 17 attorneys and senior professionals, the law firm of Dow Lohnes PLLC has the nation's largest and most diverse education practice devoted primarily to the postsecondary education sector. Clients include over 300 schools, colleges and universities, including some of the largest publicly-traded postsecondary companies, state universities and community colleges, and independent and for-profit schools, colleges and universities of all types and sizes, as well as higher education associations and organizations, private equity funds, financial institutions and accrediting organizations. Dow Lohnes provides its postsecondary education clients with comprehensive services covering such diverse areas as mergers and acquisitions, federal grants and contracts, student financial aid programs, accreditation, state licensure, cross-border distance learning, new media, non-commercial broadcast and telecommunications, employee benefits and relations, audits and investigations, intellectual property, litigation, taxation, real estate and, through its affiliate Dow Lohnes Government Strategies, advice, advocacy and assistance on legislative matters.

About Dow Lohnes PLLC:

Dow Lohnes serves as a strategic partner with its clients in a number of growing and dynamic industries, including postsecondary education, communications, new media and information technology, health care and real estate. With over 150 lawyers, and offices in Washington, DC and Atlanta, GA, the firm combines the strengths of a large Washington-based regulatory practice with a sophisticated and creative business and transactional law practice. Together with dynamic litigation, anti-trust, corporate, taxation, intellectual property and human resource practices, the firm offers its clients a comprehensive array of legal services.

For more information, visit www.dowlohnesc.com/education.