## For Immediate Release

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## Senior Partners for Justice Founder Judge Edward M. Ginsburg (Retired) to Receive 2014 ABA Pro Bono Publico Award

Boston, MA (August 7, 2014) – The American Bar Association Standing Committee on Pro Bono and Public Service has chosen Judge Edward M. Ginsburg (Retired) as a recipient of its 2014 Pro Bono Publico Award. Judge Ginsburg is being honored for his work with Senior Partners for Justice (SPJ), a pro bono program he founded at the Volunteer Lawyers Project of the Boston Bar Association in 2002, upon his retirement from the Probate and Family Court. Read more about Judge Ginsburg here.

With a corps of nearly 1000 volunteers, including many experienced practicing and retired lawyers and retired judges, Senior Partners for Justice has provided free legal assistance to several thousand low-income litigants, primarily in family law, guardianship, and consumer cases. That translates to more than eight million dollars in donated legal services. For the clients helped, the services are invaluable.

Describing Judge Ginsburg's extraordinary contributions, VLP Executive Director Sheila Hubbard states: "Judge Ginsburg's energy, enthusiasm, and commitment to improving and delivering volunteer legal services to low-income clients is unparalleled in our state. The work he has done here has been the model for several other efforts across the state and country." The Massachusetts Access to Justice Commission and Supreme Judicial Court Standing Committee on Pro Bono Legal Services, in their letter of support, echo this thought and add that Judge Ginsburg "has transformed what it means to be a retired lawyer and judge in Massachusetts by creating, inspiring, and leading Senior Partners for Justice."

Each year, the ABA Standing Committee on Pro Bono and Public Service presents five Pro Bono Publico Awards to individual lawyers and institutions in the legal community that enhance the human dignity of others by improving or delivering volunteer legal services to the poor or disadvantaged. <u>Click here to see a list of this year's recipients</u>.

The awards will be presented at a luncheon on Saturday August 9<sup>th</sup> at the ABA's Annual Meeting which is being held in Boston this year. The luncheon will be held from noon to 1:30 p.m. in Ballroom A of the Hynes Convention Center.

The <u>ABA Standing Committee on Pro Bono and Public Service</u> provides national leadership in policy, outreach, implementation and technical assistance activities designed to encourage, expand and improve pro bono activities and programs.

## About the ABA:

With nearly 400,000 members, the American Bar Association is one of the largest voluntary professional membership organizations in the world. As the national voice of the legal profession, the ABA works to improve the administration of justice, promotes programs that assist lawyers and judges in their work, accredits law schools, provides continuing legal education, and works to build public understanding around the world of the importance of the rule of law.

## **About the Volunteer Lawyers Project of the Boston Bar Association:**

The Volunteer Lawyers Project of the Boston Bar Association (VLP) provides free civil legal assistance to low-income residents of Greater Boston, primarily through the pro bono services of private attorneys. Founded in 1977, VLP is among the first organized pro bono efforts in the country. For more information, please visit www.vlpnet.org.