Dear Alumni and Friends,

When I think about what the past year has meant for Rutgers Law School Newark campus, I think of an institution that is crucial to the lives of all people in New Jersey – people who rely on lawyers to protect their rights and to advocate their interests – and an institution that has managed to remain faithful to its historic roots while innovating and navigating change.

Our importance to the community became especially apparent this year when President Obama chose the Law School’s atrium as the venue to discuss prisoner re-entry, when Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg recorded a video discussing her connection to Rutgers Law School in Newark, and when Gloria Steinem spoke to a gender equality conference at the law school.

This year the law school underscored its ability to innovate through the changing landscape of legal education by completing its merger with Rutgers Law School in Camden, bringing together two groups of students, faculty, staff and alumni that are miles apart but unified in their desire to make significant contributions to the practice of law and legal studies.

When I look back on the past year, I am proud as ever to count myself among Rutgers Law alumni. We all come from a law school that has opened up a world of opportunity for so many, and established a community of alumni that in turn, has opened opportunities for so many others.

So in this season of giving, keep in mind that anyone can give back to the law school, even if it means a small investment of time to mentor a law student, or volunteering to help organize one of our alumni events. The Alumni Association provides many opportunities for alumni to help.

Finally, I wish to congratulate all of our recent alumni who have been sworn into the bar, and to all our alumni and friends, have a wonderful holiday season, have a happy and healthy new year.

Best Regards,

Robert W. Ratish ('08)
Law Office of Robert W. Ratish
80 Park Street
Montclair, New Jersey 07042
(973) 415-6400
rratish@ratishlaw.com