



# Council for Court Excellence



## SETTING A NEW CCE AGENDA

Annual Report 2006

## FINISHING CURRENT WORK



Dear Fellow Board Members,

We are pleased to commend this 2006 Annual Report for you to review and share with your colleagues and friends. This report sums up the exceptionally busy and productive year the Council for Court Excellence had in 2006 during which we covered wide-ranging administration of justice topics in the District of Columbia for local and national audiences, and did so by engaging a wide variety of external partners essential to the task.

The report appropriately begins with the setting of a new CCE agenda, a seven-month, three-stage process, led by CCE's Long-Range Planning Committee co-chaired by Marc Fleischaker and Marc Sherman, that included surveying our Board of Directors and hundreds of justice system stakeholders, interviewing key officials, and concluding with a robust retreat. We wish to acknowledge and thank everyone involved in this unique process that so successfully merged the enthusiasm expressed for programmatic focus areas with financial and funding priorities to ensure our capacity to accomplish the work in the years to come.

Several long-term projects were also completed in 2006, including our eighth year of improving DC child welfare system performance, culminating in the publication at year-end of CCE's Third Progress Report. We also concluded an in-depth examination of the sealing of criminal records, begun in 2005, with the assistance of a large committee of Board members and external stakeholders who researched and carefully negotiated a series of public policy positions that were incorporated into legislation unanimously passed by the DC Council in December. We are particularly indebted to Board members Leslie McAdoo and Steve Gordon, as well as Councilmember Phil Mendelson, for putting the District of Columbia on a par with 24 states that have enacted similar statutes to remove the collateral consequences of criminal behavior years after one's debt to society has been paid.

Several other projects wrapped up in 2006 including CCE's Jury Wheel Study culminating in a high-level briefing for members of the court and the community; continuing our commitment to improving the public's understanding of justice with the publication in Spanish of "A Victim's Guide" made possible by the GEICO Philanthropic Foundation; and CCE's Exporting the Model project that brought positive national exposure to the DC court system as a progressive bench, while heightening awareness of the Council for Court Excellence as one of the leading non-profit justice reform organizations in the country. Finally, we celebrated excellence in leadership at our 10<sup>th</sup> Justice Potter Stewart dinner, where we recognized legal giant Steve Pollak, the Legal Aid Society and Jonathan Smith, our former Potter Stewart award winners, and Justice Stewart's law clerks. It was quite an evening.

We hope you will use this report to recruit new Board members, interest new funding sources, and call attention to the fine work of this organization. That so much has been accomplished is due to the committed, volunteer service of individual Board members assisted by our talented and exceedingly competent staff. We thank them all.

Michael C. Rogers  
Chairman

Rodney F. Page  
President

## CHARTING THE FUTURE

Dear CCE Board Members,

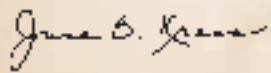
There are a number of accomplishments worth highlighting from this busy year, made possible by a committed Board of Directors, a stable and talented staff, and a diverse group of justice system stakeholders who responded so favorably to all invitations for collaboration.

I am most enthusiastic, however, about this year's long-range plan that ushered in an entirely new set of programmatic priorities, my first since coming to the Council in early 2004. With the distinct focus areas of criminal justice, business and the courts, court efficiencies and effectiveness, and juvenile justice, the Council's substantive interests and contributions will have an opportunity to grow exponentially in the years to come.

We have already begun to chart the course for the future. In the next year, you can expect progress on a project we've been thinking about for more than two years dealing with chronic offenders with mental illness and substance abuse problems who continue to cycle and re-cycle through our justice system. We will also begin immediately to examine the relationship between the business community and the courts, a project we believe will be of great interest to local businesses who use (or perhaps chose not to use) the local court system. We have much to learn about this relationship and will be relying on commercial interests throughout the city to guide our exploration. You can expect a third project to take the form of a guide to the juvenile justice system for families who are caught up in the system and, like many people, do not understand its complexities. Also watch for continued efforts in community education as we next update and reprint our very popular probate guides in English as well as in Spanish.

I would be remiss if I didn't recognize the highly effective leadership this past year of the Executive Committee, led by Michael and Rod, and the governance committees that, along with the programmatic work, maintain the Council's strength organizationally. Elliott Adler's keen financial insight, Caryl Bernstein's fundraising prowess, Jim Lee's commitment to building the membership, and Carol Melamed's long-time leadership of the Nominating Committee—for which she received the Horsky Award at the June 2006 Board meeting—kept me going, too. I look forward to working with Joan Strand on the regeneration of Council for Court Excellence leadership. And, as if you didn't already know this, the CCE staff continues to be the best in the city.

In closing, I'd like to acknowledge and sincerely thank each and every financial contributor to the Council during 2006. The many foundations, law firms, businesses, and individuals who supported CCE last year are listed at the end of this Annual Report. I am grateful to all of you for continuing to invest in our ability to promote increased public understanding of, support for, and improvement in our local and federal courts and system of justice.



June B. Kress  
Executive Director



## SETTING A NEW CCE AGENDA

The Council for Court Excellence completed work in 2006 on many of the major initiatives which had been set forth in CCE's 2001–2006 long-range plan. Thus, at their December 2006 semi-annual meeting, the Council's board of directors adopted a new, 2007–2011 long-range plan that will guide the organization's major activities during the coming five years.

The plan sets forth four major program priority areas:

- ☞ Criminal Justice
- ☞ Business and the Courts
- ☞ Court Efficiencies and Effectiveness
- ☞ Juvenile Justice

The plan articulates the Council's rationale for each program area and identifies priority projects the Council should undertake in each area within the next five years. The plan also identifies three major financial priorities, to ensure sufficient capacity to accomplish the Council's program goals:

- ☞ Increase financial support from the business community
- ☞ Increase financial support from mid-size law firms
- ☞ Increase financial support from local and national foundations

*Board members Avis Buchanan, Marc Fleischaker, Marc Sherman, Judge Noel Kramer, and Dick Hoffman.*



*Board member Ann Kappler leads part of the discussion at the Long-Range Planning Retreat.*

The plan was the result of several months' work by a Council committee ably co-chaired by Marc Fleischaker and Marc Sherman. The committee followed a three-stage process. First, in June 2006 they prepared a survey seeking reactions to past CCE work and suggestions of topics for CCE to emphasize going forward. The survey went to the full CCE board and 725 external stakeholders, and it yielded 125 responses offering many recommendations for consideration. Next, in July and August 2006, the committee gathered numerous additional suggestions through interviews of ten key officials of the District's federal and local justice systems. Finally, the committee planned and hosted a productive half-day retreat on October 13, 2006, to present and discuss their preliminary conclusions. The retreat drew 67 participants, just the sort of large, diverse, and eclectic gathering that enriches CCE's work.

