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FCC COMMISSIONER DEBORAH TAYLOR TATE RECEIVES PRESTIGIOUS MARY HARRIMAN COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP AWARD

Association of Junior Leagues International (AJLI) Recognizes Nashville Junior League Member for Exceptional Volunteer Service to the Nashville Community

SALT LAKE CITY – May 5, 2006 – FCC Commissioner, Nashville, TN volunteer, attorney and mother of three, Deborah Taylor Tate, received the Mary Harriman Community Leadership Award from the Association of Junior Leagues International Inc. (AJLI) today during the organization's 84th Annual Conference at the Grand America Hotel in Salt Lake City.

"Commissioner Tate's life work reflects the very spirit of voluntarism exemplified by New Yorker, Mary Harriman, the founder of the very first Junior League," said Pam J. Newby, President of the Association. "Her commitment to improving her community and to empowering women leaders is the foundation on which the Junior League movement was built."

A member of the Junior League of Nashville, TN for more than seventeen years, Commissioner Tate has made significant contributions to recognizing, addressing, and improving the health, economic, and social well-being of women and children. Her work has made a lasting impact on local organizations. She has served as chairperson for countless committees within her League and has held leadership positions on numerous boards in Nashville.

Commissioner Tate's membership and leadership in the Junior League of Nashville have made a tremendous difference in the League's ability to serve, improve, and enrich the lives of those in need. She continually volunteered to take on the difficult issues facing women and children in the community and succeeded in bringing agencies, professionals, advocates and volunteers together to create a systemic change with lasting effect. As President of Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA), she increased both the funding and programs to inspire a record breaking number of League volunteers to represent children in court. Commissioner Tate worked tirelessly on behalf of families in recovery from drug abuse, which led her to co-found the Renewal House, Nashville's first, largest and most comprehensive long-term recovery community for addicted women and children.

Outside of her League work, Commissioner Tate served as a practicing attorney and senior policy advisor to former Governor Lamar Alexander and former Governor Don Sundquist. She specifically served as a senior mental health and juvenile justice policy advisor, and was instrumental in the creation and implementation of a statewide plan establishing a Mental Health Revision Commission culminating in the passage of an entire new mental health law for Tennessee. She presently serves as Chairman of the Board of Centerstone, the largest behavioral health provider in Tennessee.

Throughout her career, Commissioner Tate has been recognized by *Tennessee Business* as one of Tennessee's "Most Powerful People." She was also inducted as a Fellow by the Nashville Bar Foundation and elected to International Women of Tennessee. She has been honored by the Academy of Pediatrics and numerous mental health organizations. She was an Athena award nominee and the winner of the Junior League of Nashville's Paragon Outstanding Service Award and the Association of Fundraising Professionals' Volunteer of the Year Award.

Mary Harriman Award/Page 2

As the 2006 recipient of the Mary Harriman Community Leadership Award, named after the founder of the Junior League movement, Commissioner Tate joins a long line of Junior League leaders who have received the honor since 1990. Past recipients include the Honorable Sandra Day O'Connor, U.S. Supreme Court Justice; Martha Rivers Ingram, chairman of Ingram Industries, Inc.; and former Missouri State Senator Betty Sims.

"The significant contributions that Commissioner Tate has made to the Junior League and to her community prove that the legacy of Mary Harriman is alive and well," said Mary Lee Bartlett, President of the Junior League of Nashville. "We are very proud that one of our own is being honored with the highest award given within our Association to an individual member."

Commissioner Tate was recognized at the Mary Harriman Community Leadership Award Luncheon, which is sponsored by Talbots. This is one of the major events at the 84th Annual Association of Junior Leagues International Conference attended by over 700 delegates from Canada, Mexico, the United Kingdom and the United States on May 3-6.

ABOUT THE ASSOCIATION OF JUNIOR LEAGUES INTERNATIONAL

Founded in 1901 by New Yorker, Mary Harriman, the Junior Leagues are organizations of women committed to voluntarism, developing the potential of women and improving communities through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. The Association of Junior Leagues International is made up of 293 Junior Leagues in Canada, Mexico, the United Kingdom and the United States. Together, they are one of the largest international volunteer organizations for women interested in making a positive impact in their communities. For more information, visit the website www.ajli.org.

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