

NEWS
New York State
Lawyers' Fund for Client Protection

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Local Civic Leader Appointed to Lawyer's Fund

(Albany, NY - date)

The Court of Appeals has appointed Charlotte (Chuckie) Holstein of Syracuse to the Board of Trustees of the New York Lawyers' Fund for Client Protection. The Lawyers' Fund is a state agency created in 1981 to protect law clients - the consumer - from the misuse of their money by dishonest attorneys and to promote public confidence in the administration of justice in New York State.

The Lawyers' Fund is financed by New York's legal profession and administered by seven trustees appointed by New York's high court. Of the seven trustees, five are lawyers and two are community leaders. Holstein was appointed by the Court to a three-year term, filling the vacancy created with the expiration of the term of Shirley Waters of Rome, Oneida County.

Selected for her years of local and national service, Holstein expressed her commitment to do what is fair and equitable for law clients who have been maltreated through dishonest conduct in the practice of law. In announcing her appointment, Chief Judge Judith Kaye said, "It is our good fortune to add another Syracusan to follow the footsteps of Jack Mannion, a founding trustee of the Lawyers' Fund. Charlotte Holstein was selected for her effective leadership abilities."

In 1998, LeMoyne College conferred the degree of Doctor of Humane Letters to Ms. Holstein in recognition of her civic achievements. She is the founder and current Executive Director of F.O.C.U.S. Greater Syracuse, a community-wide interest group to unite, strengthen and advance Central New York - its people and its economy. She is the founder of other local organizations including Leadership Greater Syracuse, Youth Leadership, Syracuse Commission for Women, Meals on Wheels, and spearheaded the development of The Nottingham, the first retirement community in New York State.

President Jimmy Carter appointed her to the Advisory Group for the White House Conferences on Families, New York State Governors Nelson Rockefeller and Hugh Carey appointed her to the Board of Social Welfare and Division for Youth respectively. Holstein is active in a number of national organizations and is an Honorary Vice President of the American Jewish Committee and is a board member of the Jacob Blaustein Institute for the Advancement of Human Rights.

Her awards for volunteerism include Syracuse Post Standard's "All Time Woman of Achievement", the American Association for the Aged's "Volunteer of the Year", Syracuse's "City Achievement Award", and the "Citizen of the Year" from Temple Adath Yeshurun.

In 2001, the Fund's Trustees awarded \$5.3 million to 160 eligible law clients. These awards involved misconduct by only 65 former attorneys, less than one-half of one percent of New York's 189,000 licensed attorneys. Since 1981, the Fund has granted 5,241 awards involving misconduct by 683 former lawyers. Only two percent of lawyers involved in awards have been from the Syracuse area.

The offices of the New York Lawyers' Fund are located in Albany. Telephone: 800-442-3863. Website: www.nylawfund.org