Following the retreat, the long-range planning committee prepared a proposed plan and presented it for discussion and approval by the Council's Executive Committee in early November. That approval cleared the way for the full board's consideration and adoption on December 7, 2006.

Special thanks for leading this important undertaking for the Council are due to the committee co-chairs and to the other members of their committee—Jack Bray, Avis Buchanan, Rob Burton, David Cynamon, Roy Goldberg, Elliott Hall, Steve Hut, Ann Kappler, Julia Matthews, Carol Melamed, Judge James Robertson, and Michael Rogers—and to the law firm WilmerHale for hosting the October 13 retreat.

The Council's 2007–2011 plan is posted on the CCE website.

## IMPROVING DC CHILD WELFARE SYSTEM PERFORMANCE

The Council for Court Excellence continued in 2006 the role it has played since fall 1999, of both facilitating the District of Columbia's efforts to reform the child welfare system and reporting to the public on the performance of the system as a whole.

The District of Columbia's child welfare system is greatly improved since the project began. Nonetheless, DC children who are removed from their families still spend too long in foster care before finding a permanent home, and too many leave the foster care system without ever having found a permanent family. Reducing time in foster care for most children remains a serious challenge to the District's child welfare system. These are the major findings reported in CCE's third progress report on the performance of that system, published in December 2006.

The report documents that the District is now in nearly full compliance with the many requirements of the federal and DC laws under which the child welfare system operates, a significant improvement over prior years. However, one lesson learned is that statutory compliance has not yet translated into short stays in foster care, overall. At least partly because of the significant number of long-open cases in the DC system, the average duration of foster care for those children who did reach permanent homes in 2005 is sobering:

- ∞ 2.6 years, for children who were reunified with their families;
- ∞ 4.0 years, for children who were placed in the custody, generally, of their formerly non-custodial parent;
- ∞ 4.9 years, for children who were placed with a guardian; and
- ∞ 5.4 years, for children who were adopted.

On a more positive note, there are signs that many newer cases are resolving promptly. Nearly half the DC children who entered foster care in fiscal year 2004 and nearly 40% of children who entered foster care in fiscal year 2005 were already in permanent homes by March 2006.

CCE's 2006 work on child welfare system reform was overseen by the Children in the Courts Committee, chaired by Deborah Luxenberg, and it was funded by the Freddie Mac Foundation and by the members of CCE's board. The law firm McDermott Will & Emery LLP generously underwrote the design and printing of the published report, which is available by request to the Council's offices or by download from the CCE website.



## PROMOTING THE ENACTMENT OF CRIMINAL RECORD SEALING LEGISLATION

The Criminal Record Sealing Act of 2006 (#16-746), based upon the work of a study group sponsored by the Council for Court Excellence, unanimously was passed by the DC Council at its final legislative meeting on December 19, 2006, and is expected to become law in May 2007, after the mandatory period of Congressional review. The bill will help people seeking to remove the stigma of a criminal arrest or low-level conviction record and to move on with their lives. The bill revises existing procedures for sealing records in cases of actual innocence and establishes new processes for sealing—not destroying—records from public view in cases of arrests that do not result in conviction and convictions for certain low-level, non-violent misdemeanors.



*Expungement Subcommittee Co-Chairs and Board members Steve Gordon and Leslie McAdoo.*

### THE NEW PROCESSES:

- ☞ Make persons eligible for sealing, not entitled. The final decision is up to a judge.
- ☞ To qualify, a person cannot have a conviction for a felony or serious misdemeanor, and must have a clean record for an extensive waiting period—2 years for a misdemeanor arrest, 5 years for a felony arrest, 10 years for a misdemeanor conviction.
- ☞ Provide that all sealed records remain available to law enforcement and the courts and to certain employers for background check purposes (e.g., schools, day care centers, law enforcement, licensing agencies, health care workers).
- ☞ Convictions ineligible for sealing include *all* felonies (except failure to appear in court), and misdemeanors that are crimes against children, sex crimes, crimes of dishonesty and serious traffic crimes (e.g., DWI).

*Board member and DC Council Judiciary Committee Chair Phil Mendelson.*



Special thanks to Leslie McAdoo and Steve Gordon for their indefatigable efforts addressing legislative issues that arose during the Fall. Special thanks as well to DC Council Judiciary Committee chair Phil Mendelson for shepherding the bill's passage into law, and to his dedicated staff, Heidi Tseu and Michael Battle.

Thanks as well to the members of the Expungement Subcommittee, which produced the draft legislation introduced to the DC Council, and for their thoughtful insight and contributions over the course of the year-long study: Judge Mary Ellen Abrecht, Michael Battle, James Berry, Daniel Cipullo, Charlotte Cluverius, Judith Conti, Katherine Duree, Andrew Glass, Steven Gordon, Laura Hankins, Michael Hays, Clifford Keenan, Yvonne Martinez-Vega, Amy Mauro, Amit Mehta, Olaf Muller, Jim Nathanson, Robert Okun, David Rosenthal, Kelly Salzmann, Administrative Law Judge Arabella Teal, Heidi Tseu, Ted Whitehouse and Elizabeth Wingo.

## DESIGNING A PROGRAM FOR DC AT-RISK YOUTH

In response to the 2006 crime emergency, the Washington DC Police Fund contracted with CCE to design an at-risk youth program for the Metropolitan Police Department. The major long-term goal of the proposed program, entitled the MPD At-Risk Youth Community Services Partnership (“Partnership”), is to measurably reduce the number of DC youth who encounter the DC juvenile, criminal and school disciplinary systems. An additional major long-term goal is to positively shift traditionally low attitudes among youth towards law enforcement.

The proposed Partnership would link the large pool of at-risk youth that MPD encounters through arrest and also through its School Resource Officer program in local middle and high schools to community-based organizations (CBOs) that offer tutoring, mentoring and counseling programs. Such programs have been shown in the evaluation literature to have proven, positive effects on at-risk youth. The Partnership may offer a cutting-edge opportunity, as the literature is generally silent on this sort of law enforcement involvement in at-risk youth programs.

The proposed Partnership would work to secure partnerships with CBOs that offer tutoring, mentoring or counseling programs, work with MPD’s School Resource Officers program and other MPD sources to identify and refer at-risk youth to appropriate CBOs, conduct MPD-led educational classes at community-based organizations, recruit MPD officers and staff to serve as tutors and mentors within the existing community-based programs, among other activities.

