



## **PRESS RELEASE**

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### **National Center for Law and Economic Justice Board Elects Three to Chair and Vice Chair Posts**

(New York) – Jennifer Selendy, a partner at Kirkland & Ellis; Douglas F. Curtis, a partner at WilmerHale, and Cassandra Barham, a respected advocate from Ohio, have been elected as Chair and Vice-Chairs, respectively, of the Board of Directors of the National Center for Law and Economic Justice (NCLEJ), a New York City-based nonprofit organization that advocates on behalf of low-income people. Former Chair, Paul M. Dodyk, and former Vice-Chair, John DeWitt Gregory, remain on the Board.

“We are fortunate to have such talented and committed lawyers and advocates lead our Board as we use the law to assure that public agencies respond to the enormous needs of low-income families in this very difficult economy. I am also pleased that Paul Dodyk and John DeWitt Gregory remain active, committed Board members,” said NCLEJ Executive Director Henry A. Freedman in announcing the elections.

In addition to chairing NCLEJ’s Board, Ms. Selendy serves on the Board of the Institute for Global Leadership at her undergraduate alma mater, Tufts University. She earned her law degree from Harvard University and has a Masters of Philosophy from Oxford University. Prior to joining Kirkland & Ellis, she was a litigation associate at Cravath, Swaine & Moore.

In addition to serving as Vice Chair of NCLEJ’s Board, Mr. Curtis serves as Vice Chair of the Board of the Legal Aid Society. He graduated from Harvard University and Harvard Law School, and attended the Paris Institute of Political Studies. Prior to joining WilmerHale, he served as a senior legal executive at Reuters.

Ms. Barham, also elected to the Vice Chair post, works with the Benefits Rights Advocacy Group in Cincinnati. A former welfare recipient, she now helps to overcome barriers for people on public benefits.

New Chair Jennifer Selendy said, "I am extremely honored to take up the post as NCLEJ Board chair and humbled to follow in the shoes of Paul Dodyk. I am very much looking forward to continuing to support the critical mission of the Center in this new role."

Outgoing Chair Paul M. Dodyk, who had served in the post for 11 years, said, "I am delighted that Jennifer Selendy and Douglas Curtis, both talented and distinguished lawyers, have been chosen to serve as Chair and Vice-Chair of NCLEJ. They are both highly accomplished lawyers and valued partners in two of the most significant law firms in the United States. They are joined by Cassandra Barham, one of the most respected lay advocates in the nation for the poor, as Vice-Chair. I am sure that under their guidance, NCLEJ's dedicated lawyers will be able to continue making their unique contribution to ensure that all members of our nation - even those who are the least fortunate - will have the support that we all need to become fully productive and contributing members of our society."

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*The National Center for Law and Economic Justice advances the cause of economic justice for individuals, families, and communities.*