

*Pave the Way Foundation*

*cordially invites you to attend the*

*“Defender of Faith”*

*Award Dinner*

*in tribute to*

*Honorable Michael S. Steele*

*Chairman of GOPAC*

*Partner at Dewey & LeBoeuf, LLP*

*Thursday Evening, June 26, 2008*

*Capital Hilton*

*1001 16th Street, NW*

*Washington, DC 20036*

*Reception 6:00 p.m.*

*Dinner / Program 7:00 p.m.*

*Business Attire*



## MICHAEL S. STEELE

Michael S. Steele earned a place in history in 2003 when he became the first African-American elected to statewide office in Maryland. His experiences as a successful elected Republican African-American and his engaging speaking style have launched Mr. Steele into national prominence. His first major exposure was during an appearance at the 2004 Republican National Convention. Since then President George W. Bush chose Mr. Steele to be part of the U.S. delegation to the investiture of Pope Benedict XVI, and he has been an entertaining and articulate guest on cable political talk shows such as HBO's *Real Time with Bill Maher* and Comedy

Central's *The Colbert Report*. Lately, he can be seen as a regular contributor on the Fox News Channel.

As an expert on political strategy, fund-raising, PACs, and election reform, he is the current Chairman of GOPAC. Michael is a former state chairman of the Republican Party in Maryland, and has served on the National Federal Election Reform Commission and the NAACP Blue Ribbon Commission on Election Reform. Having been a senior advisor to GROWpac, he advised House Republican Conference Chairman J.C. Watts (R-OK) on strategic and political issues.

Born in 1958 at Andrews Air Force Base in Prince George's County, Maryland, Mr. Steele was raised in Washington, DC. He received a bachelor's degree in international relations from Johns Hopkins University, then spent three years as a seminarian in the Order of St. Augustine in preparation for the priesthood, but, ultimately, chose a career in law instead. His law degree was earned from Georgetown University Law Center.

From 1991 to 1997, Mr. Steele was a corporate securities attorney at the international law firm of Cleary, Gottlieb, Steen & Hamilton in Washington, DC, specializing in sophisticated financial transactions on behalf of Wall Street underwriters. He then became a corporate counsel for the Mills Corporation and founded The Steele Group, a business and legal consulting firm. He is currently a partner with the international law firm of Dewey and LeBoeuf in Washington, DC. Most recently, the HarVest Bank of Maryland welcomed him as a member of their Board of Directors.

Michael was named a 2005 Aspen Institute-Rodel Fellow in Public Leadership and awarded the 2005 Bethune-DuBois Institute Award for his ongoing work in the development of quality education in Maryland. He has also served on a variety of boards and commissions including East Baltimore Development Corporation, Export-Import Bank Advisory Board, the U.S. Naval Academy Board of Visitors, and the Republican National Committee.

Lt. Governor Steele serves on the Administrative Board of the Maryland Catholic Conference and is a member of St. Mary's Catholic Church in Landover Hills, MD, where he attends mass regularly with his wife Andrea and their two sons Michael and Drew.

## *Dinner Co-Chairpersons*

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## *Pave the Way Foundation*

Pave the Way Foundation is dedicated to achieving peace by bridging the intellectual gap in tolerance and understanding, while enhancing relations between religions through cultural, technological and intellectual exchanges. We strive to eliminate the use of religion as a tool, which has historically been used by some to justify violence and terrorism. In fact, most major conflicts on earth today are based on religious extremism. Through our projects, and our concrete gestures of good will, we will pave the way towards global understanding. We must now recognize the dangers of ignorance, which beget bigotry, apathy and silence in the face of the intentional misuse of religion.

To learn more about the exciting work of Pave the Way Foundation, please visit our website at: [www.ptwf.org](http://www.ptwf.org).

In paying tribute to Michael Steele, Pave the Way Foundation will acknowledge an individual who has distinguished himself as a national leader in public service and professional enterprise, while maintaining the principles and practice of his faith.

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*Dinner in tribute to*

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*Thursday Evening, June 26, 2008*

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*1001 16th Street NW*

*Washington D.C.*

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