

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**Indiana Pro Bono Commission Recognizes Excellence in Pro Bono
with Randall T. Shepard Award**

Late Legal Aid—District Eleven attorney, John Pushor, Columbus, will receive the Indiana Pro Bono Commission's Randall T. Shepard Award for excellence in pro bono publico on October 21, at French Lick Springs hotel as part of the Indiana State Bar Association's annual meeting. The award will be presented to the family of John Pushor to honor him posthumously.

Pushor was an advocate for his clients while in private practice and continued his efforts to help impoverished people in the justice system upon his retirement from private practice. Pushor retired from private practice about 11 years prior to his passing on September 2, 2010. Throughout that retirement he devoted a substantial amount of time to pro bono.

Pushor volunteered at the pro bono district 11 offices four to five days a week and met with applicants for pro bono assistance. He helped determine their eligibility and sought volunteer attorney matches in the five-county area of Bartholomew, Brown, Decatur, Jackson and Jennings counties. Many attorneys said that when you received a call from John Pushor regarding a pro bono case, you couldn't say "no."

Pushor continued to work as late as just days before his death. "John literally had Pro Bono in mind right up until the day of his death," noted attorney Tom Lantz. "John Pushor's commitment to Pro Bono exemplifies what the Randall T. Shepard Award is all about, and you could not give this award to a more deserving person."

One week prior to his death, Pushor set up a \$10,000 fund for Legal Aid - District Eleven. Members of local bar associations have since contributed to the John Pushor fund, which is dedicated to paying an intern each summer. Legal Aid-District Eleven hopes that the fund will help expose young law students to the need and value of pro bono involvement.

"John was unique. I cannot imagine the countless hours John would spend working on Legal Aid, finding attorneys, talking to attorneys about their cases, helping younger attorneys with their cases on Legal Aid, without any compensation whatsoever," stated attorney Dan Patterson.

The Randall T. Shepard Award was created in 2002 to honor the impact made by a member of the legal community ensuring that justice is available for people who could

not regularly afford it. The award is named after Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard to honor his vision of creating awareness about the significant volunteer services given by Indiana attorneys each year.

The Shepard Award Celebration will be on October 21, 2011, with a reception to start at 6:00 p.m. and awards ceremony at 6:30 p.m. The event concludes the ISBA's annual meeting, which will take place at the French Lick Springs Resort & Casino. Chief Justice Shepard and the Honorable Melissa May, Indiana Court of Appeals and Chair of the Pro Bono Commission, will present Pushor's family with this award on behalf of the Pro Bono Commission. The Indiana Bar Foundation will also present its pro bono and law-related education awards at the ceremony.

The mission of the Indiana Pro Bono Commission is to strive to promote equal access to justice for all Indiana residents. More information about these awards and the Shepard Award celebration can be found at www.inbf.org.