

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE December 6, 2016 **Contact:** Office of Communications 202-606-2402 or <u>media@opm.gov</u>

OPM, University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law form Federal Employee Education Alliance

Federal Employees and their spouses will receive a 10% FEDEM Grant upon admission to the MSL or LL.M. programs

Washington, DC – Today, the U.S. Office of Personnel Management (OPM) and University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law announced an agreement to offer a Federal Employee (FEDEM) grant equivalent to 10% tuition discount to Federal employees and their spouses admitted to the Master of Science in Law (MSL) or the Master of Laws (LL.M.) programs.

The MSL program is a part-time, 30-credit, two-year, evening program developed for working professionals. After a semester of foundational courses, students choose a specialization in one of five areas: Crisis Management Law, Cybersecurity Law, Environmental Law, Health Care Law or Patent Law. The LL.M. program provides advanced legal education in the same and other specializations for students with a Juris Doctor degree or a law degree from another country.

"This alliance provides Federal Government employees and their spouses with access to opportunities to earn a master of law degree through University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law," said **OPM Acting Director Beth F. Cobert**. "In particular, it allows Federal employees to obtain the education they need to meet today's workplace challenges. This effort will also help agencies across government close critical skills gaps, enabling the Federal workforce to fulfill its mission to serve the American people more efficiently and effectively every single day."

Federal employees and their spouses who are currently enrolled in the MSL or LL.M. programs are eligible for the tuition discount after they submit required documentation to the law school.

"We are pleased to be the only law school to join OPM in offering outstanding educational opportunities to professionals in the Federal Government and their spouses," **said Donald B. Tobin, Dean of University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law**. "Our alliance with OPM provides Federal employees and their spouses access to our MSL program,

specifically designed for professionals who want, or need, to increase their knowledge of law, policy and regulations in their area of specialization. In addition, lawyers working in the Federal Government will also have access to our LL.M. program and may focus their academic work in the same or other areas of law."

For more specific information about University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law federal alliance and the FEDEM Grant, please visit:

<u>http://www.law.umaryland.edu/prospective/FEDEM/</u>. Interested applicants wishing to speak with Associate Dean José Bahamonde-González about the FEDEM Grant and the MSL or LL.M. programs, can call 410-706-3492, or email <u>admissions@law.umaryland.edu</u>.