

MBA NEWS



20 West Street, Boston, MA 02111-1204 • communications@massbar.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

May 31, 2011

CONTACT:

Jennifer Rosinski (617) 338-0675

Tricia M. Oliver (617) 338-0677

Justice Cowin and State House News Service to be honored for “Excellence” at June 2 event

Massachusetts Lawyers Weekly, MBA to present judicial and journalism awards
at “Excellence in the Law”

BOSTON, Mass. —*Massachusetts Lawyers Weekly* and the Massachusetts Bar Association will honor retired Supreme Judicial Court Associate Justice Judith A. Cowin with the Daniel F. Toomey Judicial Excellence Award and the editorial team of State House News Service with the Excellence in Legal Journalism Award at the annual Excellence in the Law celebration at the Hynes Convention Center in Boston June 2.

Cowin retired from the Supreme Judicial Court in April following nearly 12 years of service to the state’s highest court. In 1991, Cowin was appointed as an associate justice of the Massachusetts Superior Court, where she served for eight years before her 1999 appointment to the SJC by then Gov. A. Paul Cellucci.

“Justice Cowin set the standard for judicial excellence during her impressive tenure on the bench,” MBA President Denise Squillante said. “She leaves a lasting legacy that jurists throughout the commonwealth should look to for inspiration.”

Prior to her service on the bench, Cowin served as an assistant district attorney in Norfolk County from 1979 to 1991. She also served as legal counsel for the Office of the Chief Justice of the District Court Department from 1972 to 1979, following two years of service as an assistant legal counsel to the Massachusetts Department of Mental Health.

State House News Service is an independent, privately owned wire service that provides in-depth coverage of the Massachusetts government. SHNS is trusted by its subscribers as the primary source of information on legislation, issues and background.

“The editorial team at State House News Service operates with the highest degree of journalistic integrity, striving to be fair, accurate and unbiased in its reporting,” MBA Chief Operating Officer and General Counsel Martin W. Healy said. “State House News Service is unparalleled in its ability to stay ahead of the commonwealth’s most compelling political and legislative issues.”

The news service began shortly after the turn of the 20th century as a lone scribe who documented House and Senate sessions and then sold copies to other reporters. Since then, the service has grown into a highly reputable, full wire-service organization. The editorial team works out of offices within the Statehouse.

The Massachusetts Bar Association, incorporated in 1911, is celebrating a century of service to the public, the profession and the rule of law throughout its 2010-11 association year. The MBA is the preeminent voice of the legal profession that serves the legal community and the public by promoting the administration of justice, legal education, professional excellence and respect for the law.