Maine South Distinguished Alumni

Mark Filip

Class of 1984

- U.S. District Court Judge for the Northern District of Illinois
- U.S. Deputy Attorney General
- U.S. Attorney General (Acting)

In roughly the span of a decade, Mark Filip moved from being the editor of the Harvard Law Review to clerking for



U.S. Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia to Assistant United States Attorney in Chicago. Mark's rise in public service has been extraordinary. His legal talent led him quickly from one side of the bench to the other. He prosecuted court cases involving violent crimes, international narcotics trafficking, health care fraud, and political, judicial, and police corruption. In his position as an U.S. Assistant Attorney, Mark received the U.S. Dept. of Justice's Director's Award for Superior Performance. In 2003, President George W. Bush nominated Mark to become a United States District Court Judge. He was unanimously confirmed and sworn into that office in March, 2004. In his tenure as a judge, he presided over numerous cases concerning major crime, anti-trust, securities fraud, and immigration.

Just four years later, Mark was again unanimously confirmed by the United States Senate to serve as Deputy Attorney General. For the brief, yet critical, period of Presidential transition, President-elect Barack Obama asked Mark to assume the position of Acting Attorney General. Once again, when asked by a President to serve our country, Mark willingly accepted his responsibility and became our nation's chief law enforcement officer.

Mark's integrity within the nation's legal system is so respected that an attorney who has argued cases before Mark has said that, "(Judge Filip) is bright, thoughtful, and well-prepared...his decisions...are so well thought out and clearly articulated it makes my job on appeal almost impossible."

Inducted September 30, 2015