

Press Release
For Immediate Release

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CATHERINE CARR TO BE HONORED FOR DEDICATED SERVICE
TO INDIGENT POPULATION OF PHILADELPHIA

"2006 Denison Ray Award Winner"

WASHINGTON, DC, October 13, 2006 - The National Legal Aid & Defender Association (NLADA) is pleased to announce that Catherine Carr, executive director of Community Legal Services, Inc., Philadelphia, is the 2006 recipient of the Denison Ray Award. Carr will be honored during the NLADA 2006 Annual Conference Awards Luncheon on Friday, November 10 at the Westin Charlotte Hotel in Charlotte, NC.

The Denison Ray Award, given biennially, honors an individual who has provided exceptional service to the legal aid community as a staff member, client board member or volunteer of a provider program. The "Denny" is named for a career legal aid activist who served as executive director of legal services programs in Missouri, Maine, North Carolina and New York and was a long-time leader of the Project Advisory Group.

"Cathy Carr's tireless efforts on behalf of the low-income community in Philadelphia, sets the standard high for all advocates in the legal aid community," said Jo-Ann Wallace, NLADA president and CEO. "NLADA is honored to present the 2006 Denison Ray Award to Catherine Carr."

Carr is widely respected as a leader in legal aid in the Philadelphia region, the Third Circuit, and nationally through her work for the American Bar Association Task Force on Access to Civil Justice. She has been the executive director of CLS since 1995 and has been supervising attorney since 1986. She began her tenure at CLS as a staff attorney in 1984. While a staff attorney, Carr was lead counsel and co-counsel in state and federal civil litigation with particular concentration on access to public benefits. As supervising attorney, she is responsible for the training and supervision of staff attorneys and paralegals, as well as the management of the public benefits unit.

Carr has extensive experience with federal litigation, including class action impact litigation, administrative law, and legislative advocacy. While at CLS, she has represented, among others, plaintiff classes in challenging the Social Security Administration's standard for entitlement to widow's disability benefits; federal and state agencies' failure to provide free Medicare benefits to indigent elderly and disabled persons in accordance with the Social Security Act; and she represented a class of food stamp recipients in a challenge to the state welfare department's failure to implement the Food Stamp Act requirements.

"It is no wonder that she [Carr] has been selected as one of 'Fifty Women of Influence' by the Legal Intelligencer, received the University of Pennsylvania Law School Public Service Program Award, and the Pennsylvania Legal Services Excellence Award," said Judge Norma Shapiro, United States District Court, Eastern District of Pennsylvania.

"It is not enough to focus on the results of Cathy's work to explain why she is deserving of this award," said Sharon M. Dietrich, managing attorney of CLS. "Having worked closely with Cathy, I can attest to her generosity as a colleague as well as her strong legal abilities. She is persistent in her determination to

continuously improve the lot of poor Philadelphians and is never satisfied with what has been accomplished to date."

For more information on NLADA awards, visit www.nlada.org <<http://www.nlada.org>> .

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The National Legal Aid & Defender Association (NLADA) champions effective legal assistance for people who cannot afford counsel, serves as a collective voice for both civil legal services and public defense services throughout the nation and provides a wide range of services and benefits to its individual and organizational members. Founded in 1911, NLADA is the oldest and largest national, nonprofit membership organization devoting all of its resources to advocating equal access to justice for all Americans.

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