



NEWS RELEASE

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“Wonder Woman of 2009” Award Presented to Oakland Probate Judge Linda Hallmark

Oakland County, MI (April 21, 2009) – A well-respected member of the bench, the Honorable Linda Hallmark, Oakland County Probate Judge, will be the recipient of the 25th *Wonder Woman of 2009* award presented by the Women Officials’ Network Foundation on April 30 at The Reserve in Birmingham. The award is given to those women who significantly contribute civically or professionally to their communities. The focus of the event is to support and acknowledge these women for their accomplishments and to recognize them as role models for other women.

Debbie Macon, President of the Women Officials’ Network Foundation, stated about Judge Hallmark: “She has been a strong advocate and role model for women seeking a place in public policy. She is a distinguished leader with an empowering presence.”

The Wonder Woman award, a tradition previously held by the Women’s Survival Center of Oakland County that closed its doors in 2006, was continued by the Foundation to recognize and honor distinguished leaders who have influenced the lives of others.

Also honored at this year’s event will be Harriet Rotter, attorney and advocate for women, and Millie Pastor, volunteer and philanthropist, as well as all the previous years’ award recipients.

“The Women Officials’ Network Foundation is near and dear to my heart,” commented Judge Hallmark. “Their mission is to promote and encourage the participation of women and girls in the

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political life of our Nation. Through the Women Officials' Network and Foundation, I have been privileged to work with outstanding women at all levels of government. It will be especially gratifying to receive the 25th Wonder Woman Award along side Millie Pastor and Harriet Rotter. I am deeply honored to be in their ranks."

Judge Hallmark is the Chief Probate Judge Pro Tempore currently serving in the Family Division of the Sixth Judicial Circuit Court where she handles both a family division and probate docket. Judge Hallmark's legal experience spans over 30 years. She was appointed to the probate bench by Governor John Engler in 1997. In 2000 Judge Hallmark was appointed by the Michigan Supreme Court to serve as Chief Judge of the Oakland County Probate Court for a two year term. She was reappointed to serve as Chief Probate Judge for the 2002-2004 term. In addition to her responsibilities as Chief Probate Judge, Judge Hallmark was appointed as Presiding Judge of the Oakland County Circuit Court Family Division from 2000 - 2004.

Her involvement in community and professional services is vast and encompasses organizations such as the U.S. Supreme Court Bar, the Michigan Judicial Institute, ICLE, the State Bar of Michigan, the Federal Bar Association, the Oakland County Bar Association, Women Lawyers Association, the American Bar Association, the Governor's Task Force for Children's Justice, the Michigan Interprofessional Association, and the Referees Association of Michigan.

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An electronic photograph of Judge Hallmark is available. For a copy, please contact Marcia Travis at travism@oakgov.com