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CARLOS LAZARUS

DEDICATION

"Performance far beyond the call of duty" has been the trademark of Professor Carlos Lazarus during the twenty-nine years that he has served as a member of the LSU Law School faculty. His teaching has embraced all of the major Civil Code courses, Louisiana practice, and most of the major commercial courses. His complete mastery of every subject that he taught was recognized by students and faculty alike and has borne fruit in the achievements of Louisiana lawyers and judges who studied in his classes. Professor Lazarus' office was always open to the student who needed help, whether the problem was academic or personal. As a professor and fellow faculty member, he provided a rare blending of decisive thinking and humility which endeared him to everyone.

In addition to extensive civil law translations and scholarly law review writing, Professor Lazarus has made an outstanding contribution to the improvement of Louisiana's legal system through his work with the Louisiana State Law Institute. He has served since 1962 as an officer and member of the Council of the Institute. His duties as assistant coordinator and director of research for the Institute's Revised Statutes of 1950 embraced many important services. He personally prepared nine of the fifty revision titles. He combined the work of all reporters and drafted the general statute plan and enacting statute which presented the revision to the legislature. He supervised the preparation of a complete and vital revision index. He also prepared a special brochure on "How to Amend the Revised Statutes," which was widely published and has been extensively used. The Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950 stands as one of the most important achievements of the Law Institute, and it bears an unmistakable "Lazarus" imprint.

After adoption of the Constitution of 1974, the Law Institute again called upon Professor Lazarus. He served as chairman of a special committee which drafted statutes to adapt Louisiana's general law to the new constitution. This was a difficult task which required careful comparative analysis and precise drafting. The statutes prepared by the Lazarus committee provided a smooth coordination of Louisiana's legislative and constitutional provisions.

As Professor Lazarus retires, the students and faculty will suffer the loss of a fine teacher, scholar, and friend. Fortunately, the legal profession, and more particularly the Louisiana State Law Institute, will continue to benefit from his exceptional, but modestly rendered, services. Professor Lazarus will be acting as co-reporter

for one of the most important segments of the Institute's current Civil Code project. He and Professor H. Alston Johnson, III are charged with revising the Code title governing Successions and Donations—a task which will once more challenge his legislative drafting expertise, his wide civilian background, and his selfless devotion to improvement of Louisiana's law. Retirement for Carlos Lazarus means a shifting of gears, but “full speed ahead,” in a life of service to Louisiana.

Dale E. Bennett
Professor of Law Emeritus