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New York Law School Announces Partnership with the Center for Justice and Democracy

New York, NY (November 30, 2011)—New York Law School (NYLS) and the Center for Justice and Democracy (CJ&D) today announced a partnership to begin during the fall 2011 semester; during this affiliation CJ&D will be known as the Center for Justice and Democracy at New York Law School.

The CJ&D will continue its independent work as the only national consumer organization in the country exclusively dedicated to protecting the civil justice system, with its new official headquarters at NYLS. The CJ&D has released hundreds of studies, white papers, and fact sheets on civil justice issues; presented testimony before Congress and state legislatures; and helped organize countless press events advocating the rights of consumers and patients. At NYLS, the CJ&D has established a new two-semester project-based learning course, Civil Justice Through the Courts, and will exclusively hire NYLS students as externs during the course of the academic year, and over the summer.

“New York Law School’s motto, ‘Learn law. Take action,’ encompasses our goal of connecting the practice of law with the academic world. We are looking forward to the numerous ways that our affiliation with CJ&D will stimulate us to think about the problems of civil justice and provide opportunities for our students to connect to lawyers in the field,” said NYLS Dean and President Richard A. Matasar.

Students currently enrolled in the Civil Justice Through the Courts course, taught by Professor Joyce Saltalamachia, are already reaping the benefits of this new partnership. The class covers topics of interest including medical malpractice litigation protection, product safety litigation strategies, and federal regulations, along with the full range of contemporary civil litigation areas. Students work together in teams on various projects, including, researching and analyzing cutting-edge civil justice topics, preparing advocacy papers for CJ&D and the consumer rights community, and preparing policy papers for Congressional presentation.

“We are thrilled and delighted to enter into this partnership with New York Law School,” said Center for Justice & Democracy Executive Director Joanne Doroshow. “This exciting collaboration will significantly enhance CJ&D’s work furthering public appreciation for tort law and the civil justice system. In addition, we see this as a wonderful opportunity for NYLS students to learn about issues affecting access to the civil courts, how civil justice issues interact with the advocacy world, and about the vital work of trial lawyers. We look forward to a long and successful partnership.”

About New York Law School

Founded in 1891, New York Law School is an independent law school located in lower Manhattan near the city’s centers of law, government, and finance. New York Law School’s renowned faculty of prolific scholars has built the School’s strength in such areas as constitutional law, civil and human rights, labor and employment law, media and information law, urban legal studies, international and comparative law, and a number of interdisciplinary fields. The School is noted for its nine academic centers: Center on Business Law & Policy, Center on Financial Services Law, Center for International Law, Center for New York City Law, Center for Professional Values and Practice,

Center for Real Estate Studies, Diane Abbey Law Center for Children and Families, Institute for Information Law & Policy, and Justice Action Center. New York Law School has more than 13,000 graduates and currently enrolls some 1,350 full-time students and 400 part-time students in its J.D. program and its four advanced degree programs in financial services law, real estate, tax, and mental disability law studies. www.nyls.edu

About the Center for Justice & Democracy

The Center for Justice & Democracy is a non-profit, non-partisan, tax-exempt organization founded by consumer advocates in 1998. It is the only national consumer organization in the country exclusively dedicated to protecting our civil justice system. CJ&D's many publications and studies cover a wide range of critical civil justice issues and are widely distributed to opinion leaders, public officials, journalists and organizations across the country. At the national and state level, CJ&D works with public officials, is often asked to testify before Congress and state legislatures, and frequently conducts briefings for legislators and their staff. CJ&D has several projects including Americans for Insurance Reform, a coalition of nearly 100 public interest groups from around the country that seeks better regulation of the property casualty insurance industry; and the Civil Justice Resource Group, a group of prominent scholars from around the country. www.centerjtd.org

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