



NEW YORK CITY LAW DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE CORPORATION COUNSEL

Michael A. Cardozo, *Corporation Counsel*

Press Release

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For Immediate Release

**LAW DEPT. ATTORNEY RECEIVES PRESTIGIOUS
PROFESSIONALISM AWARD FROM THE AMERICAN INNS OF COURT**

***ALAN KRAMS IS THE FIRST CAREER GOVERNMENT ATTORNEY
TO EVER RECEIVE THIS AWARD NATIONWIDE***

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New York, September 23, 2010 – Alan Krams, a Senior Counsel in the Appeals Division of the New York City Law Department, received the prestigious 2010 American Inns of Court Professionalism Award yesterday.

The extremely selective award honors an unsung quintessential mentor, whose life and work reflect civility, competence, and ethical behavior and who for a generation or more has taught, supervised, and mentored developing practitioners by word and example, according to the American Inns of Court.

Each year it is awarded on a federal circuit basis to an attorney or judge who exemplifies these qualities. Alan is the winner for the second circuit, covering New York, Connecticut and Vermont. From open nominations, the eight award winners for 2010 were chosen by representatives from the American Inns of Court and the circuit.

“To be selected for such a rare honor – and one based on working with unquestioned integrity – is not something to be taken lightly,” said NYC Corporation Counsel Michael A. Cardozo. “To say that we are proud of Alan’s achievement is a tremendous understatement.”

He added, “I am also very gratified that Alan is the first career government attorney to win this award, and I hope that he is the first of many. Attorneys who dedicate their careers to the public sector strive to live the values accentuated by this award each day.”

Alan Krams is also the first person from the Law Department to receive this honor. For 23 years, he has been a pillar in the Law Department’s Appeals Division. He regularly argues high-level cases before the State Court of Appeals and the Second Circuit and has partaken in U.S. Supreme Court cases. His cases have addressed policies affecting the City’s homeless population, term limits for elected officials and local laws on lead paint. Alan received his degree at Georgetown Law in 1973 and completed his undergraduate education at Syracuse in 1970. Alan was born and raised in The Bronx and currently resides on Staten Island.

The award was presented at the Daniel Patrick Moynihan U.S. Courthouse yesterday afternoon jointly by Hon. Dennis Jacobs, Chief Judge, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, and American Inns of Court Executive Director Marc Warren. Hon. Debra A. Livingston, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, served as Master of Ceremonies. The Corp. Counsel made remarks during the ceremony as well.

Additionally, the winners will be recognized at the American Inns of Court’s annual Celebration of

Excellence, hosted by U.S. Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas at the United States Supreme Court on October 23, 2010.

If you are interested in obtaining photos from the event, please contact us.

The American Inns of Court fosters excellence in professionalism, ethics, civility, and legal skills. Its membership includes more than 27,000 federal, state, and local judges; lawyers; law professors; and law students in more than 350 chapters across the United States. To access the Foundation's full mission statement and other information, visit to innsofcourt.org.

The New York City Law Department is one of the oldest, largest and most dynamic law offices in the world, ranking among the top three largest law offices in New York City and one of the largest public law offices in the country. Tracing its roots back to the 1600's, the Department has an active caseload of 90,000 matters and transactions in 17 legal divisions. The Corporation Counsel heads the Law Department and acts as legal counsel for the Mayor, elected officials, the City and all its agencies. The Department's 690 attorneys represent the City on a vast array of civil litigation, legislative and legal issues and in the criminal prosecution of juveniles. For more information, please visit nyc.gov/law.

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