



PRESS RELEASE

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Contact:

Ann R. Hyatt
Director of Development and
External Relations
914-949-1305, ext. 143
ahyatt@lshv.org

**LEGAL SERVICES OF THE HUDSON VALLEY'S SECOND ANNUAL
ACCESS TO JUSTICE DINNER A GREAT SUCCESS**

(White Plains, NY) Legal Services of the Hudson Valley (LSHV) held its Second Annual Access to Justice Dinner and Fortieth Anniversary Celebration on Wednesday, April 11, 2007 at the Rye Town Hilton. The event, attended by nearly 400 people, was a great success. The dinner is a component of LSHV's Access to Justice Campaign, to raise funds to aid LSHV in its mission to provide free, high-quality civil legal representation to poor and low-income individuals and families.

At the dinner, LSHV presented Hon. Sondra M. Miller with our Access to Justice Award, for her continuing efforts to ensure that all people have equal access to the American legal system. Judge Miller is a retired Justice of the New York State Supreme Court, Second Department, and is currently Chief Counsel of McCarthy Fingar LLP of White Plains, where she heads the firm's Appellate Practice. Throughout her distinguished career, she has been recognized as a leader in the field of law concerning women, children, and families.

Also honored at the dinner was Rosa W. Boone, Executive Director of the Westchester Coalition for the Hungry & Homeless, Inc., who received LSHV's Community Service Award, for her tireless efforts on behalf of disadvantaged people in our community. In addition, LSHV presented the Benefactor of Justice Award to the MBIA Foundation, Inc. for its strong support of our Children's Advocacy Program, a unique program that concentrates exclusively on the specific legal issues that affect the lives of children.

One of the evening's guest speakers was Lloyd Constantine, Senior Advisor to New York Governor Eliot Spitzer, who spoke about the improving prospects for state funding of civil legal services. Also speaking at the dinner was an LSHV client who talked about how LSHV attorneys made a critical difference in her life, saving her from eviction and protecting her from domestic violence.

Master of Ceremonies for the evening was Henry G. Miller, Esq., of Clark, Gagliardi & Miller, P.C., White Plains. Dinner Co-Chairs were Kathleen Donelli, Esq., of McCarthy Fingar LLP, White Plains; Adam Levy, Esq. of the Law Offices of Levy & Santoro, Carmel; Stephen Lowey, Esq. of Lowey Dannenberg Bemporad Selinger & Cohen, P.C., White Plains; Gail Makode, Esq., Assistant General Counsel and Vice President, MBIA, Inc., Armonk; and Hon. William Thompson, retired Justice, New York State Supreme Court, Appellate Division, Second Department.

Legal Services of the Hudson Valley provides free civil legal services to poor and low-income individuals and families. LSHV represents clients in the areas of housing, domestic violence, elder law, civil rights, children's advocacy, disabilities, HIV/AIDS, public benefits, consumer law and education. Services are provided to the residents of Westchester, Putnam, Dutchess, Ulster, Orange, Rockland and Sullivan Counties.