



Locke Lord Bissell & Liddell_{LLP}

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LOCKE LORD BISSELL & LIDDELL DALLAS ATTORNEY NAMED HOUSING CRISIS CENTER'S VOLUNTEER ATTORNEY OF THE YEAR

(DALLAS) May 1, 2009 – Melissa S. Hayward, an attorney based in the Dallas office of Locke Lord Bissell & Liddell, has received the Housing Crisis Center's (HCC) Jean Shepherd Award for being its 2009 Pro-Bono Volunteer Attorney of the Year. Hayward was specifically honored for being a regular volunteer at the Firm-sponsored monthly legal clinics at the HCC, where she provides free legal advice on housing law matters, and for donating additional time this past year by successfully taking on four pro-bono landlord/tenant cases for representation.

Hayward's recognition comes on the heels of Locke Lord recently being named 2008 Law Firm of the Year by the Dallas Volunteer Attorney Program, and the Firm being acknowledged for its involvement in other pro-bono activities throughout Dallas, including service to the disadvantaged through Catholic Charities, the Human Rights Initiative, local legal clinics, and pro bono criminal appointments for the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals. Further, Frank E. Stevenson, a Partner in Locke Lord's Dallas office and President of the Dallas Bar Association, was recently presented with the Legal Aid of NorthWest Texas' 2008 Pro-Bono Appreciation Award for his dedication and leadership in pro-bono service.

Hayward's practice includes bankruptcy law, creditors' rights, and commercial litigation. She has represented national banks and lenders, commercial landlords, Chapter 7 Trustees, and creditors' committees with respect to a variety of bankruptcy and litigation issues. Hayward received her law degree from Southern Methodist University School of Law, and her Bachelor of Arts degree from The University of Texas at Austin.

Locke Lord Bissell & Liddell LLP is a full-service, national law firm with offices in Atlanta, Austin, Boston, Chicago, Dallas, Houston, London, Los Angeles, New Orleans, New York, Sacramento, San Francisco and Washington, D.C. With a vast geographic scope, and a national reputation in complex litigation, regulatory and transactional work, Locke Lord is focused on achieving client success as a team. Among Locke Lord's many strong practice areas are appellate, aviation, corporate, class action litigation, employee benefits, energy, environmental, financial services, health care, insurance and reinsurance industries, intellectual property, labor and employment, public law, real estate, REIT, tax and technology.

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