

Court Information Release



UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS
EASTERN DIVISION
219 SOUTH DEARBORN STREET
CHICAGO, IL 60604

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Ninth Annual Awards for Excellence in Pro Bono and Public Interest Service

CHICAGO – William H. Neukom, President of the American Bar Association, will be the keynote speaker at a May 13, 2008 awards ceremony sponsored by the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois and the Chicago chapter of the Federal Bar Association, recognizing pro bono and public interest service before the court.

Mr. Neukom, a partner in the Seattle office of K&L Gates, has served as President of the ABA since August 2007. He earned his LL.B. from Stanford University in 1967 and clerked for Judge Theodore S. Turner of the King County Superior Court from 1967–68. He received his A.B. from Dartmouth College in 1964. As executive vice president of Law and Corporate Affairs for Microsoft Corp., Mr. Neukom managed Microsoft's legal, government affairs and philanthropic activities for 17 years. Before that, he served as the firm's lead counsel while working as a partner at Preston, Gates & Ellis. Mr. Neukom rejoined Preston Gates in 2002.

As Microsoft's lead counsel, Mr. Neukom led the company's efforts to establish, distribute and protect intellectual property rights around the world. He was instrumental in securing the landmark legal victory in *Apple Computer v. Microsoft Corporation*, a copyright case which spanned 1988–1995. Mr. Neukom also led Microsoft's defense of antitrust claims brought by the U.S. Federal Trade Commission, U.S. Department of Justice and the European Union, which culminated in consent decrees in 1994 and 2001.

Under Mr. Neukom's direction, Microsoft's community affairs program initiated a number of key corporate giving strategies, including the Microsoft Giving Campaign, the Microsoft Matching Gifts program, the Microsoft Volunteer Program, and several national scale projects, including "Libraries Online!."

An active member of the ABA for over 30 years, Mr. Neukom served as chair of the Young Lawyers Division of the American Bar Association from 1977–78. He also served on the ABA Board of Governors as secretary of the ABA, from 1983–87, and as Washington State Delegate to the ABA House of Delegates from 1999–2006. Mr. Neukom chaired the ABA Fund for Justice and Education from 1997–99; the ABA Task Force on Goal VIII from 2002-03, which examined the association’s rule of law programming; and the ABA Governance Commission from 2003–05. His primary initiative as President of the ABA is the World Justice Project, a multidisciplinary and multinational initiative to foster human well-being by advancing the Rule of Law.

The Ninth Annual Awards for Excellence in Pro Bono and Public Interest Service is scheduled to begin at 3:30 p.m., Tuesday, May 13, 2008, in the James Benton Parsons Memorial Courtroom (2525) of the Everett McKinley Dirksen United States Courthouse at 219 South Dearborn Street in Chicago, Illinois. The program is open to all attorneys and those interested in pro bono and public interest law, and is free of charge.

Seven “Awards for Excellence in Pro Bono and Public Interest Service” and one “Special Recognition Award for Public Interest Service” will be presented to area attorneys for their contributions in helping those most in need of assistance through pro bono and public interest work before the District Court for the Northern District of Illinois.

Award winners include: **Sara C. Arroyo and Rosa M. Tumialán**, of Dykema Gossett PLLC (presented by the Honorable David H. Coar); **Anthony J. Masciopinto**, of Kulwin, Masciopinto & Kulwin, LLP (presented by the Honorable Blanche M. Manning); **Myron Mackoff**, of Richardson & Mackoff (presented by the Honorable James F. Holderman and the Honorable Maria Valdez); **Joshua D. Lee and Amy M. Rubenstein**, of Schiff Hardin LLP (presented by the Honorable Geraldine Soat Brown); **Catherine Caporusso and Margot Klein**, of the Federal District Court's Self-Help Assistance Program (presented by the Honorable William J. Hibbler); **David A. Gordon, Michael B. Nadler, and Kristen R. Seeger**, of Sidley Austin LLP (presented by the Honorable Sidney I. Schenkier); **Lisa R. Kane**, of Lisa Kane & Associates, PC (presented by the Honorable James F. Holderman) and **Richard J. Gonzales**, Clinical Professor of Law, Chicago-Kent College of Law (presented by the Honorable James F. Holderman).

The awards program will also feature written comments and introductions by Chief Judge James F. Holderman and Charles L. Nesbit, President of the Chicago chapter of the Federal Bar Association. Joel Daly, District Court Information Officer, will emcee the ceremony.