



The
Legal Aid Society
of Cleveland
Since 1905

***** Media Alert *****

For Immediate Release

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February 19 Event Highlights Creative Philanthropy, Legal Community

Cleveland -- The Legal Aid Society of Cleveland, Ohio Legal Assistance Foundation, Cleveland Foodbank and Towards Employment will receive significant gifts at a special check presentation on February 19, 2009.

The February 19 event will be held at The Club at Key Center (127 Public Square, Cleveland) from 4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. The check presentation will occur during the program at 5:30 p.m., and include remarks from Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association president Michael E. Brittain.

The four organizations are receiving checks that resulted from a *cy pres* distribution.

Cy pres means “as nearly as possible” and is a legal doctrine dating from the third century allowing the courts to carry out the terms of an agreement as closely as possible. In class actions, it refers to distribution of unclaimed settlement funds to purposes benefitting society. Class actions lawsuits last for many years. Some class members move, pass away, or are difficult to locate. *Cy pres* allows distribution of some or all of those unclaimed monies to charities.

The law firms Ronald Frederick & Associates and Dworken & Bernstein facilitated the *cy pres* awards which will be presented on February 19. Firm representatives will award the checks and highlight the new website promoting *cy pres*, “Ohio Lawyers Give Back,” which describes recent *cy pres* awards and encourages more use of this type of distribution to the public good.

For any further information, or for interview contacts, please call Legal Aid at 216-861-5217.

On the web: www.lasclev.org or www.ohiolawyersgiveback.org

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