CCE’s programmatic recommendations were based on extensive analysis of available MPD reports and arrest data, along with a literature review of what works and what doesn’t. CCE found that about 6% of all DC criminal arrests were of juveniles. Other major findings from CCE’s statistical analysis of DC juvenile arrest data included:

- ∞ **Juvenile arrest rates were increasing.** As of June 2006, the District of Columbia was on pace to experience an 11% increase in its juvenile arrest rate from 2005, and an almost 25% increase as compared to 2001.
- ∞ **Black males between the ages of 15–17 represented the largest number of juvenile arrests.** The “typical” juvenile arrest involved a black male between the ages of 15–17, arrested between the hours of 5:00 pm–11:00 pm, and who was likely being arrested for the first time. There was no seasonal influence on arrest rates.
- ∞ **Girls were increasingly being arrested.** Through June 2006, there was a 20% increase in the number of girls arrested from 2005, and a nearly 40% increase since 2001. Both currently and historically from 2001, simple assaults account for about 20% of arrests of girls.
- ∞ **PSAs 101, 302, 504, 602 and 604 were high juvenile arrest areas.** Available data on the location of juvenile arrests suggest that an at-risk youth program should be targeted to PSAs 101, 302, 504, 602 and 604, which experienced among the most frequent juvenile arrests since 2001, and were among the top PSAs in terms of juvenile arrests through June 2006. PSAs 104 and 705 emerged as possible new juvenile arrest “hot spots.”
- ∞ **Overall, juvenile arrests for violent crime were increasing.** From January 1–June 3, 2006, the rate of violent crime increased by nearly 20% from 2001–2005, with approximate 20% and 25% increases respectively in “other assaults” and “other felonies.”

## IMPROVING JUROR RESPONSE RATES

2006 was a productive year for CCE's long-standing jury improvements initiative, seeing the publication of *Improving Juror Response Rates in the District of Columbia* and the enactment of the "Jury Trial Improvements Act of 2006." In 2006, the DC Superior Court made progress in improving juror response rates by a rate of about 40%, according to *Improving Juror Response Rates in the District of Columbia*. The report, published by CCE in March 2006, describes the process by which DC citizens are summoned to jury service, details recent efforts by the DC Superior Court to improve the jury summoning process and suggests further governmental reforms to increase the proportion of summoned citizens who actually serve. The report was the culmination of about two years of work, sponsored by CCE, by the National Center for State Courts to work with the Court to improve jury response rates.

In mid-2003, the Council for Court Excellence contracted with Tom Munsterman of the National Center for State Courts, a nationally recognized jury system expert, to study the DC juror summoning process and make recommendations to improve that process. The impetus for this study has been a historically low juror yield, not uncommon in urban jurisdictions. In 2002, only 14% of citizens summoned for jury duty in the DC Superior Court showed up and served. As a result of the DC Superior Court's implementation of several of the National Center's suggested recommendations, particularly focusing on how to improve the accuracy of the "master DC jury wheel," the juror yield increased to almost 20% in the Fall of 2005, about a 40% increase from the 2002 yield.

The master DC jury wheel is the list from which DC citizens are randomly selected to receive a juror summons that both tests jury service eligibility and assigns a jury service date, unless the citizen does not meet the eligibility criteria. The DC Superior Court coordinates the development of a master list of possible juror names (known as the "jury wheel") from lists provided to it by a variety of DC government agencies, such as the Department of Motor Vehicles (driver's and non-driver's identification), the Board of Elections and Ethics (registered voters) and the Office of Tax and Revenue (income tax). In creating the master jury wheel, the DC Superior Court must balance the need for a current and inclusive list—critical to ensure that persons or groups of persons are not disenfranchised from jury service—against the administrative costs of processing and mailing juror summonses.

In April 2006, CCE convened a special briefing on the National Center's report and invited DC policy leaders from the Executive, Legislative, and Judicial branches. About 35 attendees gathered at the law firm of Venable LLP to hear Tom Munsterman talk about his study with a particular focus on his four recommendations. The audience also heard from Councilmember Kathy Patterson who summarized a bill she planned to introduce the following day, "The Jury Trial Improvements Act of 2006," in particular the section of the legislation that will require DC agencies to provide the DC Superior Court with the most accurate information for purposes of summoning citizens to jury service in a fair and efficient way. This bill was inspired by the report of the Council for Court Excellence entitled "Juries for the Year 2000 and Beyond" published in 1998.



On December 19, the DC Council enacted bill 16-700, the “Jury Trial Improvements Act of 2006.” The bill establishes:

- ∞ Expanded juror information to be provided to the Court and to the parties during voir dire while ensuring the confidentiality of juror information;
- ∞ Improvements in the accuracy of the source lists of citizen addresses—from the Board of Elections and Ethics, the Department of Motor Vehicles, the Department of Tax and Revenue and the Department of Employment Services—used by the DC Superior Court to summon citizens for jury duty.
- ∞ That the DC Superior Court Board of Judges may increase the attendance fee and travel allowance for jurors.



*Board member  
Councilmember Kathy  
Patterson.*

Special thanks to Mark Austrian, Chair of the CCE advisory committee that oversaw the *Improving Juror Response Rates* study, and to his committee: Beverly Burke, Ellen Eager, Vincent McKnight, Jeanette Miller, Judge Greg Mize, Michelle Parfitt and Judge Vanessa Ruiz.

The publication of *Improving Juror Response Rates*, as well as its public briefing, was made possible through the generous support of Venable LLP. Thanks to them and to Venable partner and CCE board member Brian Schwalb. Thanks are also due to the United States Congress, which provided the funds to the Council for Court Excellence in fiscal year 2003 to support the study.

David Cynamon chaired a CCE subcommittee that reviewed and commented on the “Jury Trial Improvements Act of 2006.” We owe him special thanks, and also to his subcommittee: Linda Bostick, Nancy Lesser, Greg Mize, Dwight Murray, Richard Nettler, Beverly Burke and Mark Austrian.

## IMPROVING PUBLIC UNDERSTANDING



Board member Judge Noel Kramer with the students at School Without Walls.

### SCHOOL OUTREACH PROJECT

The Council for Court Excellence organized two School Jury Education Projects in two schools in the Washington, DC metro area in 2006. With the help of DC Court of Appeals Judge Noel A. Kramer and the law firm of Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson LLP, CCE held one of its presentations at School Without Walls in Northwest Washington. DC Superior Court Judge Craig Iscoe led CCE's effort at Terrell Junior High School which was attended by 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders.

