



Contact:
Rita Klein
216-539-3713
rklein@clemetrobar.org

7th Annual Scrooge-Cratchit Books for Kids Benefit Set for December 9
Event raises money to provide new books for
seven Cleveland Metropolitan Schools' Libraries

CLEVELAND – Dec. 7, 2009 – The Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Foundation (CMBF) will host its seventh annual Scrooge-Cratchit Holiday Benefit for Books for Kids on Wed., Dec. 9 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. at Pickwick & Frolic on East 4th Street in Cleveland.

The event is presented by the Labor & Employment Law Section, Litigation Section and Justice For All Committee of the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association (CMBA). Tickets cost just \$45 and include hearty appetizers, two drink tickets, entertainment and a live auction. All net proceeds are used to purchase new library books for the neediest K-8 school libraries in the Cleveland Metropolitan School District. This year, the following seven schools have been selected to be the beneficiaries: Forest Hill Parkway Academy, Henry W. Longfellow, Iowa-Maple, James A. Garfield, Joseph M. Gallagher, Luis Munoz Marin, and Marion Champlin Seltzer.

“This annual event is well-timed to coincide with the season of giving, when we turn our thoughts to what we can do for and give to others,” said Rick Manoloff, president of the CMBF. “The Books for Kids Benefit is a fun way to raise a significant amount of money to help improve the educational experience for children in our Cleveland community. The more we raise, the more books we'll provide for Cleveland schools.”

This year's live auction includes a wide variety of items, from event tickets to autographed items to gift certificates. A few highlight items for this year's auction include:

- Autographed items from tennis star Maria Sharapova, golf legend Jack Nicklaus, LPGA star Michelle Wie, Cleveland Indians Asdrubal Cabrera and Chris Gimenez, and others.
- Cleveland Orchestra tickets
- CAVS tickets
- Family packages for the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo

Thanks to the generosity of event patrons and sponsors, last year's event raised more than \$14,000 which allowed the CMBF to purchase and place more than 5,000 books in local elementary school (K-8) libraries. Many of these libraries have nominal budgets for new books, small collections and books that are decades out of date. This annual gift of new books from Cleveland's legal community is very much appreciated and will be useful to so many children for many years to come.

This year's event is held in thanks to our generous sponsors*: Litigation Section, Labor & Employment Section, Walter & Haverfield LLP, Rick D. Manoloff, Diane E. Citrino, Gallagher Sharp, Fay Sharpe LLP, James O. Judd of Oswald Companies, Cleveland Orchestra, IMG, The Cleveland Indians, Kenneth Kleppel, Nemo Grille, Pickwick and Frolic Restaurant and Club, and Half Price Books.

*Sponsors are subject to change. Please contact the CMBA for the most up-to-date list.

For more information regarding the event, tickets or sponsorship, visit www.clemetrobar.org.

About the CMBF

The Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Foundation is the charitable arm and partner of the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association. It raises funds to support the important public outreach activities of the Association, which are organized primarily under the Justice For All umbrella. These activities include a variety of pro bono legal service, law-related education, tutoring and mentoring programs. Additionally, the CMBF assists the Association's diversity initiatives aimed at improving the pipeline of minority students entering the legal profession. www.clemetrobar.org/Bar_Foundation/CMBF.

###