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Bar Foundation to Host 68th Annual Public Servants Luncheon *Featuring Special Guest Chief Justice Maureen O'Connor*

CLEVELAND – August 29, 2014 – The Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Foundation (CMBF) is proud to present the 68th Annual Franklin A. Polk Public Servants Merit Awards Luncheon on Friday, September 12 from 12:00 to 1:15 p.m. at the Cleveland Marriott at Key Center. The Awards Luncheon celebrates and honors public servants whose everyday commitment ensures full access to the justice system. This year, we are honored and excited to welcome special guest Chief Justice Maureen O'Connor of the Supreme Court of Ohio.

Each year city and county courts and government agencies are asked to nominate eligible recipients for their outstanding service to the legal profession, the general public, and our justice system. These merit awards are given for long and faithful service, devotion to duty, wise counsel, unfailing patience, and assistance to the public and members of the Bench and Bar of this county.

The 2014 Honorees are:

- Cornelia Byrne, *Shaker Heights Municipal Court*
- Rochelle Dobeck, *Eighth District Court of Appeals*
- Lisa Fox, *Cleveland Municipal Court, Clerk's Office*
- Kenneth Hirz, *United States Bankruptcy Court, Northern District of Ohio*
- Charles Jannsohn, *Cuyahoga County Clerk of Courts*
- Colleen Kilbane, *Cuyahoga County Domestic Relations Court*
- Geraldine Kilbane, *Cuyahoga County Juvenile Court*
- Margaret Mazzeo, *Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas*
- Lynn Muniak, *Parma Municipal Court*
- Gloria Toombs, *Cleveland Municipal Court*
- Ralph Zarnick, *Cuyahoga County Probate Court*

“This program is a great opportunity for the public and legal community to express our gratitude to those individuals who often go unrecognized for their service and assistance to the community,” said Thomas Feher, president of the CMBF. “In addition to our nominated honorees, we are pleased to have Chief Justice Maureen O'Connor join us in paying special tribute to the service and professionalism of those who help deliver justice to our community.”

The plan to honor deserving public servants was inaugurated in 1947 by the late Raymond D. Metzner, a past president of the Cuyahoga County Bar Association (CCBA). CCBA Past President Franklin A. Polk served annually as continuous chairman until 1986. Polk was involved with this program until his passing in 1991. In 1986, the Public Servants Merit Award was renamed the "Franklin A. Polk Public Servants Merit Award" to honor Polk's dedication and outstanding service to the CCBA and Cuyahoga County Bar Foundation (CCBF). In 2009, the Cleveland Bar Foundation and CCBF unified as the CMBF.

Sponsors* for this year's event include: Benesch, Friedlander, Coplan & Aronoff LLP; Calfee Halter & Griswold LLP; Case Western Reserve University School of Law; Cleveland-Marshall College of Law; Gallagher Sharp; Kronenberg + Belovich Law LLC; Hon. Diane Karpinski (retired); Kronenberg + Belovich Law LLC; Lazzaro Law Offices; Scott Lewis; Matthew McMonagle; Reminger Co., L.P.A.; Barbara Roman; Squire Patton Boggs (US) LLP; Thompson Hine LLP; Tucker Ellis LLP; Ulmer & Berne LLP; Walter | Haverfield LLP.

*Sponsors current as of release date.

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

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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