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MBF UPDATE

January 2010

Governor Deval Patrick Honored, Trustees Elected at 45th Anniversary Gala on January 14



Over 200 colleagues and friends from all over the state gathered at the Colonnade Hotel in Boston for an evening of celebration and renewed commitment to the mission of the MBF. The evening included the election of new Trustees and Officers at the 2010 Annual Meeting, a cocktail reception with silent auction, remarks from Governor Deval Patrick, and a 12 minute video presentation which highlighted the work of MBF Grantees.

"We wanted the Governor to be part of this celebration, not only to applaud his efforts throughout his career to advance the cause of justice," notes newly elected MBF President Joseph P. J. Vrabel, "but so that he might also have a deeper connection to the advocacy groups present in the room, and a reminder of the critical need for civil legal services in our state."

Patrick acknowledged the state's dire economic situation, remarking that "we are in the worst economic downturn in 80

In This Issue

[Governor Patrick Honored; 2010 Trustees Elected](#)

[Welcome New MBF Fellows](#)

[Thank You Sponsors!](#)

Welcome New MBF Fellows!

The MBF offers thanks and a warm welcome to our newest Fellows:

Kevin G. Diamond
Shea & Diamond,
LLP
Holliston, MA

Hon. Judith Fabricant
MA Superior Court
Boston, MA

years, and it has hurt a lot of people," he said. "I have felt, as I bet you do, that so many people are still being left behind, that there is so much unmet need."

Patrick extolled the work of the MBF in helping provide access to justice to the needy. On the eve of Martin Luther King weekend, he urged the audience to remember the slain civil rights leader's example and serve others.

"Service is what we must all be about," Patrick said. "It seems important to me that we come back to that sense of service, because service is power."

Thank You to Our Friends at



Who donated countless hours to the pro-bono production of the MBF's video!

Watch for a video link in next month's Update...



2010 MBF Board of Trustees



Retiring Trustees Fran Ford, Wendy Sibbison and Keye Hollister

Did you know that one of the best ways to support the MBF takes just a few minutes and doesn't cost you a cent?

Recommend a Colleague to Join the MBF Society of Fellows!

[Click here](#) to recommend a new Fellow today.



Gov. Patrick and MBF Immediate Past President Larry Johnson



2010 MBF Officers with Gov. Patrick



Franklin County Bar Association



Event Sponsors Kevin Kenneally, Peg Giunta, and Michael Weinberg of LeClair Ryan

[Click Here](#) to view more event photos
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and its mission of increasing access to justice for all citizens of
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