

Justice & Diversity Center Honors Outstanding Legal Services and Diversity Educational Program Volunteers

CHIEF JUSTICE OF CALIFORNIA TANI G. CANTIL-SAKAUYE WAS ON HAND TO PRESENT AWARDS

May 13, 2015 -- San Francisco – The Justice & Diversity Center (JDC) of The Bar Association of San Francisco (BASF) celebrated its most outstanding volunteers at its annual Volunteer Celebration on May 12.

More than 200 people attended the event, held at the Louis B. Mayer Lounge at UC Hastings College of the Law. JDC honored volunteers of its Legal Services and Diversity Educational programs.

Guest of honor Chief Justice of California Tani G. Cantil-Sakauye provided inspirational remarks at the awards ceremony and greeted awardees. JDC Board President Timothy Moppin, Kaufman Dolowich Voluck, also made remarks and congratulated awardees.

JDC honored the top 15 percent of the volunteers in its Pro Bono Legal Services Program, Homeless Advocacy Project, and Diversity Educational Programs with Outstanding Volunteer in Public Service Certificates. JDC also recognized four individual volunteers and a law firm with special awards.

Robert P. Feyer, of Orrick Herrington & Sutcliffe, received the 2014 James P. Prevolos Award for Outstanding Pro Bono Services in Family Law. Feyer, who practices public finance law, has represented litigants in 14 petitions for guardianship of the person since 2007.

JDC presented the 2014 Housing Justice Award to Hope L. Greenhill, who, since 2008, has represented tenants at their mandatory pre-trial settlement conferences in more than 200 unlawful detainer cases.

JDC gave the 2014 Community Service Award to Miriam Gordon, a legal professional at Lieff Cabraser Heimann & Bernstein, for her commitment to public service. Two days a week, for seven years, Gordon provided paralegal support to JDC's Housing Negotiation Project, which serves over 700 people a year.

Orrick Herrington & Sutcliffe received the 2014 Outstanding Law Firm in Public Service Award. The firm partners weekly with JDC and UC Hastings to staff a drop-in legal clinic at Multi-Service Center South, and takes on follow-up work pro bono. Orrick attorneys also volunteer with JDC's eviction defense projects, handle business matters for non-profit organizations, represent pro se litigants in federal court, and volunteer at JDC's clinics at Project Homeless Connect. In addition to its pro bono legal services work, Orrick coordinates a career fair with The Bar Association of San Francisco for diverse law students.



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JDC honored Richard Zitrin as its 2014 Exemplary Volunteer for Legal Services and Diversity Educational Programs. Zitrin has supported JDC's Homeless Advocacy Project (HAP) for years, has assisted hundreds of HAP clients, and mentors staff and interns. Further, Zitrin has been involved with JDC's Minority Law School Scholarship since 1998, and has funded over five scholarships personally or through his family foundation.

The following law firms and corporations sponsored the Outstanding Volunteer Appreciation Celebration: Coblenz Patch Duffy & Bass; Farella Braun + Martel; Google; Jones Day; McDermott Will & Emery LLP; Morrison & Foerster LLP; O'Melveny & Meyers; Ogletree Deakins Nash Smoak & Stewart; and RR Donnelley Financial Services.

Additionally, the following contributed in-kind donations: A. Marisa Chun; Farella Braun + Martel; Lagunitas Brewing Company; and PlumpJack Wine & Spirits.