

Honorable Vaughn R. Walker (Ret.) Honored by The Bar Association of San Francisco's Barristers Club at 27th Annual Judges Reception

July 14, 2011 – San Francisco -- The Barristers Club of The Bar Association of San Francisco presented its Tara L. Riedley Barristers Choice Award at the 27th Annual Judges Reception on July 13 to retired United States District Court for the Northern District of California Judge Vaughn R. Walker. This award is given each year to one judge serving in San Francisco to recognize his or her extraordinary efforts to educate and encourage young lawyers that are new to the practice of law and the courtroom. In addition, the award recognizes work done outside the courtroom in support of programs of the Barristers Club.

More than 300 members of the legal community, including fifty state and federal judges and their clerks, attended the Judges Reception which was held in the Green Room of the San Francisco War Memorial and Performing Arts Center. Judge Walker has had a long and distinguished legal career. He served as a United States District Judge for the Northern District of California from 1990 to February 2011, and he was Chief Judge of that court from 2004 to 2010. Among Judge Walker's notable judicial decisions are his 2010 decision in *Perry v Schwarzenegger* holding the provision prohibiting recognition of same sex marriages unconstitutional and his 2009 decision in *In re National Security Agency Telecommunications Records Litigation* upholding the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Amendments Act. Throughout his judicial career, Judge Walker also gave numerous lectures, speeches, and educational presentations on topics of interest to the legal community.

Since retiring from the federal bench, Chief Judge Walker has returned to the private sector and opened his own law practice, the Law Office of Vaughn R. Walker. He has also once again shown his dedication to educating and encouraging young lawyers by serving as a lecturer at both Stanford University Law School and University of California, Berkeley School of Law.

The Barristers Club also honored the career of Justice Carlos Roberto Moreno, acknowledging his recent retirement from the Supreme Court of California and the inspiration he has provided to new attorneys over the years and to recognize his work for the people of the State of California and his dedication to assisting young lawyers develop their own careers. Proceeds from the Judges Reception help the Barristers Club expand its efforts to serve the community through volunteering, mentoring of Bay Area students and increasing diversity in the legal profession.

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The Bar Association of San Francisco (BASF) is a nonprofit voluntary membership organization of over 8,000 attorneys, law students and legal professionals in the Bay Area. Founded in 1872, BASF is one of the largest and most dynamic metropolitan bar associations in the U.S., with a long and distinguished record of community action, public service and service to the legal profession.