

CDEL to Light Up the Loop at 2016 Winter Awards Benefit on Feb. 17th

The Chicago-based Center for Disability & Elder Law will host its 32nd Annual Winter Awards Benefit on February 17, 2016 at Baker & McKenzie in Chicago

CHICAGO, IL, USA, January 22, 2016 /EINPresswire.com/ -- The [Center for Disability & Elder Law](#) (CDEL) is pleased to announce the winners of its Annual Awards to be presented at its "Light Up the Loop" Winter Awards Benefit on February 17th at [Baker & McKenzie](#). The event is chaired for the fifth consecutive year by CDEL Governing Board Member Theresa Jaffe, Principal of [Theresa Jaffe Consulting](#). Honorary Co-Chairs of the event are Patricia Brown Holmes, Partner at Schiff Hardin LLP and President of the Chicago Bar Association; Gloria Santona, Executive Vice President, General Counsel & Secretary of McDonald's Corporation, Inc.; and Michael S. Smith, Managing Partner of Baker & McKenzie's Chicago Office.



The CDEL Corporate Partner of the Year Award will be presented to AT&T, which has been a dedicated partner with CDEL since 2010, participating in Senior Citizen Initiative (SCI) workshops, assisting hundreds of CDEL clients and having large teams of AT&T attorneys volunteering at CDEL. AT&T also supports CDEL with the Excellence in Pro Bono Fellowship. Established in 2011, the Fellowship provides a \$2,500 tuition fellowship to deserving John Marshall Law School students who have an interest in Elder Law. In exchange, the student works at CDEL part time during the semester of the Fellowship.

U.S. Rep. Mike Quigley (D-IL 5th) will be presented with CDEL's Impact Award. Congressman Quigley has been a tireless advocate for low income individuals, including seniors and people with disabilities during his time in Congress. CDEL is a regular participant in Congressman Quigley's Senior Fairs and thanks to his efforts, CDEL has done extensive outreach in multiple locations throughout his district providing critically needed Powers of Attorney and Illinois Living Will Declarations to hundreds of seniors. The cooperative relationship that CDEL has had with Congressman Quigley has fostered relationships with numerous agencies, elected officials and governmental offices.

The Volunteer Individual of the Year Award will be presented to Rachel Spector who has been one of CDEL's most dedicated volunteers for over six years, working at the Adult Guardianship Pro Se Help Desk and in CDEL's office providing client document review, intakes, drafting wills and serving CDEL's clients. Since 2009, Ms. Spector has provided over 1900 hours of volunteer service to CDEL.

The Distinguished Service Award will be presented to Pro Bono Network (PBN), a network of stay-at-

home attorney moms founded by PBN Executive Director Donna Peel, who established a partnership with CDEL in 2011. PBN staffs four Senior Legal Assistance Clinics (SLAC) each month in Austin, North Riverside and Bellwood and their support has allowed SLAC to expand its reach. In addition, PBN regularly staffs at least three SCIs each year. No single group provides more pro bono hours to CDEL than PBN.

“We are grateful to our Event Chair and fellow Board Member, Theresa Jaffe, for breaking fundraising records and raising the bar each and every time she has chaired this important event,” said Anthony O’Neill, CDEL’s Board President.

As part of its biggest annual fundraiser, CDEL is raffling off a Florida vacation condo package for seven days in a three bedroom condo on the beach in Daytona Beach donated by Corboy & Demetrio, which also includes a \$900 Airfare Card; two airline tickets donated by United Airlines that are valid anywhere in US48, Caribbean, Alaska, Canada or Mexico; a Hilton Head vacation condo for seven days at Indigo Run Plantation in a three bedroom private home at The Owners Club in Hilton Head, South Carolina donated by Annette & Bob Michalak; a Skin Medispa Package with a four-hour Ultimate Renewal Treatment, one Botox treatment and consultation with Dr. Anthony J. Geroulis donated by The North Shore Center for Facial Plastic & Cosmetic Surgery; and a VIP Champagne Tasting for six guests at the upscale cocktail lounge SHAY.

“It’s a privilege and an honor to serve as Chair of this important event for a fifth year,” Jaffe said. “Light Up the Loop has become a Winter networking destination, and we are thrilled and grateful to the companies and law firms that have generously signed on as sponsors.”

The 32nd Annual CDEL Winter Awards Benefit will be held from 5:30 to 8:30 pm on February 17, 2015 at Baker & McKenzie, 300 East Randolph Street in Chicago. Tickets may be purchased online at cdelaw.org.

A complimentary After Party will again be hosted by SHAY, located in the heart of River North at 222 W. Ontario St., which will open its private doors to CDEL’s guests. Each attendee at the Winter Awards Benefit will receive a complimentary VIP pass allowing guests to continue their evening. “People really enjoy seeing one another at our event, and SHAY hosting a complimentary After Party for a second consecutive year is so generous,” said Anthony O’Neill, CDEL’s Board President.

About CDEL

In the last 32 years, more than 30,000 disabled people and senior citizens have been provided free legal services from the Center for Disability & Elder Law, with its staff of four attorneys and hundreds of volunteer lawyers. Those services provided include: adult guardianship, landlord/tenant disputes, financial elder abuse, consumer fraud, mortgage fraud and property tax and assistance at the Pro Se Guardianship Help Desk. In addition, CDEL runs workshops and assists seniors with powers of attorney for healthcare and property, and living will declarations. CDEL trains volunteers who provide counseling to senior citizens who are at risk of losing their homes due to delinquent property taxes, helping them take advantage of tax assistance programs and exemptions.

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