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“Rock the Foundation” Returns to House of Blues March 22nd Theme is “Cleveland Rocks”

CLEVELAND – Feb. 20, 2014 – The Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Foundation (CMBF) returns to the House of Blues Cleveland on Saturday, March 22 from 7 to 11 p.m. for its ninth annual [Rock the Foundation](#) rock ‘n’ roll party, presented by FirstMerit PrivateBank.

Open to the public, *Rock the Foundation* is the CMBF’s signature fundraising event for the many [community and pro bono programs](#) it supports. The local band [Shout](#) will perform live amid the night filled with fantastic food, open bar, dancing, and raffles. General admission tickets are \$125. Tickets for VIP entry are \$250 and include special 6 p.m. access for a pre-event reception with hors d’oeuvres and an open bar.

“There is so much to love about our city. Given our focus on lawyers giving back, we are excited to incorporate a celebration of Cleveland into our largest fundraiser of the year benefiting our impactful community outreach programs,” said CMBF President Ginger Mlakar. “Our legal community is a generous and dedicated group that believes in giving back to Cleveland. This event combines that generosity with an evening of live music, dancing, great food and fun.”

Event co-chairs – Bethanie Murray of Reminger Co., L.P.A. and Shelley Hillyer of Cliffs Natural Resources Inc. – are leading the event in partnership with an all-star host committee: Dave Bialosky, The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company; April Miller Boise, Veyance Technologies, Inc; Paul Harris, KeyCorp; Chuck E. Jarrett, Progressive Corporation; Tom Piraino, Parker Hannifin Corporation; Dick Pogue, Jones Day; Geri Presti, Forest City Enterprises, Inc.; Dave Rowan, The Cleveland Clinic Foundation; Fred Stueber, The Lincoln Electric Company; and Kelly Tompkins, Cliffs Natural Resources Inc.

Ticket sales, sponsorships and auction proceeds from Rock the Foundation have generated \$971,000 in the first eight years for the many Bar Foundation-funded program and initiatives that serve the Cleveland metropolitan community and promote pro bono legal assistance and public law-related education, including The 3Rs (teaching and counseling 3,000 students in Cleveland and East Cleveland schools annually), the homeless legal assistance program (counseling more than 350 people every year), and high school mock trial competitions (bringing the law home 900 students each year).

Sponsors for this year’s event are: **Presenting Sponsor:** FirstMerit PrivateBank; **Gold Sponsors:** BakerHostetler LLP; Calfee, Halter & Griswold LLP; Cliffs Natural Resources Inc.; Jones Day; Thompson Hine LLP; Tucker Ellis LLP; **Silver Sponsors:** Avalon Document Service; Benesch, Friedlander, Coplan & Aronoff LLP; First National Bank; Frantz Ward LLP; Hahn Loeser & Parks LLP; Inside Business; Kohrman Jackson & Krantz PLL; McCarthy, Lebit, Crystal & Liffman Co., LPA; McDonald Hopkins LLC; Nurenberg, Paris, Heller & McCarthy Co., L.P.A.; Reminger Co., L.P.A.; Porter Wright Morris & Arthur LLP; Squire Sanders (US) LLP; Taft Stettinius & Hollister LLP; Ulmer & Berne LLP; Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease LLP; Walter | Haverfield LLP; Zukerman Daiker & Lear Co., LPA; **Silver Nonprofit Sponsors:** Case Western Reserve University School of Law; The Cleveland Foundation; Cleveland-Marshall College of Law; **Bronze Sponsors:** Buckley King; Elk & Elk Co., Ltd; Empire Investigations; Gallagher Sharp; Mishkind Law Firm Co., L.P.A.; Ogletree, Deakins, Nash, Smoak & Stewart, P.C.; Spangenberg Shibley & Liber LLP; and Weisman, Kennedy & Berris Co., L. P.A.; **Green Screen Sponsor:** Special Counsel; **Ticket Sponsor:** ABC Bail Bonds; **Raffle Sponsor:** Ag Real Estate Group Inc.; **Official Radio Sponsor:** Newsradio WTAM 1100. Sponsors are current at time of release.

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

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 and inclusion initiatives aimed at improving the pipeline of minority students entering the legal profession. www.clemetrobar.org/foundation.

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