



PRESS RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Bob Clyde (614) 752-8919

Date: May 24, 2007

**RICHARD W. POGUE RECOGNIZED
FOR OUTSTANDING LEADERSHIP**

Richard W. Pogue, community leader and former managing partner of the Cleveland law firm Jones Day, is the recipient of the Ohio Legal Assistance Foundation's 2007 Presidential Award for Outstanding Leadership in the Delivery of Pro Bono Legal Services. The Award was presented to Pogue at the Opening Session of the Ohio State Bar Association's 2007 Annual Convention, held May 16th through the 18th in Cincinnati.

"Dick Pogue is dedicated to improving access to justice for all Ohio citizens and is a deserving recipient of the 2007 OLAF Presidential Award," said David C. Weiner, a partner with Squire, Sanders & Dempsey in Cleveland and the Foundation's Board President, in presenting the award to Pogue. The Award is presented annually to law firms, organizations or individuals who have made outstanding efforts in improving access to legal representation for those who cannot afford it through pro bono or volunteer service in Ohio.

"OLAF's work on a statewide voluntary pro bono initiative actually began in 2004, and it began with Richard W. Pogue," Weiner said. Pogue chaired the Foundation Board's Pro Bono Committee, which developed a statewide initiative that would support and expand pro bono services by the private bar.

"The voluntary pro bono initiative crafted by the Committee, under Dick's capable guidance, was ultimately recommended to the Supreme Court by the [Ohio State Bar Association] Council of Delegates and the Court's own Task Force on Indigent and Pro Se Litigants, with only minor modifications, and by five of the seven Ohio metropolitan bar associations," Weiner noted in his remarks. "Dick continues to serve as a strong advocate for the adoption of a statewide voluntary pro bono initiative."

MORE



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In accepting the Award, Pogue noted that the Ohio State Bar Association and the Ohio Legal Assistance Foundation work together in an attitude he termed “conservative compassion -- that is, a businesslike approach to providing civil legal services to the poor. He termed support of the proposed statewide voluntary pro bono initiative “another heartwarming affirmation of the fundamental and admirable commitment of the lawyers in our State to try to provide help to those who are less fortunate.”

Richard Pogue retired from Jones Day in 1994, and rejoined the firm in 2004 as a consultant. He has served as chair of many civic organizations, including The Cleveland Foundation, the Greater Cleveland Growth Association, and the University Hospitals Health Systems. He presently serves on the Board of Trustees for the University of Akron.

Created by the Ohio Legislature in 1994, the Ohio Legal Assistance Foundation, in partnership with the state and local bar associations, elected officials, and local legal aid providers, coordinates resource development, provides efficient distribution of legal aid funds, and promotes innovative approaches to ensure justice for all.

For more information about efforts to provide equal access to justice for all persons in Ohio, contact OLAF at 614-752-8919 or visit the OLAF Web site at www.olaf.org.

For information about the Ohio State Bar Association, contact Ken Brown, Director of Public & Media Relations, at 800-282-6556 or 614-487-4426.