

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: January 6, 2010**  
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## ANGEL AND VERGEER TO SHARE SCOUTT AWARD

The District of Columbia Bar Foundation has selected Eric S. Angel and Vytas V. Vergeer as co-recipients of the **2010 Jerrold Scoutt Prize**. The Foundation conferred the rare joint prize for Angel and Vergeer's successful collaborative efforts to reform pro bono tenant representation in the Superior Court Landlord and Tenant Branch. The prize is awarded annually to an attorney who has worked for a significant portion of his or her career at a non-profit organization providing direct hands-on legal services to the needy in the District of Columbia; has demonstrated compassionate concern for his or her clients; and has exhibited a high degree of skill on their behalf.

"Eric and Vytas are like flip sides of the same coin," said DCBF Advisory Committee member and Award Committee Chair John E. Scheuermann. "We can think of no more fitting way to recognize what they accomplished together than with a joint award."

Eric Angel has served as the Legal Director at the **Legal Aid Society of the District of Columbia (Legal Aid)** since 2001, following two years in the White House Counsel's Office under President Clinton, and service as a trial attorney in the Civil Division of the U.S. Department of Justice. At Legal Aid, Mr. Angel manages all aspects of legal operations, supervising, supporting, and inspiring lawyers who have handled thousands of matters for people living in poverty in the District. Mr. Angel is a graduate of Yale College and Yale Law School.

Vytas Vergeer has, since 2000, been the Legal Clinic Director at **Bread for the City**, where he has worked since 1994, apart from two years at the National Housing Law Project. He has devoted his career to working on housing issues for people living in poverty since completing a clerkship in 1994, representing hundreds of tenants in DC's Landlord Tenant Court, and tirelessly supervising and mentoring public interest and pro bono attorneys. Mr. Vergeer is a graduate of the University of Maryland and Catholic University Law School.

The Scoutt Prize is named in honor of **Jerrold Scoutt, Jr.**, a founding partner of Zuckert, Scoutt & Rasenberger LLP, for his longtime support of legal services. The prize carries a stipend of \$2,500, which will be shared by the co-recipients, and is endowed by the firm.

The Bar Foundation will present the 2010 Scoutt Prize during the Judicial Reception at the D.C. Bar Conference on April 9, 2010. Requests for information should be addressed to Katherine L. Garrett: garrett@dcbfoundation.org or 202-467-3750 ext. 12.

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*The District of Columbia Bar Foundation was established in 1977 to provide lawyers and law firms with an effective vehicle for fulfilling their ethical obligation to ensure that all residents of our community have access to competent legal representation by funding legal services for the underprivileged. The Foundation awards grants to DC legal services organizations, and administers a DC poverty lawyer Loan Repayment Assistance Program.*

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