The event was co-sponsored by the Office of the Attorney General of Washington, DC, and Robert Spagnoletti, former Attorney General of the District attended, and talked briefly to the students. The School Jury Education Project was established by CCE to teach the city's youth about the importance of serving on a jury and to interact with attorneys and judges. Since 1993, the Council for Court Excellence has visited over 30 schools in Washington, DC.



Board member Judge Craig Iscoe addresses the students at Terrell Junior High School.

### SPANISH PUBLICATIONS



CCE has sustained its efforts reaching out to the Latino community in the DC metro area by continuing its project of translating and disseminating its most important publications. In 2006, the Council for Court Excellence translated and disseminated 6,000 copies of *A Victim's Guide to the DC Criminal Justice System* to organizations such as AYUDA, the Spanish Catholic Center, CARECEN, the Latin American Youth Center, and the 22 branches of the DC Public Library, among others. Work also began on updating and translating *Community Guide to the Courts*, formerly *A Citizen's Guide to the Courts*, which will be disseminated to various organizations around the city in 2007. So far, CCE has disseminated over 18,000 copies of the *Victim's Guide*, *When Someone Dies: A Non-Lawyer's Guide to Probate in Washington* and its companion *Personal Affairs Record Book*. We have been able to carry out this project thanks to the generosity of GEICO which gave CCE \$50,000 to underwrite the design and printing of the 4 Spanish publications and one English update. Special thanks to CCE Board members Steven Schneebaum, Ken Stallard, Susan Brinkerhoff, Cary Feldman, Arabella Teal, Julia Alanen, and Leslye Givarz who volunteered their time and efforts to review *A Citizen's Guide to the Courts* and *A Victim's Guide to the DC Criminal Justice System*. For more information please visit [www.courtexcellence.org](http://www.courtexcellence.org)

### INTERNATIONAL VISITORS PROGRAM

In its effort to increasingly spread the message of openness in the justice system to visiting delegations of foreign nationals, the Council for Court Excellence hosted Eisenhower Fellow Jimena Cayo Rivera Schreiber, Associate Judge of the National Trial Criminal Court of Perú and professor of criminal law at the Ciencias Aplicadas University in Lima, and Gloria María Borrero Restrepo, Executive Director of the Corporation for Excellence in Justice (CEJ) (*Corporación Excelencia en la Justicia*). Judge Schreiber was interested in learning about CCE's role in the community and its relations with the courts. She was also interested in how CCE started and how a similar organization might benefit a country like Perú. Through her Eisenhower Fellowship, Judge Schreiber hoped to exchange ideas and information with experts of efforts to

end corruption within the justice system in her country. Ms. Borrero visited CCE to talk about issues of importance to both organizations. CEJ was founded in Colombia in the mid-1990s to promote court reform and to implement and support a different model of justice. Board member, and former Executive Director, Sam Harahan traveled to Colombia to work as a consultant to CEJ in its early stages providing his expertise in many areas. All of these efforts at improving public understanding were completed under the aegis of the Public Service Committee co-chaired by Michael Waldman and Linda Bostick.



*CCE staff and  
Associate Judge  
Jimena Cayo  
Rivera Schrieber.*

### RECONSIDERING DC'S 3RD BRANCH AND PROSECUTION

The Council for Court Excellence was founded in 1982 as a result of a comprehensive DC Bar study of the governance and performance of the DC Courts. In 2006, in anticipation of the Council's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2007, CCE convened a committee to study the unique governance structure of the DC Courts and the DC prosecution function, with particular attention to the history of how the following came to be:

That the DC judicial function is outside the DC government, being funded and overseen solely by the United States Congress, with local judges appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate; and that the DC prosecution function is nearly completely outside the DC government, with the United States Attorney rather than the DC Attorney General prosecuting nearly all local DC Code violations in the DC Superior Court.

In addition to mastering that history, the project committee sought to analyze the political and fiscal pros and cons of changing this structure in several ways:

- ∞ By having the DC Courts funded by DC revenues and their performance overseen by the DC Council;
- ∞ By having DC judges appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by the DC Council, while retaining the existing DC Judicial Nomination Commission merit selection process; and
- ∞ By vesting the local prosecution power for the first time in the DC Attorney General.

The principal goal of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Branch project is to increase the community's civic knowledge and understanding. Thus, the project committee will produce draft reports on all of the governance issues and will present the reports for public discussion at a spring 2007 symposium. The reports will then be revised and published in the fall 2007 edition of the University of the District of Columbia David A. Clarke School of Law's law review.

CCE's DC 3<sup>rd</sup> Branch project committee has been co-chaired by Timothy May and John Nields. In addition to the co-chairs, members from the CCE Board are Jim Bishop, Steve Harlan, Peter Kolker, Charles Miller, Jim Nathanson, and Steven Schneebaum. The additional committee members are Jon Bouker, Dean Shelley Broderick, Eric Holder, Lorie Masters, John Payton, Jo-Ann Wallace, and Lois Williams. The project has been funded by the Trellis Fund, the Eugene and Agnes E. Meyer Foundation, and the Litigation Section of the DC Bar, with in-kind support from the UDC David A. Clarke School of Law.





## CELEBRATING EXCELLENCE IN LEADERSHIP

### 10TH ANNUAL JUSTICE POTTER STEWART AWARD DINNER

*Seth Waxman, Board Chairman Michael Rogers, Potter Stewart Award Honoree Jonathan Smith, and Board President Rod Page.*

The Council for Court Excellence presented the tenth annual Justice Potter Stewart Awards to Steve Pollak of Goodwin Procter and to Jonathan Smith of the Legal Aid Society of DC at a dinner celebration on May 4 at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. This year, CCE took time to pay special tribute to former Potter Stewart Award Honorees and to Justice Stewart's Law Clerks.



Seth P. Waxman, of WilmerHale, offered a tribute to the Legal Aid Society of DC and its Executive Director, Jonathan Smith. In accepting his award, Jonathan remarked, "...we cannot imagine a world in which lawyers are unnecessary, but we have a vision—a vision that everyone who needs a lawyer to secure the justice they deserve, gets one. Knowing that the Council for Court Excellence joins in the struggle for equal justice makes the Justice Potter Stewart Award all the more precious."



