

NEWS RELEASE –for immediate release

Batavia, New York



Genesee County Bar Association (GCBA) celebrates 100 years of commitment and service

Batavia, New York — On the 6th of February 1911, the first meeting of 17 local attorneys of the Genesee County Bar and Bench convened to organize themselves professionally. Their forum was the lobby of the old Genesee County Courthouse completed in 1843. On June 7, 1912, those lawyers, led by then President Frank S. Wood, Esq., filed a Certificate of Incorporation giving legal form to the Genesee County Bar Association, Inc. The organization, still known today as the Genesee County Bar Association, Inc., now claims a membership of approximately 100 male and female attorneys from throughout the GLOW region. Yet its key principles and purposes of formation have remained constant: to cultivate the science of Jurisprudence; the promotion of reform in the law; the facilitation of administration of justice; the elevation of the standard of integrity, honor and courtesy in the legal profession; and the promotion of positive social relationships among its members.

This year, the GCBA will mark its 100th year anniversary of commitment and service to its members and the community. Over the past several years, the GCBA has experienced dramatic growth within its membership ranks accounting for many new community and membership initiatives. The GCBA has established an ongoing continuing legal education (CLE) forum for its members; has engaged in philanthropic endeavors with local agencies in need; has provided a

forum for local residents to become knowledgeable on particular areas of law through the GCBA's "*The Peoples Law Series*", and recently launched its first official website for its members and the public at large at www.gcbany.com. "We are very proud of where we have been, and even more excited about where the GCBA will go over the next several years," said Durin B. Rogers, Esq., President of the Genesee County Bar Association. Earlier this year, the GCBA established a Century Gala committee to spearhead the effort. Following several meetings, the committee resolved to undertake a series of activities to honor the legal profession.

During the week prior to the event, the GCBA will begin to celebrate its centennial anniversary and the remarkable journey that has transformed the Genesee County Bar Association from a once 17 attorney group into a community of approximately 100 legal professionals with the publication of a series of articles revealing the history of the organization and commemorating the accomplishments and positive impact lawyers have had in our community. An official ceremony will be held at the Old County Courthouse on September 20, 2012 at 4pm where several dignitaries, including key-note speaker and Court of Appeals Justice Eugene F. Pigott, Jr.; President-Elect of the New York State Bar Association, David M. Schraver; New York State Senator Michael Ranzenhofer; New York State Assemblyman for the 139th District, Stephen Hawley; and Genesee County Legislator Chairperson, Mary Pat Hancock, shall take part in celebration and speak about the importance of the legal profession. The centennial celebration will culminate in a gala event at the Terry Hills Country Club in Batavia, New York, where highlights of the evening will include dinner, entertainment, and the opening of a "legal time capsule" by presiding County Court and Family Court Judges, Robert C. Noonan and Eric R. Adams.

The general public is encouraged to attend the ceremony at the Old Courthouse steps and the Gala event to be held immediately following. Tickets for the centennial event at Terry Hills are on sale and can be purchased through the end of the day on **Friday September 14, 2012**. Tickets are \$30.00 and include your dinner selection and entertainment. You may purchase tickets for the event at either Judge Robert C. Noonan's Chambers at the Genesee County Courts Facility (585-344-2550) 1 West Main Street, Batavia, New York; at the Law Firm of Bonarigo & McCutcheon (585-344-1994) 18 Ellicott Street, Batavia, New York; or at the Law Office of Thomas A. Burns, Esq. (585-343-0311) at 200 East Main Street, Suite 7, Batavia, New York.

All those interested in further information regarding the upcoming celebration may contact Durin B. Rogers, Esq., President of the Genesee County Bar Association (585-345-1205) or by visiting our website at www.gcbany.com.