



### **MEDIA CONTACTS:**

Peter Tosches
O: 954-515-4124
M: 901-692-2220

peter.tosches@purdueglobal.edu

Fred Rooney CEO, Consortium for Access to Justice M: 484-554-4492 fredprooney@gmail.com

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# Consortium for Access to Justice and Concord Law School Collaborate to Promote Greater Legal Access

Leading non-profit teams up with nation's first fully online law school

**LOS ANGELES – Jan. 25, 2019 –** The <u>Consortium for Access to Justice</u> (CA2J), a public-interest organization with a mission of promoting legal incubators, not-for-profit law firms and other programs addressing the justice gap, will be working with <u>Concord Law School</u> at Purdue University Global, the nation's first fully online law school, for help in gaining awareness of its services on a national scale.

Concord Law School will provide CA2J with strategic, educational and administrative support and resources. These will include: helping it develop web-based training materials; administering its website and listsery; coordinating with various incubator and non-profit firms; promoting its fundraising efforts; and sponsoring its annual conference.

CA2J benefits from having a relationship with a law school to provide continuity of support, and in particular from working with an online law school that has developed expertise in creating web-based educational materials and in using technology to overcome geographic barriers.

"We're looking forward to the collaboration with Concord, given the centrality of technology to addressing both economic and geographical limitations on legal access, particularly in rural or other remote areas," said Fred Rooney, chief executive officer of CA2J.

In turn, Concord Dean Martin Pritikin said the association with CA2J reflects positively on the school's commitment to seek greater affordability, flexibility and access to a law degree – and to legal services.

"As a fully <u>online law school</u>, we're highly focused on the use of technology to meet the needs of our students and bring down the <u>cost of a law degree</u>," said Pritikin. "Partnering with the Consortium to expand access to the legal system is a natural extension of our mission."

In 2017, Concord Law School became the first online law school to participate in a legal incubator, designed to help law graduates develop their own practices with a focus on offering discounted rates to lower income clients. Concord's participating alumni – who hail from as far west as Hawaii and as far east as Ohio – access features of the California-based program that were previously only available to in-person participants.

Concord Law School, which recently celebrated its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary, joined the Purdue University system in April 2018 when it was acquired, along with the former Kaplan University, and began operating as part of Purdue University Global.

#### **About Consortium for Access to Justice**

The Consortium for Access to Justice (Consortium), is a national 501(c)3 not-for-profit formed by legal academics, legal professionals, and advocates of access to justice initiatives from across the country who were concerned about the growing "justice gap" – the difference between the civil legal needs of low-income Americans and the resources available to meet those needs. Its mission is to provide targeted training to current and future lawyers on the skills and practice efficiencies necessary to ensure equal access to qualified legal resources so that all communities have cost-effective legal services readily available. For more information, visit <a href="http://access2justice.org/">http://access2justice.org/</a>.

## **About Purdue University Global**

Purdue University Global is the extreme personalization <u>online university</u>, providing students the competitive edge to advance in their chosen careers. It offers a hyper-tailored path for students to earn an associate's, bachelor's, master's or doctoral degree, based on their work experience, desired pace, military service, previous college credits and other considerations -- no matter where they are in their life journey.

Purdue Global serves approximately 29,000 students, most of whom earn their degree online. It also operates 14 locations in Indiana, Iowa, Nebraska, Maryland, Maine, Missouri and Wisconsin. Purdue Global is a nonprofit, public university accredited by The Higher Learning Commission. It is affiliated with Purdue University's flagship institution, a highly ranked public research university located in West Lafayette, Indiana. Purdue University also operates two regional campuses in Fort Wayne and Northwest, Indiana, as well as serving close to 6,000 science, engineering and technology students at the Indiana University-Purdue University (IUPUI) Indianapolis campus.

For more information about Purdue Global, visit <a href="www.PurdueGlobal.edu">www.PurdueGlobal.edu</a>. For more information about Concord Law School, visit <a href="www.concordlawschool.edu">www.concordlawschool.edu</a>.

###