

**Section of Taxation**

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**VILLANOVA UNIVERSITY LAW SCHOOL PROFESSOR  
RECEIVES NATIONAL PRO BONO AWARD  
FROM AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION TAX SECTION**

WASHINGTON, D.C., Jan. 16, 2007 -- The American Bar Association Section of Taxation will present its annual Pro Bono Award to Villanova University School of Law Professor Leslie M. Book, director of the Villanova Federal Tax Clinic, during a breakfast January 19th at the section's 2007 Midyear Meeting in Hollywood, Florida.

The ABA Tax Section Pro Bono Award is presented each year to an individual lawyer or law firm that has demonstrated outstanding and sustained commitment to *pro bono* (free) legal services, particularly with respect to federal and state tax law.

"Les Book has shown a great commitment to highlighting the importance of access to legal services for low-income taxpayers," said Susan P. Serota, section chair.

"His mentoring and training of young lawyers and his articles and testimony on these issues provide a tremendous contribution to the *pro bono* efforts of the profession."

Book received his law degree from Stanford University School of Law in 1990, and his LL.M. in Taxation from New York University School of Law in 1994, where he

was an editor of the Tax Law Review. Book graduated with a B.A. from Franklin & Marshall College in 1987.

Book is a national authority on tax procedure and issues affecting the low-income taxpayer community. He has testified before Congress and the U.S. Treasury on issues involving the fair administration of the nation's tax laws, including the importance of access to legal services and the impact of imposing user fees on taxpayers wishing to compromise their tax liabilities. Book's writings have focused extensively on the relationship of tax adjudications to broader principles of administrative law and on the intersection of tax and poverty law.

Book administers and directs the Villanova Law School Federal Tax Clinic and secured funding to open the clinic in 2000. Prior to joining Villanova, Book was assistant professor of Law and director of the Federal Tax Clinic at Quinnipiac University School of Law. His private practice includes work with the Tax Controversy Group at Baker & McKenzie in New York (1994-1997), and in the Tax Department of Davis Polk & Wardwell in New York (1990-1993).

"Les Book has been instrumental in shaping my career, as well as the career of countless other law students who have been fortunate enough to learn from him," said Bridget Mallon, attorney advisor to the National Taxpayer Advocate. "Les's commitment to the fair administration of the tax system for *all* taxpayers and to the *pro bono* community continues to inspire and influence me," Mallon added. "I am a better lawyer for having worked with him and can never thank him enough for his continued guidance and support."

Book has written several law review and other articles on tax compliance and the poor, the Earned Income Tax Credit and collection due process. He is active with the ABA Section of Taxation, serving as past chair of the Low Income Taxpayer Committee, and as a member of the Section's Court Procedure, Administrative Practice, Pro Bono and Nominating committees.

The ABA Tax Section Pro Bono Award was initiated in 2002 at the recommendation of the section's Special Pro Bono Task Force. For more information about the Midyear Meeting, visit the ABA Section of Taxation Web site, <http://www.abanet.org/tax>.

The American Bar Association Section of Taxation is the national voice of tax lawyers with approximately 20,000 lawyers nationwide. Its goals include helping taxpayers better understand their rights and obligations under the tax laws and working to make the tax system fairer, simpler and easier to administer.

With more than 413,000 members, the American Bar Association is the largest voluntary professional membership organization in the world. As the national voice of the legal profession, the ABA works to improve the administration of justice, promotes programs that assist lawyers and judges in their work, accredits law schools, provides continuing legal education, and works to build public understanding around the world of the importance of the rule of law in a democratic society.