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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

20th Judicial Circuit's Launch of the Florida Bar's Pro Bono ONE Campaign

Members of the Lee County Bar Association, judges, attorneys and friends in the community attended the 20th Judicial Circuit's launch of the Florida Bar's Pro Bono ONE Campaign held on October 15, 2010 at the Royal Palm Yacht Club in Fort Myers, Florida. The launch of the ONE Campaign occurred during the annual Pro Bono Award and Recognition Program organized by Florida Rural Legal Services, Inc. (FRLS) and the Lee County Bar Association.

The Honorable Chief Judge G. Keith Cary introduced the Florida Bar's ONE video to an audience of 150 people who listened intently to the message encouraging attorneys to assist the indigent with the theme "One Client, One Promise, One Attorney."

Chief Judge Cary spoke to the group about his support of *pro bono* work and requested that every attorney in the 20th Judicial Circuit to do the same by taking a *pro bono* case. He suggested that if they already have taken one *pro bono* case that they consider taking two. He expressed the importance of doing *pro bono* work through an organized agency such as FRLS.

Two volunteer attorneys, Diana Krueger, Esq.; and Daniel Endrizal, III, Esq., spoke of their experiences while representing an indigent person. They shared how rewarding it feels to assist those who cannot otherwise afford legal representation. They also spoke about the support that FRLS can provide with a case, such as malpractice insurance, and encouraged other attorneys to take up the cause of *pro bono*.

Awards and a token of appreciation were given to fifty-two attorneys who took a *pro bono* case in the previous year. Chief Judge Cary; Don Isaac, Executive Director of FRLS; Andrew Epstein, President of Lee county Bar Association; and Ethel Wells, Pro bono Coordinator for FRLS, participated in presentation of the awards and gifts to the pro bono attorneys. Special gifts were given to those attorneys who decided to sign up with the ONE Campaign and accept a case. The ONE Campaign will continue to address the issue of legal services to the poor until every attorney will commit to take ONE.