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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

New York Lawyers for the Public Interest (NYLPI) Wins Honor in 2010 New York Times Nonprofit Excellence Awards

New York, NY, June 29, 2010 – New York Lawyers for the Public Interest (NYLPI), a nonprofit civil rights law firm, has been named a winner of the 2010 New York Times Company Nonprofit Excellence Awards. Nearly 100 nonprofit organizations in New York were nominated for the awards, which recognize management excellence among New York’s large and diverse nonprofit community. NYLPI is the first legal organization to be named a winner.

“It’s an incredible honor for our organization to be recognized with such an illustrious award,” said Chris Tahbaz, chair of the board of New York Lawyers for the Public Interest.

Michael Rothenberg, executive director of NYLPI added: “We’ve always taken pride in the work we do with communities across the city, and it’s particularly gratifying to be recognized for how we run our organization by such distinguished members of the nonprofit community.”

The awards recognize the best-managed nonprofit organizations in New York City. Organizations are nominated and winners are selected for demonstrating superior leadership in seven areas of nonprofit management, including governance structure, a strong focus on results, and transparent and accountable financial management. NYLPI was particularly successful managing its budget during the worst of the economic crisis and is now back on stable financial footing. As a result of these management practices, NYLPI was able to retain key staff and continue to assist the city’s most vulnerable communities.

“Any nonprofit, especially one that combines advocacy and service can learn an enormous amount about excellent management from New York Lawyers for the Public Interest,” said Michael Clark, president of the Nonprofit Coordinating Committee of New York.

The New York Times Company Nonprofit Excellence Awards were created in 2007 to raise awareness of the enormous importance of the nonprofit community in New York City and to educate the general public, and the nonprofit sector itself, on what it takes to be truly excellent in this demanding arena. The Nonprofit Coordinating Committee of New York (NPCCNY) and Philanthropy New York joined the Times Company in establishing the awards.

New York Lawyers for the Public Interest

New York Lawyers for the Public Interest (NYLPI) advances equality and civil rights, with a focus on health justice, disability rights and environmental justice, through the power of community lawyering and partnerships with the private bar. Through community lawyering, NYLPI puts its legal, policy and community organizing expertise at the service of New York City communities and individuals. NYLPI's partnership with the private bar strengthens its advocacy and connects community groups and non-profits with critical legal assistance.

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