

**SNELL & WILMER PARTNER PATRICIA LEE REFO HONORED BY
ABA WITH JURY IMPACT AWARD**

PHOENIX (August 3, 2009) — Snell & Wilmer L.L.P. is pleased to announce Patricia Lee Refo is the recipient of this year’s American Bar Association (ABA) Jury System Impact Award. This Award was established to recognize an individual or organization that has made significant contributions and tremendous efforts to the improvement, preservation and strengthening of the American Jury System.

Refo was honored on July 31, 2009 at the ABA’s Annual Meeting in Chicago for her leadership in the American Jury Project. This Project drafted the ABA Principles for Juries and Jury Trials, a comprehensive set of standards setting forth best practices for innovations in jury trials which the ABA enacted in 2004. The Principles encourage the use of innovative techniques to aid jurors in understanding the evidence, such as allowing jurors to ask questions of witnesses and instructing jurors on the applicable law at the beginning of a trial. The Principles also address issues designed to reduce the burdens of jury service, including increased juror pay and so-called “one day, one trial” systems. The Principles have been cited by many courts and serve as a model for state and federal courts. Recently, the United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit completed a successful pilot program involving several of the Principles.

“It was because of Ms. Refo’s leadership that the American Jury System resulted in the ABA House of Delegates passing the Nineteen Jury Principles,” said former ABA President Robert J. Grey, Jr., who established the American Jury Project as one of his presidential initiatives. “Because of her dedication, we have a better justice system in America.”

Refo was also recognized for her work as Chair of the ABA’s Section of Litigation, which focused attention and academic research on the causes and effects of the decreasing number of jury trials.

Refo’s practice is concentrated in complex commercial litigation, with experience in financial institutions litigation, professional malpractice defense, class actions, trade secret litigation, and commercial and business torts. She received her B.A. from the University of Michigan in 1980 with *high honors and high distinction*. She then went on to earn her *juris doctor* from the University of Michigan Law School, where she graduated with *cum laude* recognition. The National Law Journal has named Refo as one of the Fifty Most Influential Women Lawyers in America.

About Snell & Wilmer L.L.P.

Founded in 1938, Snell & Wilmer is a full-service business law firm with more than 400 attorneys practicing in eight offices throughout the western United States and in Mexico, including Phoenix and Tucson, Arizona, Los Angeles and Orange County, California; Denver, Colorado; Los Cabos, Mexico; Las Vegas, Nevada; and Salt Lake City, Utah. The firm represents clients ranging from large, publicly traded corporations to small businesses, individuals and entrepreneurs. For more information, visit www.swlaw.com.