



PRESS RELEASE
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**BARBARA FINKELSTEIN TO RECEIVE LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD FROM
PACE LAW SCHOOL**

Barbara Finkelstein, Executive Director of Legal Services of the Hudson Valley (LSHV), has been chosen to receive the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Pace University School of Law's Public Interest Law Scholarship Organization. This award is being given to Ms. Finkelstein due to her extensive contributions to public interest law, including her creation of the Domestic Violence Unit and the Children's Advocacy Unit at the Legal Services of the Hudson Valley. Ms. Finkelstein has devoted her entire career to providing legal services to the poor. She has been Executive Director of LSHV for over 11 years and continues to make a lasting difference in the lives of people everywhere in the Hudson Valley of New York. The awards ceremony will take place on April 18, 2006 from 6-8 pm in the Tudor Room at Pace Law School.

Ms. Finkelstein created the Domestic Violence Unit in 1996, and it has provided legal assistance to over a thousand survivors of domestic violence. The Children's Advocacy Unit, founded by the honoree, in 1999, has helped to give a voice to children suffering from abuse and other issues who otherwise would not have had the opportunity to speak up for themselves. Prior to her work with LSHV, Ms. Finkelstein was the Assistant Project Director at Queens Legal Services, where she was in charge of directing services to clients and assisting with the overall operation of the program. Presently, Ms. Finkelstein is Co-Chair of the Special Committee on Funding of the New York State Bar Association, and a member of the New York State Equal Justice Commission. Barbara Finkelstein holds a J.D. from Rutgers University School of Law.

Legal Services of the Hudson Valley is a non-profit law firm that provides high quality free legal representation to poor and low-income individuals and families in civil legal matters. The services offered help struggling individuals to resolve urgent, non-criminal legal problems that can lead to larger social problems such as homelessness. Since LSHV's inception in 1967, more than 200,000 clients have been served. LSHV provides services in Westchester, Dutchess, Orange, Putnam, Rockland, Sullivan and Ulster counties in New York. LSHV provides services in the areas of domestic violence, public benefits, consumer law, elder law, housing, HIV/AIDS and civil rights.