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# Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration Keynote Speaker: Don Graves, Deputy Assistant to President Obama and Counselor to Vice President Biden: January 24, 2017

Roger Williams University School of Law

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# **Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration Keynote Speaker: Don Graves, Deputy Assistant to President Obama and Counselor to Vice President Biden**

Date:

Tue, 01/24/2017 - 4:00pm

Location:

RWU Law – Appellate Courtroom 283



## **Don Graves**

### **Deputy Assistant to President Obama and Counselor to Vice President Biden**

Don Graves has served as Deputy Assistant to President Obama, as well as Counselor to Vice President Biden. He was also Biden's Domestic and Economic Policy Director – providing advice on a range of policy issues including ways to create jobs, opportunity, and a wider path to the middle class – and his Traveling Chief of Staff. In addition, Mr. Graves oversaw the staff of the Vice President's Cancer Moonshot effort. He had previously been appointed by the President as Executive Director of the President's Council on Jobs and Competitiveness at the White House, and he led the Administration's efforts in the city of Detroit, working with city, state, business, non-profit and community stakeholders as that city worked through its bankruptcy and began its recovery. He was also the U.S. Federal representative to the G7 Task Force on Social Impact Investment

Mr. Graves previously served as Deputy Assistant Secretary for Small Business, Community Development and Housing Policy at the U.S. Department of the Treasury. In this role, he managed a portfolio of policy issues including business and small business finance and development, housing finance, community and economic development, capital access, job creation and issues related to underserved communities. In addition, he oversaw the multi-billion dollar Small Business Lending Fund and State Small Business Credit Initiative, as well as

the Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFI) Fund. Prior to that, he was a partner with Graves, Horton, Askew & Johns, LLC, and the Director of Public Policy for the Business Roundtable.

Mr. Graves holds a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and History from Williams College, and a Juris Doctor from the Georgetown University Law Center, where he received the Dean's Award. He is a fellow of the National Association of Public Administration. He served as volunteer Chief Executive Officer of Progress Through Business, a national nonprofit focused on economic development, supporting lower-income employees and sustainability. He also served on the Board of Trustees of the Community Reinvestment Fund, on the Board of Directors of the Center on Business and Poverty, and on the Advisory Boards of Wall Street Without Walls and the Greater Washington Board of Trade's Small Business Network.

**Generously supported by Nixon Peabody, LLP**



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**Directions**

GPS Address: 10 Metacom Avenue, Bristol, RI

Parking available at North Entrance - follow signs for "Law Event" parking.

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