Honorable James Robertson, of the US District Court for the District of Columbia, presented the award to Steve Pollak, highlighting Pollak's well deserved reputation as a lifelong advocate for equal justice. In his remarks, Steve commented, "Here's the lesson learned: No matter how creative and hardworking were yesterday's legions—led by the likes of Charlie Horsky—there's always something more that you and we can discover and do to achieve our enduring goals. That's the challenge, the fun, and the best reward of working with the Council for Court Excellence."

The Council for Court Excellence is grateful to Mrs. Stewart for her continued support and guidance. We also thank Peter Kolker of Zuckerman Spaeder for chairing the Award Selection Committee, and Bill Jeffress of Baker Botts for his leadership of the Dinner Committee again this year.

*Michael Rogers, Board member Judge James Robertson, Potter Stewart Award Honoree Steve Pollak, and Rod Page.*



*Rick Scotten, Board member Chief Judge Rufus King, Barbara Stevens, and Larry Hinton.*



*Board member Ann Kappler, along with Rod Page (front) paid tribute to former Justice Stewart Law Clerks: Steve Umin, Jim Bieke, Bill Jeffress, Judge John Koeltl, and Elliot Gerson.*



*Board member and Stewart Award Dinner Committee Chair Bill Jeffress, Julia Guttman, and 2002 Justice Potter Stewart Honoree Jack Miller.*



*Board members Avis Buchanan and Carolyn Lerner, with Paul Smith.*

**The Council for Court Excellence would like to thank the following organizations and individuals for making the 10th Annual Justice Potter Stewart Award Dinner a success:**

**LEADERSHIP**

Goodwin Procter LLP  
MedStar Health

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP  
Robins Kaplan Miller & Ciresi LLP  
Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP

M. Evan Corcoran, Wiley Rein & Fielding LLP  
Davis Carter Scott Architects / Interior Architects  
Feldesman Tucker Leifer Fidell LLP

**BENEFACTOR**

Arent Fox  
Baker Botts LLP  
Bryan Cave LLP  
Dickstein Shapiro Morin & Oshinsky LLP  
Fannie Mae Foundation  
Fannie Mae Legal Department  
GEICO  
General Electric Company  
Hogan & Hartson LLP  
Jones Day  
Kelley Drye Collier Shannon  
Kirkland & Ellis Foundation  
Lockheed Martin  
McDermott Will & Emery  
McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP  
Patton Boggs LLP  
Paul, Hastings, Janofsky & Walker, LLP  
Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP

Zuckerman Spaeder LLP

**PATRON**

Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld, LLP  
Greenberg Traurig LLP  
PEPCO  
Regan Zambri & Long  
Steptoe & Johnson  
The Washington Post  
Williams & Connolly LLP

Sam & Eileen Harahan  
David Hiller  
Ellen Jakovic  
Franklin D. & Noel Anketell Kramer  
June Kress & Dennis Soiberman  
Luxenberg, Johnson & Dickens, P.C.  
G. Marshall Moriarty  
National Center for Missing & Exploited Children  
Michelle A. Parfitt, Ashcraft & Gerel LLP  
Ross, Dixon & Bell, LLP  
Winston & Strawn

**SPONSORS**

Elliott | Adler, LLC  
Honorable James A. Belson  
Caryl S. Bernstein  
Bonner Kiernan Trebach & Crociata  
Dan & Kathy Clark

## CELEBRATING EXCELLENCE IN LEADERSHIP

### HORSKY PLAQUE PRESENTED TO CAROL MELAMED

*Board member  
Carol Melamed.*



At the June 2006 Board meeting, Board member Charles Miller from Covington & Burling spoke of the legacy of CCE founding president, Charlie Horsky, followed by Board President Rod Page presenting Carol Melamed with the Charlie Horsky Plaque, given for her many years of service to the Executive Committee, and for chairing the Public Service Committee and the Nominating Committee. The inscription read in part, “Carol’s colleagues on the Executive Committee present this token of esteem and appreciation in recognition of her long and productive labor on behalf of community education and the mission and activities of the Council for Court Excellence.”



*CCE thanks Board member Greg Castanias and the law firm of Jones Day for hosting the June 2006 Board meeting and luncheon.*



*Board member and Stewart Award Selection Committee Chair Peter Kolker, Ann Kolker, and 1999 Justice Potter Stewart Honoree Bill Lawler.*



*The Tenth Annual Justice Potter Stewart Awards Dinner, U.S. Chamber of Commerce, May 4, 2006.*



## 2006 CCE CONTRIBUTIONS LIST

The Council for Court Excellence is pleased to acknowledge and thank the individuals, businesses, law firms, and foundations who have contributed to its work this year. The Council raises its resources through a variety of means. The amounts noted below represent the pledges and gifts from organizations and individuals through December 31, 2006. Board membership dues are not included in this list. We apologize if we have inadvertently left your name off the list, or listed you in the incorrect category. Please call us so we can correct our mistake.

### GIFTS OF \$25,000 TO \$49,999

Freddie Mac Foundation

### GIFTS OF \$10,000 TO \$24,999

Dickstein, Shapiro, Morin  
& Oshinsky LLP

The Max and Victoria Dreyfus  
Foundation, Inc.

Fannie Mae Foundation Fund of  
The Community Foundation for the  
National Capital Region

Goodwin Procter LLP

Kirkland & Ellis Foundation

McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP

MedStar Health

Eugene and Agnes E. Meyer Foundation

Septoe & Johnson LLP

Washington DC Police Fund of  
The Community Foundation for  
the National Capital Region

### GIFTS OF \$5,000 TO \$9,999

Arent Fox

Baker Botts LLP

Bryan Cave LLP

Fannie Mae Foundation

Fannie Mae Legal Department

GEICO

General Electric Company

Georgetown University Hospital  
Department of Psychiatry

Hogan & Hartson LLP

Jones Day

Kelley Drye Collier Shannon

LexisNexis

Lockheed Martin

Patton Boggs LLP

Paul, Hastings, Janofsky & Walker, LLP

Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP

Robins, Kaplan, Miller & Ciresi LLP

Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale  
and Dorr LLP

Zuckerman Spaeder LLP

### GIFTS OF \$1,000 TO \$4,999

Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld, LLP

Caryl S. Bernstein

John M. Bray

CarrAmerica Realty Corporation

Covington & Burling

David J. Cynamon

District of Columbia Bar Litigation  
Section

Greenberg Traurig LLP

A. Stephen Hut, Jr.

James F. Lee, Jr.

David & Nancy Lesser

Timothy J. May

McDermott Will & Emery LLP

John W. Nields, Jr.

Rodney F. Page

Pepco Holdings, Inc.

