

# Celebrating the Cordish Legacy in Public Adjusting

**PAUL CORDISH WAS A LEGAL GIANT IN MARYLAND: STATE LEGISLATOR, ENTREPRENEUR, PHILANTHROPIST, AND RESPECTED LAWYER.** When he passed away in 2003, his son, David Cordish '63, called him a “furious fighter who always fought fair and never deviated from an ethical code of conduct” in an obituary from *The Baltimore Sun*.

Among his many contributions to the legal profession, in 1951 the senior Cordish, along with William Goodman, a Baltimore lawyer and insurance executive, founded the National Association of Public Insurance Adjusters (NAPIA). Paul Cordish served as general counsel and executive director for NAPIA for over 50 years.

To honor his commitment to the association and the public adjusting profession, David Cordish, chairman and CEO of The Cordish Companies, and Brian Goodman '82, current counsel for NAPIA and

principal at Kramon & Graham PA—as well as a grandson of William Goodman—established the Paul Cordish Memorial Writing Competition at Maryland Carey Law in 2005. The competition is sponsored by the Paul Cordish Memorial Fund and NAPIA, which awards annual prizes to three students who write about trends in insurance law, as well as ethical and regulatory issues.

“For winners, it’s a great financial boost,” notes Brian Goodman, “but it also brings exposure to the legal aspects of insurance claims adjustment—something many students don’t necessarily get a lot of instruction in during law school.” In the past decade Goodman has seen the occupation grow exponentially.

“The Cordish family, NAPIA, and the University of Maryland School of Law established the competition in Paul’s memory because we all felt the best way to honor one of Maryland’s great advocates was to create an ever-growing body of learned papers on issues significant to the current



The Cordish Companies, the National Association of Public Insurance Adjusters (NAPIA), and Kramon & Graham PA hosted a 10th anniversary luncheon in April 2016 for Paul Cordish Memorial Writing Competition winners, as well as the faculty and administration of Maryland Carey Law, including (left to right): Brett Baulsir '13, Stephen Carney (Adjunct Faculty), David Barrack (NAPIA), Stephen Figlin (NAPIA), Jessica Marks '10, Randy Goodman (NAPIA), Harvey Goodman (NAPIA), Brian Goodman '82 (NAPIA and Kramon & Graham PA), Lisa Bennett (Kramon & Graham PA), Jon Cordish (Cordish Private Ventures), David Cordish '63 (The Cordish Companies), Dean Donald B. Tobin, Chris Aldrich (NAPIA), and Dick Burr (NAPIA). *Photo credit: Kramon & Graham PA/NAPIA*

practice of law,” reflects Jon Cordish, grandson of Paul Cordish and principal at Cordish Private Ventures. “We are delighted to see that, now 10 years later, the award we created in Paul’s honor has succeeded so handsomely in doing exactly that.”

## 2016 Winners

Congratulations to the 2016 Paul Cordish Memorial Writing Competition award winners:

1st place: **Robert Carroll Baker, III '16**

“The Costs of the Unlicensed Practice of Public Adjusting: A Legal and Economic Analysis”

2nd place: **Ishan Dasgupta '17**

“Does Labor Lose Value Over Time? An Exploration of Depreciation When Calculating Actual Cash Value”

3rd place: **Caroline Elizabeth Willsey '16**

“Calm After the Storm: Improving the Claims Adjusting Process in the Wake of Superstorm Sandy”