

# Congratulations to FAWL Members

► **Sharon R. Bock**, elected Clerk & Comptroller of Palm Beach County last



(L-R): Chief Judge Fine, Clerk Sharon Bock and Chief Justice Pariente.

November, was sworn in to office by Supreme Court Chief Justice **Barbara Pariente**, on February 11, 2005.

Clerk Bock, the first member of the Bar to be elected Clerk in Palm Beach County's 96-year history, served as Chief Deputy Clerk for almost seven years before taking office. She is an expert on the subject of privacy versus accessibility of public records on the Internet and the role of the Clerk & Comptroller and authored the article, *Electronic Access to Court Records — A Virtual Tightrope in the Making*, The Florida Bar Journal, November 2004.

► **Julia Frey**, a member of CFAWL, was selected by *The Best Lawyers in America® 2005-2006*. This publication chooses the "Best Lawyers" and area of practice based on conversations and/or recommendations with clients and other attorneys. Frey practices real estate law in the firm of Lowndes, Drosdick, Doster, Kantor & Reed



► The **Florida Commission on the Status of Women** bestowed the Certificate of Achievement Award upon **Susan Fox** at a ceremony held in her honor at the Gibbons Alumni Center on the Tampa campus of the University of South Florida in October. Susan's accomplishments include establishing the Domestic Violence Injunction Assistance



(L-R): **Susan Fox** recognized by the Florida Commission on the Status of Women.

Project, seeking clemency for women jailed for killing their abusers, as well as countless hours of pro bono service. The **Hillsborough Association for Women Lawyers** nominated Susan in recognition of these accomplishments and her most recent work with HAWL's Kinship Care Legal Assistance Project.

The Kinship Care project is a partnership between HAWL and Florida Kinship Center at the University of South Florida School of Social Work, which operates a Kinship Care Warmline, 800-640-6444, a toll-free listening line for grandparents and other relatives raising children in Florida. About 350,000 children in Florida now live with relatives other than parents. Warmline provides these kin caregivers with emotional support and informational services.

With HAWL's participation, the Warmline also answers common legal questions and refers caregivers to volunteer or reduced fee attorneys. HAWL's pro bono project has provided legal consultations with nearly 100 Kinship caregivers. Through HAWL's efforts, approximately ten of these care givers have proceeded with adoption, two with guardianship and many others have obtained legal forms for medical powers of attorney.

HAWL's work on the Kinship Care Project has been made possible by two grants from the Florida Bar Foundation which HAWL obtained with Susan's assistance. In the fall of 2003, HAWL applied for a \$1,000 education grant to present a free CLE program to educate its members on the legal issues related to kinship care. The program was videotaped and the videotapes of the program have been distributed statewide. In June 2004, HAWL received an additional \$5000 community service grant from The Florida Bar Foundation to partner with Florida Kinship Center in offering a one-day Kinship Legal Assistance Summit, which was held

on October 15, 2004. This Summit served about 175 caregivers and 250 children.

► **Mary Alice Jackson**, a past president of the Sarasota County Chapter, has been nominated for the Outstanding Past Voluntary Bar President's Award sponsored by the Florida Council of Bar Presidents.

► State FAWL Membership Chair and past president of the Sarasota County Chapter, **Sherri Johnson**, has become a partner at Dent and Johnson.



► **Lori Hultman** has been named a partner at Kunkel Miller & Hament and was appointed to the Florida Supreme Court Commission on Art in the Court.

► **Laurel Johnson** has opened her own law practice in Sarasota, Laurel D. Johnson, specializing in Wills, Trusts, and Probate.

► **Dana Laganella** has joined her husband as a partner of the Gerling Law Group Chartered and will be focusing on Estate Planning and Elder Law in Sarasota.

► Tallahassee Women Lawyers Past President **May Lou Rajchel** was appointed Senior Vice President of Research Development for Florida TaxWatch.

► **Rochelle A. Reback** was awarded a Human Rights Award by the Tampa-Hillsborough Human Rights Council, Inc. Reback was presented the award by Congressman **Jim Davis** and Tampa Mayor **Pam Iorio** at a breakfast at the DoubleTree Hotel in the presence of 500 guests. The award was presented to honor Ms. Reback's 20 year career as a criminal defense and civil rights lawyer protecting civil and human rights in our courts and as a community activist working to promote justice, tolerance, and respect for diversity. Reback, a former statewide board member of the ACLU of Florida, is also a founder of Tampa: Safe and Free, an organization which educates the community about civil liberties issues.

► **Jeremy Sensenig**, Sarasota, has opened his own law practice, Sensenig Law Firm, specializing in Immigration Law.

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