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Georgia Association for Women Lawyers (GAWL) Announces Crawford Endowment

GAWL's Foundation Endowment Renamed in Honor of Ruby and Ruth Crawford

ATLANTA (August 3, 2009) – GAWL, the Georgia Association for Women Lawyers (www.gawl.org) with almost 1,100 members in six chapters throughout Georgia, today announced that its GAWL Foundation will rename the GAWL Foundation Endowment. It will now be known as the Ruth and Ruby Crawford Endowment in memory of Ruth and Ruby Crawford, the beloved and admired twin sisters who both served as president of GAWL and who are widely recognized as trailblazers for professional women in Georgia.

The GAWL Foundation spearheads all community service projects on behalf of GAWL. It works closely together with other charitable organizations in Georgia and sponsors events, donates funds, and encourages GAWL members to volunteer their time and professional services to those in need.

The GAWL Foundation's Ruth and Ruby Crawford Endowment will provide sustained funding for scholarships for deserving female law students in Georgia. In addition, the Endowment provides grants to other charitable organizations throughout the state that support women and children.

True Atlanta icons, Ruth and Ruby Crawford were inseparable and lived together for 86 years until Ruth died in 2005; Ruby passed away in June 2009. The twin sisters wore the same outfits each day and together became bankers, lawyers, accountants and real estate agents. Both earned their law degrees from the Atlanta School of Law and obtained master's degrees in accounting from Georgia State University, and both served as president of the Georgia Association of Women Lawyers as well as president of the American Society of Women Accountants. They were tireless volunteers for the causes and candidates they believed in – former President Jimmy Carter even came to Miss Ruby's 90th birthday party this year - and are also fondly remembered for cheering on all runners in the annual Peachtree Road Race for thirty years, wearing identical patriotic outfits.

"We are pleased to rename the Endowment to honor the memory of these two women who were truly pioneers in law, and who played such an important part in the history of GAWL," notes Amy Kolczak, president of the GAWL Foundation and attorney at Owen Gleaton Egan Jones & Sweeney

LLP. "The Ruth and Ruby Crawford Endowment will inspire future women lawyers, and carry on their legacy forever."

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About GAWL

The Georgia Association for Women Lawyers (GAWL) was founded in 1928 as the voice for women lawyers in Georgia and as the springboard for women lawyers to become leaders in their communities and the legal profession. Currently, GAWL includes almost 1,100 active members throughout the State. GAWL is Georgia's premier networking organization for women lawyers and provides members with opportunities to develop leadership skills, build a personal referral source for business, establish an individual niche in Georgia's legal community and enjoy social events.

GAWL:

Betsy Giesler, Executive Director of GAWL
3855 Spalding Bluff Drive, Norcross, GA 30092;
770 446 7721 (fax)
Visit the Membership page at www.gawl.org

Upcoming Events:

August 15, 2009

Arabian Nights GAWL Gala at the Michael C. Carlos Museum at Emory University

Fundraiser Ball benefiting the GAWL Foundation

For more information, please call 770.446-1517 or email bng@bngiesler.com