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## **ROCHESTER ATTORNEY ELIZABETH WOLFORD RECEIVES STATE BAR'S ROOT/STIMSON AWARD**

ALBANY—Elizabeth A. Wolford of Rochester was honored with the New York State Bar Association's Root/Stimson Award, presented by State Bar President David M. Schraver on June 22 in Cooperstown.

The award, given by the Committee on Annual Award, honors an attorney for exemplary community service.

"Elizabeth Wolford is a pillar of the legal profession and the community at large. Her dedication to service has improved the quality of life in the greater Rochester area," said State Bar President David M. Schraver of Rochester (Nixon Peabody). "She is a terrific choice for this award."

A partner in The Wolford Law Firm, Wolford is a past president of the Foundation of the Monroe County Bar. She successfully led efforts to increase fundraising and created the popular Jazz for Justice event, which benefits the Rochester Teen Court and the Rochester Diversity Clerkship Program.

She has volunteered with the Volunteer Legal Services Project of Monroe County for 20 years and currently serves on its board of directors. She was a board member of Sojourner House, a transitional home for women and children in crisis, for five years.

U.S. Senator Charles Schumer (D-NY) recommended Wolford for a federal judgeship in the U.S. District Court for the Western District of New York this past March. President Barack Obama nominated her in May. Her nomination will now be considered by the U.S. Senate.

"Liz exemplifies leadership at every turn. She has helped many nonprofits succeed during a difficult time and inspired others to volunteer their time and talents," said Paul Michael Hassett of Buffalo, past State Bar president and chair of the Committee on Annual Award's Root/Stimson Award subcommittee. "We are pleased to recognize her many contributions."

The award is named for distinguished lawyers Elihu Root and Henry Stimson to honor their commitment to public service. Root served in President Theodore Roosevelt's administration as secretary of state, received the Nobel Peace Prize and was a president of the New York State Bar Association. Stimson served in President Franklin D. Roosevelt's administration as secretary of war during World War II.

The 76,000-member New York State Bar Association is the largest voluntary state bar association in the nation. It was founded in 1876.