

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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DEMPSEY, Gwilliam HONORED AS 'CHAMPIONS OF JUSTICE'

California attorneys **Thomas Dempsey of Beverly Hills** and **Gary Gwilliam of Oakland** have each received the Public Justice Foundation's "Champion of Justice Award" for their leadership and record of inspiring accomplishments in public interest law.

Dempsey, a sole practitioner, is known for winning or settling "eleventh hour" cases, requiring him to quickly assess the facts and applicable law, assemble expert witnesses, and cultivate a meaningful rapport with the client.

Named a "Super Lawyer" every year since 2004, Dempsey is on the executive committee and the board of governors of the American Association for Justice. He is a past president of the Consumer Attorneys Association of Los Angeles and former vice president of the Consumer Attorneys of California (CAOC).

Gwilliam, a partner in Gwilliam, Ivary, Chiosso, Cavalli & Brewer, has tried 180 jury cases across the gamut of consumer law. A noted lecturer and motivational speaker, he has conducted seminars and workshops throughout the country, including a popular ethics seminar, "How to Get a Winning Verdict in Your Personal Life."

A former president of the CAOC, Gwilliam was named *California Lawyer's* "Attorney of the Year" for employment law in 2001. His recent memoir, "Getting a Winning Verdict in My Personal Life: A Trial Lawyer Finds His Soul" (Pavior Publishing, 2007), has been acclaimed for its insight and candor.

Both Dempsey and Gwilliam are former presidents of the Public Justice Foundation and sit on the organization's board. Both have been co-counsel with Public Justice on socially significant civil rights cases.

Public Justice Foundation supports the work of Public Justice, P.C., the Washington, D.C.-based law firm with the widest-ranging docket of any public interest law firm in the country. Its leadership and membership comprise some of the most successful and prominent trial lawyers in the U.S.

Emphasizing access to the courts for all Americans, Public Justice's key practice and project areas include class action preservation, mandatory arbitration abuse prevention, environmental protection, civil rights and liberties, workers' rights, fighting court secrecy and consumers' rights.

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Public Justice is America's public interest law firm, supported by – and calling on -- a nationwide network of more than 3,000 of the nation's top lawyers to pursue precedent-setting and socially significant litigation. It has a wide-ranging litigation docket in the areas of consumer rights, worker safety, civil rights and liberties, toxic torts, environmental protection, and access to the courts. Public Justice is the principal project of the Public Justice Foundation, a not-for-profit membership organization headquartered in Washington, DC, with a West Coast office in Oakland, California. The Public Justice web site address is www.publicjustice.net.