Regan Zambri & Long, PLLC

Kenneth W. Starr

The Washington Post

Melvin White

Williams & Connolly LLP

### GIFTS OF \$500 TO \$999

Honorable Mary Ellen Abrecht

Elliott | Adler, LLC

Beers & Cutler PLLC

Honorable James A. Belson

The Bench Trail Fund

Bonner, Kiernan, Trebach  
& Crociata, LLP

Timothy M. Broas

Edward J. & Sarah G. Burger

Honorable Arthur L. Burnett, Sr.

Kathleen & Daniel Clark

Crowell & Moring

Davis Carter Scott Architects /  
Interior Architects

Richard and Lois England

Feldesman Tucker Leifer Fidell LLP

Marc L. Fleischaker

Steven D. Gordon

David & Mary Granger

Newman T. Halvorson, Jr.

Samuel and Eileen Harahan

David Hiller

Amanda & Larry Hobart

James H. Hulme

Barbara L. Johnson

Allen D. Jones

Franklin D. Kramer  
and Honorable Noel Anketell Kramer

Kirkpatrick & Lockhart Nicholson  
Graham LLP

Peter Kolker

June Kress & Dennis Soiberman

Richard Luchs

Luxenberg, Johnson & Dickens, P.C.

Leslie McAdoo

Daniel Margolis

Frederic R. Miller

G. Marshall Moriarty

Fritz Mulhauser

National Center for Missing  
& Exploited Children

Barbara O'Melinn

Thomas C. Papson

Michelle A. Parfitt, Ashcraft & Gerel LLP

Michael C. Rogers

Ross, Dixon & Bell, LLP

David Schertler, Schertler & Onorato, LLP

Steven M. Schneebaum

Arabella W. Teal

Steuart H. Thomsen

Mark H. Tuohey

James P. Tuite

Honorable Patricia Wald & Robert Wald

Michael Waldman

Roger Warin

Theodore Whitehouse

Winston & Strawn

2006 CCE CONTRIBUTIONS LIST (CONTINUED)

GIFTS OF \$100 TO \$499

James R. Bieke  
 James D. Bishop  
 Jean Bower  
 Beverly J. Burke  
 Francis D. Carter  
 John L. Clark  
 Edwin Colodny  
 M. Evan Corcoran  
 Julian R. Dugas  
 Ellen Watson Eager  
 Peter Edelman  
 Cary M. Feldman  
 Stanley J. Fineman  
 Hamilton P. Fox, III  
 Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson  
 Friedlander, Misler, Sloan, Kletzkin  
 & Ochsman, PLLC  
 Stuart M. Gerson  
 Leslye Givarz  
 Stephen D. Harlan  
 Michael D. Hays  
 John Hehman  
 David J. Hensler  
 Mr. & Mrs. Louis Hering  
 Margaret Hines  
 Theodore Hirt  
 Christopher G. Hoge  
 Douglas B. Huron  
 William H. Jeffress  
 Clifford T. Keenan  
 Honorable Gladys Kessler  
 John G. Koeltl  
 Bernard Koteen  
 Honorable Neal E. Kravitz  
 and Melissa G. Reinberg  
 Rhett Krulla  
 Lee & McShane, PC  
 Carolyn Lerner  
 Victor E. Long  
 Honorable Hiram Puig-Lugo  
 Daniel Marcus  
 Richard S.T. Marsh  
 Julia A. Matthews  
 Carol D. Melamed

James Mercurio  
 Charles A. Miller  
 Honorable Gregory E. Mize, Ret.  
 Tom and Janice Munsterman  
 Dwight D. Murray  
 James Nathanson  
 Richard B. Nettler  
 John Oberdorfer  
 Honorable Louis F. Oberdorfer  
 Jack and Lovell Olender  
 Mary Kay Parker  
 Paul D. Pearlstein  
 Elissa J. Preheim  
 E. Barrett Prettyman, Jr.  
 Honorable Judith E. Retchin  
 Daniel Rezneck  
 S. White Rhyne  
 John Townsend Rich  
 Honorable Richard H. Ringell  
 Michele Roberts  
 Honorable James Robertson  
 Martha P. Rogers  
 Thomas D. Rowe, Jr.  
 Fern Schair  
 Sheppard Mullin Richter  
 & Hampton LLP  
 Robert J. Siciliano  
 David Sellinger  
 Priscilla S. Skillman and Lewis F. Smith  
 Donald K. Smith  
 Paul M. Smith  
 Orysia M. Stanchak  
 Jacob Stein  
 John and Anne Sullivan  
 Steven M. Umin  
 Paul C. Vitrano  
 Kathleen Voelker  
 Honorable Curtis E. von Kann  
 Honorable Paul R. Webber, III  
 Joan M. Wilbon  
 Wiley Rein & Fielding LLP  
 Peter Winik  
 Robert N. Yerman

GIFTS UNDER \$100

Jane Belford  
 Joel P. Bennett  
 Victoria S. Cashman  
 Honorable Evelyn Coburn  
 Honorable Frederick D. Dorsey  
 Bert T. Edwards  
 Ann Cuningham Keep  
 Dr. Bruce W. Klein  
 Honorable Alan D. Lourie  
 M. Elizabeth Medaglia  
 Prof. Alan B. Morrison  
 Laurence Pearl  
 Honorable Stephanie Duncan-Peters  
 Diana Savit  
 Douglas K. Spaulding  
 Honorable Peter H. Wolf  
 Catherine Woods  
 Barbara T. Yeomans

## 2006 OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### OFFICERS

Michael C. Rogers, Chairman  
MedStar Health

William C.E. Robinson, Esquire, Secretary  
GEICO Corporation

Rodney F. Page, Esquire, President  
Bryan Cave LLP

Frederic R. Miller, CPA, Treasurer  
PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP

Timothy J. May, Esquire, Immediate Past President  
Patton Boggs LLP

Charles McC. Mathias, Esquire, President Emeritus  
Jones Day

A. Stephen Hut, Jr., Esquire, Vice President  
Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP

Kenneth W. Starr, Esquire, President Emeritus  
Pepperdine University School of Law

### LAW FIRMS

Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld  
Michael J. Madigan, Esquire  
Michele A. Roberts, Esquire  
James P. Tuite, Esquire

Arent Fox PLLC  
Marc L. Fleischaker, Esquire\*  
James H. Hulme, Esquire  
Barbara S. Wahl, Esquire

