

## Court Information Release



United States District Court  
Northern District of Illinois, Eastern Division  
219 South Dearborn Street, Chicago, Illinois 60604

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### **Tenth Annual Awards for Excellence in Pro Bono and Public Interest Service**

CHICAGO – Juanita Sales Lee, President of the Federal Bar Association, will be the keynote speaker at a May 29, 2009 awards ceremony sponsored by the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois and the Chicago Chapter of the Federal Bar Association, recognizing pro bono and public interest service before the court.

Ms. Lee is a senior attorney with the U.S. Army, Space and Missile Defense Command in Huntsville, Ala., where she primarily practices labor and employment law. Although practicing with various Army commands for over 20 years, she has also worked with the Legal Aid Society of Madison County, Huntsville, Alabama; A&M University; the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development; and in private practice in her hometown of Phenix City, Ala. She is a graduate of the University of Alabama, School of Law, and has a Master of Laws Degree from The Judge Advocate General's School, U.S. Army. Ms. Lee is admitted to the State Bar of Alabama, State Bar of Georgia, the Supreme Court of the United States, and the U.S. District Court, Northern and Middle Districts of Alabama.

As an FBA member for over 15 years, Ms. Lee has served in many leadership positions such as National Treasurer (2005-2006); National Secretary (2004-2005); Deputy Secretary (2003-2004); Vice President, Eleventh Circuit (1999-2003) (as Eleventh Circuit Vice President, she was instrumental in reactivating the Mobile and Birmingham FBA chapters); Sarah T. Hughes Civil Rights Award Committee (2002-2004); Public Relations Committee (2001-2003); Federal Career Services Member (1991-present); and North Alabama Chapter President, Delegate/Acquisition Symposium Chair, Secretary/Treasurer and Parliamentarian for two cycles (1991-2001). At her local chapter, Ms. Lee spearheaded the First Annual FBA Personnel and Employment Law Symposium in 2003. Ms. Lee has also served as a member, director, or president of various other community organizations, including Legal Services Alabama Inc., Alabama Space Science Exhibit Commission, Alabama Citizens for Constitutional Reform, People to People Ambassador Program (Georgia bar delegate to China); Phenix City NAACP; Russell County Bar Association; and Alabama State Docks.

The Tenth Annual Awards for Excellence in Pro Bono and Public Interest Service is scheduled to begin at 3:30 p.m., Friday, May 29, 2009, in the James Benton Parsons Memorial Courtroom (2525) of the Everett McKinley Dirksen United States Courthouse at 219 South Dearborn Street in Chicago, Illinois. The program is open to all attorneys and those interested in pro bono and public interest law, and is free of charge.

Nine “Awards for Excellence in Pro Bono and Public Interest Service” and one “Special Recognition Award for Service to the Court” will be presented to area attorneys for their contributions in helping those most in need of assistance through pro bono and public interest work before the District Court for the Northern District of Illinois.

Award winners include: **Richard L. Marcus** of Sonnenschein Nath Rosenthal LLP (presented by Magistrate Judge Susan E. Cox); **Howard L. Mocerf, Richard P. Darke and Amy E. McCracken** of Duane Morris LLP (presented by District Judge Blanche M. Manning); **Kate Jillian Grossman** of Sidley Austin LLP (presented by Magistrate Judge Sidney I. Schenkier); **Edward M. Fox** of Ed Fox & Associates (presented by Chief Judge James F. Holderman); **Jeffrey D. Colman** of Jenner & Block LLP (presented by District Judge Elaine E. Bucklo); **James P. Condon** of Central States Funds (presented by District Judge Amy St. Eve and Magistrate Judge Jeffrey Cole); **Michael George Kelly** of the Law Offices of Chadwick & Lakerdas (presented by District Judge Blanche M. Manning and Magistrate Judge Susan E. Cox); **Arthur J. Howe** of Schopf & Weiss LLP and **Julie Ann Sebastian** of Cook County State’s Attorney’s Office (presented by District Judge Joan Humphrey Lefkow); and **Joel Daly**, District Court Information Officer (presented by Chief Judge James F. Holderman).

The awards program will also feature written comments and introductions by Chief Judge James F. Holderman and Paul E. Freehling, President of the Chicago Chapter of the Federal Bar Association. Joel Daly, District Court Information Officer, will emcee the ceremony.