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## Dedication to Belle R. and Joseph H. Braun, 42 J. Marshall L. Rev. xxiii (2009)

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# DEDICATION TO BELLE R. AND JOSEPH H. BRAUN

GHAZAL SHARIFI

Joseph H. Braun, a 1918 John Marshall graduate, generously provided The John Marshall Law School with funds to support this annual lecture series. Until his death on January 27, 1989, Mr. Braun served in a number of positions of distinction within the legal community. Much of Mr. Braun's legal career was devoted to legislative issues involving motorists. He served the AAA-Chicago Motor Club in a variety of positions, including general counsel, vice president, director and corporate secretary. In 1984, he was elected director and general counsel emeritus. Throughout his career, Mr. Braun exemplified the highest standards of professionalism and integrity.

Within the State of Illinois, Mr. Braun wrote the legislation that evolved into Illinois' first driver's license law, and also took a variety of steps to curb unscrupulous activities engaged in by some public officials to extort money from motorists. He served as chairperson of the National Committee on Uniform Traffic Laws and Ordinances, which developed model ordinances and statutes. Additionally, he served as legal counsel to the Illinois Conference on Highway Safety Legislation and as a mentor to the Illinois Insurance Commission. In this capacity, Mr. Braun was instrumental in drafting the State of Illinois Insurance Code in 1935.

The inaugural installment of the Braun Endowed Memorial Lecture Series took place in 1989. Since then, the series has featured a number of distinguished panels and speakers on topics ranging from *Marbury v. Madison*, to international human rights, to the provocative cloning debate. We look forward to adding this year's Symposium, Organizing and Law in the Obama Era, to the fine tradition honoring Mr. Braun's legacy.