Arnold & Porter LLP  
Elissa J. Preheim, Esquire

Ashcraft & Gerel  
Michelle Parfitt, Esquire

Baach Robinson & Lewis PLLC  
Jeffrey D. Lewis, Esquire

Baker Botts LLP  
Joe R. Caldwell, Esquire  
William H. Jeffress, Jr., Esquire

Baker & Hostetler LLP  
Bruce J. Casino, Esquire

The Bernstein Law Firm  
Caryl S. Bernstein, Esquire\*

Bonner Kiernan Trebach & Crociata, LLP  
Keith M. Bonner, Esquire  
D'Ana Johnson, Esquire

Bryan Cave LLP  
Rodney F. Page, Esquire\*

Carr Maloney P.C.  
William J. Carter, Esquire

Covington & Burling LLP  
Lanny A. Breuer, Esquire  
Newman T. Halvorson, Jr., Esquire  
Charles A. Miller, Esquire

Dechert LLP  
Frank J. Eisenhart, Esquire  
Paul H. Friedman, Esquire

Dickstein Shapiro LLP  
Deborah P. Kelly, Esquire  
Steven Roman, Esquire

Dillingham & Murphy, LLP  
Albert A. Foster, Jr., Esquire

Douglas, Boykin & Oden, PLLC  
Frederick A. Douglas, Esquire

Dow, Lohnes & Albertson PLLC  
Michael D. Hays, Esquire

Dykema Gossett PLLC  
Elliott S. Hall, Esquire

Elliott | Adler, LLC  
Elliott B. Adler, Esquire\*

Feldesman Tucker Leifer Fidell LLP  
Cary M. Feldman, Esquire

J. Gordon Forester, Jr., Attorney at Law  
J. Gordon Forester, Jr., Esquire

Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver &  
Jacobson LLP  
Michael L. Waldman, Esquire\*

Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP  
John C. Millian, Esquire

Goodwin Procter LLP  
John D. Aldock, Esq.

Greenberg Traurig LLP  
Steven Schneebaum, Esquire

Greenstein DeLorme & Luchs, P.C.  
Richard W. Luchs, Esquire

Heller, Huron, Chertkof, Lerner, Simon  
& Salzman  
Carolyn Lerner, Esquire

Hogan & Hartson  
James A. Hourihan, Esquire  
Steven Routh, Esquire

Holland & Knight  
Steven D. Gordon, Esquire

Howrey LLP  
John W. Nields, Esquire

Hughes Hubbard & Reed LLP Dennis S. Klein, Esquire	Ober, Kaler, Grimes & Shriver Martha P. Rogers, Esquire	Squire, Sanders & Dempsey L.L.P. J.R. Clark, Esquire
Joan M. Wilbon & Associates Joan M. Wilbon, Esquire	Jack H. Olender & Associates, P.C. Jack H. Olender, Esquire	Stein, Mitchell & Mezines, LLP Robert F. Muse, Esquire
Jones Day Gregory A. Castanias, Esquire	Patton Boggs LLP Timothy J. May, Esquire* John L. Oberdorfer, Esquire Stuart M. Pape, Esquire	Steptoe & Johnson LLP Barbara K. Kagan, Esquire Roger E. Warin, Esquire
Kelley Drye Collier Shannon Mark L. Austrian, Esquire Ann M. Kappler, Esquire**	Paul, Hastings, Janofsky & Walker, LLP Barbara Johnson, Esquire*	Sutherland, Asbill & Brennan, LLP Steuart H. Thomsen, Esquire
King & Spalding LLP John M. Bray, Esquire	PAX ADR Nancy Lesser, Esquire	Thompson O'Donnell, LLP Kenneth G. Stallard, Esquire
Kirkland & Ellis LLP Michael D. Jones, Esquire*	Paul D. Pearlstein & Associates Paul D. Pearlstein, Esquire	Venable LLP Brian L. Schwalb, Esquire
Kirkpatrick & Lockhart Nicholson Graham LLP Glenn R. Reichardt, Esquire	Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP David J. Cynamon, Esquire*	Vinson & Elkins LLP Mark H. Tuohey, III, Esquire
Latham & Watkins LLP DeMaurice Smith, Esquire	Proskauer Rose, LLP Rhett Krulla, Esquire	Kathleen E. Voelker, Attorney at Law Kathleen E. Voelker, Esquire
Law Office of Ronald C. Jessamy, PLLC Ronald C. Jessamy, Esquire	Reed Smith LLP Douglas K. Spaulding, Esquire	Weil, Gotshal & Manges David A. Hickerson, Esquire
Lee & McShane, PC James F. Lee, Jr. Esquire	Regan, Zambri & Long, PLLC Victor E. Long, Esquire**	Wilkes Artis, Chartered Stanley J. Fineman, Esquire
Leslie McAdoo Chartered Leslie McAdoo, Esquire	Suzanne V. Richards, Attorney at Law Suzanne V. Richards, Esquire	Willkie Farr & Gallagher, LLP David P. Murray, Esquire Theodore Whitehouse, Esquire
Luxenberg, Johnson & Dickens, P.C. Deborah Luxenberg, Esquire*	Robins, Kaplan, Miller & Ciresi L.L.P. Richard B. Nettler, Esquire**	Williams & Connolly LLP Nicholas J. Boyle, Esquire Steven M. Umin, Esquire
McDermott Will & Emery Melvin White, Esquire	Ross, Dixon & Bell, L.L.P. Jonathan Cohen, Esquire Paul C. Vitrano, Esquire	Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP A. Stephen Hut, Jr., Esquire* Ronald Machen, Esquire
McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP T. Mark Flanagan, Jr., Esquire Thomas C. Papson, Esquire	Schertler & Onarato, LLP David Schertler, Esquire	Winston & Strawn LLP Timothy M. Broas, Esquire
Miller & Chevalier Chartered Emmett B. Lewis, Esquire Andrew T. Wise, Esquire	Scheuermann & Menist John E. Scheuermann, Esquire	Zuckerman Spaeder LLP Peter R. Kolker, Esquire
Nixon Peabody LLP John C. Hayes, Jr., Esquire	Sharp & Associates Stephen W. Grafman, Esquire	

