



For Immediate Release

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U.S. District Court and Federal Bar Association Honor John Bouman
Litigation Group Wins Excellence in Pro Bono and Public Interest Service Award

The United States District Court and Federal Bar Association presented their Annual Excellence in Pro Bono and Public Interest Service Award to John Bouman and his colleagues for their work in *Memisovski v. Maram and Adams*, 92 C 1982. U.S. Judge Joan H. Lefkow presented the awards to Bouman of the Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law, Frederick B. Cohen and David J. Chizewer of Goldberg Kohn, and Stephanie Altman and Thomas Yates of Health & Disability Advocates at an awards ceremony today.

The honor for Bouman, the Shriver Center's director of advocacy, is for his outstanding service and advocacy on behalf of low-income children in the Medicaid settlement that *Memisovski* mandated. The settlement ensures that children from low-income families in Cook County have access to regular, consistent physician care. The ruling is a landmark victory for the rights of 600,000 children in Illinois and a source of hope for others across the country.

"The Shriver Center is delighted that the litigation team is being honored with this award recognizing excellence in pro bono advocacy," said Bouman. "The case is a great example of productive teamwork among top private bar litigators and not-for-profit public interest specialists to produce significant change, in this case a quantum improvement in health care for children in Illinois," he continued.

Another awardee, Cohen, a principal in the Litigation Group at Goldberg Kohn, served as cocounsel in the case. He is a newly elected member of the Shriver Center's board of directors.

Rita McLennon, executive director of the Shriver Center attended the ceremony and said, "We are immensely proud of this team and its accomplishment. And we are grateful to the U.S. District Court and the Federal Bar Association for the recognition and the award."

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The Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law champions economic opportunity through fair laws and policy so that people can move out of poverty permanently.