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Dedication to Professor Leonard Cavise by the Founding Editors of the Journal for Social Justice

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DEDICATION TO
PROFESSOR LEONARD CAVISE BY
THE FOUNDING EDITORS OF THE
JOURNAL FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE

It is truly appropriate to dedicate this edition of the Journal for Social Justice to Professor Leonard Cavise. The pages of this Journal are a place where legal professionals, community-based leaders, academics and students share new ideas, take risks and promote justice outside of traditional methods of legal advocacy. During his tenure at DePaul, Professor Cavise pushed his students and the DePaul community to think creatively in regard to social justice advocacy. His students responded. More than 10 years ago, some students approached Professor Cavise about a Certificate in Public Interest Law. The idea needed institutional support and Professor Cavise willingly took on that role and the DePaul Center for Public Interest Law was established. Another law student came to Professor Cavise to discuss the problem of student debt as a barrier for well-trained new lawyers wanting to accept low-paying legal aid, public defender and other public interest positions. Professor Cavise recognized the value of the idea and gave it voice, gaining the administrative support needed to get DePaul’s Loan Repayment Assistance Program off the ground. Then a first year law student posited that legal advocates lacked a forum within the academy dedicated to sharing new ideas and innovative tools for successful social justice advocacy. Professor Cavise’s response: “Make it happen.” We were a small group, working without stipend or class credit and our entire office consisted of a single filing cabinet drawer in a public area of the law school, but with the stalwart support of Professor Cavise and the Center for Public Interest Law, we were able to publish the first edition of the DePaul Journal for Social Justice over seven years ago.
Thank you, Professor Cavise, for giving more than 30 years to DePaul University College of Law. Thank you for listening and responding, for connecting your students to the broader community and for providing a platform for us to bring you our ideas about fighting for the dignity of all people. Learning the law with you at DePaul was a gift.

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