**CIVIC**

James D. Berry, Jr.\*  
 James D. Bishop, Esquire  
 Linda L. Bostick\*  
 Bishop Henry Brew  
 Edward J. Burger, Jr., M.D.  
 Victoria S. Cashman  
 John Clark  
 Professor Sherman L. Cohn  
 Edwin I. Colodny, Esquire  
 M. Evan Corcoran, Esquire  
 Julian R. Dugas, Esquire  
 Ellen Watson Eager  
 Marjorie S. Fargo  
 A. Patricia Frohman, Esquire  
 Andrew J. Glass  
 Samuel F. Harahan  
 Stephen D. Harlan  
 Theodore Hirt, Esquire  
 Lawrence Hobart  
 Richard B. Hoffman  
 Rev. Donald Isaac  
 John R. Isaac  
 Allen Jones, Jr., Esquire  
 Ann Cuninghame Keep  
 Clifford T. Keenan  
 David Lesser, Esquire  
 Susan C. Lynch, Esquire  
 Daniel H. Margolis, Esquire  
 Victoria A. McEneny, Esquire  
 James H. McFadden  
 Carol D. Melamed, Esquire  
 James P. Mercurio, Esquire  
 Dwight D. Murray, Esquire\*  
 James E. Nathanson, Esquire  
 Honorable Kathy Patterson  
 Dr. Mary Quinn  
 David E. Sellinger, Esquire  
 Donald K. Smith, Esquire  
 Mrs. Potter Stewart  
 Ira Stohlman  
 Joan Strand, Esquire\*  
 Administrative Law Judge Arabella Teal  
 Honorable Curtis E. von Kann

**BUSINESSES**

Clark Construction Group  
 Frank Baltz, Esquire  
 Paul Ryan  
 Davis Carter Scott  
 Marcia Calhoun\*  
 GEICO Corporation  
 William C.E. Robinson, Esquire\*  
 Huron Consulting Group  
 Marc B. Sherman, Esquire\*  
 LECG, Inc.  
 Robert Yerman  
 LexisNexis  
 Matt Cegelis  
 John Hehman  
 Brian Kellenberger  
 MedStar Health  
 Michael C. Rogers\*  
 National Center for Missing & Exploited  
 Children  
 Julia Alanen, Esquire  
 PNC Wealth Management  
 Julia A. Matthews  
 Pepco Holdings, Inc.  
 Jack E. Strausman, Esquire  
 John J. Sullivan, Esquire  
 Potomac Counsel, L.L.C.  
 Manus Cooney  
 PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP  
 Frederic R. Miller, CPA\*  
 Washington Gas Light Company  
 Beverly J. Burke, Esquire\*  
 The Washington Post  
 Eric N. Lieberman, Esquire\*  
 Carol D. Melamed, Esquire\*\*

**JUDICIAL**

DC Court of Appeals  
 Honorable James A. Belson  
 Honorable Noel Anketell Kramer\*  
 Honorable Vanessa Ruiz  
 DC Superior Court  
 Honorable Mary Ellen Abrecht\*\*  
 Honorable Arthur L. Burnett, Sr.  
 Magistrate Judge Evelyn B. Coburn  
 Honorable Brook Hedge\*  
 Honorable Craig Iscoe  
 Honorable Gregory E. Mize (Ret.)  
 Honorable Paul R. Webber, III  
 Honorable Susan Winfield

US Court of Appeals for DC  
 Honorable Judith W. Rogers

US District Court for DC  
 Honorable James Robertson\*  
 Honorable Ricardo M. Urbina

**EX OFFICIO**

DC Superior Court  
 Chief Judge Rufus G. King, III

Federal Public Defender for DC  
 A.J. Kramer, Esquire

Judiciary Committee, DC Council  
 Honorable Phil Mendelson

US Court of Appeals for DC Circuit  
 Jill Sayenga, Esquire

District of Columbia Attorney General  
 Robert J. Spagnoletti, Esquire

Public Defender Service for DC  
 Avis Buchanan, Esquire

United States Attorney for DC  
 Kenneth L. Wainstein

DC Courts  
 Anne B. Wicks

\* Executive Committee

\*\* Executive Committee through June 2006

### 2006 COUNCIL FOR COURT EXCELLENCE STAFF

---

June B. Kress, Executive Director

Priscilla Skillman, Assistant Director

Kathleen C. Clark, Development Director  
(through September 2006)

Peter Willner, Senior Policy Analyst

Jeff C. Capley, Office Administrator

Julio C. Lainez, Communications Coordinator  
& Program Analyst

### 2006 COUNCIL FOR COURT EXCELLENCE INTERNS

---

Saba Baig

Kristi Chadwick

Saida Khanukayev

Rebecca Krystosek

Chris Martin

Chris Morrison

Teague Orgeman

Bill Poehls

Riti Singh

Robert Young

#### The Council's Financial Year In Summary\*

Total Support and Revenue	\$788,073
Expenses:	
Program	\$411,556
Administrative	\$184,169
Resource Development	\$192,363
Total Expenses	\$788,087
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses	(\$14)

\* Audit not yet complete. A copy of the 2006 audited financial statements for the Council for Court Excellence may be obtained from the Council's office after July 1, 2007.

## ABOUT THE COUNCIL FOR COURT EXCELLENCE

Formed in Washington, DC in January 1982, The Council for Court Excellence is a nonprofit, nonpartisan civic organization. The Council works to improve the administration of justice in the local and federal courts and related agencies in the Washington metropolitan area and in the nation. The Council accomplishes this goal by:

- Identifying and promoting court reform,
- Improving public access to justice, and
- Increasing public understanding and support of our justice system.

The Council is governed by a volunteer Board of Directors composed of members of the legal, business, civic, and judicial communities. The Council is unique in bringing together all of those communities in common purpose to address court reform and access to justice needs. The Board accomplishes the work of the Council through direct participation in Council committees. The Council employs a small staff to assist the Board in meeting the objectives of the organization. Financial support comes from the members of the Board, businesses, law firms, individuals, foundations, and occasionally government.

The Council for Court Excellence has built a substantial record of success in the major court reform initiatives it has undertaken. The Council has been the moving force behind adoption of the one day/one trial jury system in the DC Superior Court, modernization of trial jury and grand jury systems, reform of the District of Columbia probate laws and procedures, reform of the DC administrative adjudication system, improvement in court handling of child neglect and abuse cases, expansion of crime victim rights, proposing methods to speed resolution of criminal cases, and proposing methods to speed resolution of civil cases by the DC trial and appellate courts. To improve the public's access to justice and increase their understanding of our justice system, the Council over the years has published and disseminated over 350,000 copies of plain-language booklets and other materials explaining a wide variety of court systems.

In December 2006, the Council's Board of Directors set the following major program priorities for the 2007–2011 period:

- Criminal Justice
- Business and the Courts
- Court Efficiencies and Effectiveness
- Juvenile Justice



**Council for Court Excellence**

1111 14th Street, NW, Suite 500

Washington, DC 20005

Phone: 202.785.5917

Web: <http://www.courtexcellence.org>