

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: June 30, 2006**

**Contact: Katherine L. Garrett, Executive Director  
202-467-3750 ext 56  
garrett@dcbarfoundation.org**

## ***DC Bar Awards Record \$1.4 Million to Support Legal Services***

Legal services programs in the District of Columbia received record funding from the District of Columbia Bar Foundation this week. The Foundation announced awards totaling \$1.4 million, a 27% increase over the \$1.1 million awarded last year, and the highest level of funding in the Foundation's 28-year history.

"The generosity of our legal community – and the responsiveness of area banks to our *DC IOLTA Preferred Bank Initiative* – has enabled the Foundation once again to increase our funding for legal services," said Robert N. Weiner, President of the D.C. Bar Foundation. "At the same time, the financial support we provide does not begin to meet the need: roughly 100 attorneys in legal services staff serve tens of thousands of potential clients. Even with the assistance of pro bono lawyers, we meet less than 10% of the legal needs of the poor in D.C.. We hope lawyers and law firms in our community will continue to recognize their unique obligation to fund legal services for the poor."

This year, the Foundation's direct legal services grants went to 31 different programs that bring legal services to the homeless, the disabled, the elderly, as well as to children, domestic violence victims, and many more of the less fortunate in our community. We also awarded a grant to support web-based resources for legal services. In addition, for the first time, the Foundation allocated funds to technical assistance for grantees and to create the District's first educational loan repayment assistance program for poverty lawyers.

The Foundation awards grants annually, after a rigorous application and site review process. A list of the grantees for Fiscal Year 2006 is attached.

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*The DC Bar Foundation, a 501(c)(3) organization, was established in 1977 to provide a vehicle for members of the bar to contribute to legal services providers. Since 1985, the Foundation has also administered the District of Columbia's IOLTA program.*

## FY2006 DC BAR FOUNDATION AWARDS

### Direct Legal Services

- Advocates for Justice and Education
- Archdiocesan Legal Network
- Asian Pacific American Legal Resource Center
- Ayuda
- Bread for the City Legal Clinic
- Capital Area Immigrants' Rights Coalition
- Central American Resource Center
- Children's Law Center
- Columbus Community Legal Services
- Disability Rights Project –  
Washington Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights & Urban Affairs
- D.C. Coalition Against Domestic Violence
- D.C. Employment Justice Center
- D.C. Law Students in Court Program
- D.C. Prisoners' Legal Services Project
- DV LEAP
- EEO Intake Project –  
Washington Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights & Urban Affairs
- Human Rights First
- Immigrant and Refugee Rights Project –  
Washington Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights & Urban Affairs
- Lawyers for Children America – Washington, D.C. Program
- Legal Aid Society of D.C. – General Support
- Legal Aid Society of D.C. – Appellate Litigation Project
- Legal Counsel for the Elderly
- Mid-Atlantic Innocence Project
- Neighborhood Legal Services Program
- Our Place, D.C.
- US Committee for Refugee & Immigrant Children
- University of the District of Columbia School of Law -  
Community Development / Small Business Clinic
- Washington Legal Clinic for the Homeless
- Whitman-Walker Clinic Legal Services Program
- Women Empowered Against Violence

### Cross-cutting Grants

- *probono.net/dc - LawHelp.org*

### Technical Assistance Grants

- Children's Law Center

### Program Support

- DC- Loan Repayment Assistance Program