

News / Events

News

Patricia Poole Assumes Legal Aid Board Presidency

7/26/2006

CLEVELAND, OH - July 26, 2006 - Patricia Poole, a partner in Baker Hostetler's Cleveland office, is the new president of The Legal Aid Society of Cleveland's Board of Trustees, the governing body for Legal Aid - the nonprofit law firm for low-income families in Northeast Ohio. Ms. Poole began her term on July 1.

Ms. Poole has been an active Legal Aid board member since 2003 and co-chaired Legal Aid's 100th Anniversary Gala in 2005. The Gala event hosted Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton as the keynote speaker. Ms. Poole has been an active fundraiser for Legal Aid, and previously served on numerous board committees.

More specifically, Ms. Poole has worked during her tenure to recruit well-qualified board members. She served on the committee which recruited and hired Legal Aid's new executive director, Colleen Cotter. "We look forward to Pat's guidance and leadership during the upcoming year; her passion for justice is inspirational," said Ms. Cotter.

Ms. Poole plans to focus her presidency on strategic planning and staff salary issues. Legal Aid staff and board members commenced a strategic planning process, and Ms. Poole expects to begin implementation of the strategic plan during her term. "It is important that The Legal Aid Society of Cleveland develop a solid strategic plan to ensure its continued growth and success in the upcoming years. Legal Aid has always and will continue to deliver top-notch legal services to its clients," said Ms. Poole

"Pat's commitment to social justice, demonstrated by her involvement on the board of Legal Aid, combined with her leadership capabilities, make her an outstanding choice for president," said Hewitt Shaw, Managing Partner of Baker Hostetler's Cleveland office.

"Having witnessed Pat's leadership first-hand, from her coordination of the firm-sponsored 'Brief Advice & Referral Clinic' to the instrumental role she assumed in finalizing our recent grant to sponsor Legal Aid's Special Education Attorney position, I know she will bring those same abilities to her role in providing vision and leadership to the Board in all its future endeavors. Pat has earned the respect of all of us here at the firm for her tireless efforts and we are proud to support her in her new role with Legal Aid," said Shaw.

Ms. Poole's leadership will be complemented by her executive committee: vice-presidents David Kutik, Esq. (Jones Day), Edward Icove, Esq. (Smith & Condeni) and secretary Carole Heyward, Esq. (Cleveland-Marshall College of Law).

Legal Aid provides high-quality free legal assistance to those in need from five Northeast Ohio counties. For more information on Legal Aid's services, visit www.lasclev.org or call 216-861-5217.

Ms. Poole is available for interviews regarding the legal needs of low-income families in Northeast Ohio.

Contact:

Christine L. Gill

Communications Manager
216.861.7852
cgill@bakerlaw.com
