



WCBA President Carol L. Van Scoyoc Honored by NYSBA

BY DAWN KIRBY ARNOLD, ESQ.
Co-Chair, Awards Committee

President Carol L. Van Scoyoc received the 2012 Award for Excellence in Public Service presented by the New York State Bar Association (NYSBA) Committee on Attorneys in Public Service. The award was presented at a special ceremony on January 24, 2012 during the NYSBA Annual Meeting at the Hilton New York Hotel.

For over 26 years, Carol has dedicated her professional career to public service. Carol started her career in the Westchester County Attorney's Office serving as counsel in over 150 reported cases, including in *In the Matter of Westchester County Medical Center (Mary O'Connor)* 72 N.Y.2d 514 (1988), a Court of Appeals decision that resulted in major changes to the Health Care Proxy in New York to protect the mentally incapacitated. In another significant matter, *U.S. v. O'Rourke*, 943 F.2d 180 (2d Cir. 1991), Carol saved Westchester County tax payers \$5 million dollars when she successfully argued before the Second Circuit that the County complied with its agreement with the Federal Government to close the Croton Point Landfill because of pollution to the Hudson River.

Since 1995, Carol has served as Chief Deputy Corporation Counsel in the White Plains Corporation Counsel's Office where she has helped mold and shape the landscape of the City of White Plains regarding numerous issues during the construction boom.

She has also served as a leader and role model to the bar. She is the 3rd woman president of the WCBA in its 115 year history. She also was the first woman president of the St. Thomas More Law Society while at Manhattan College. For the past ten years, Carol has been an adjunct professor at the Pace University Graduate School of Public Administration, training the next generation of great public service lawyers.

Carol, please accept our enthusiastic congratulations for this well deserved honor. It is a pleasure to see the NYSBA recognize a lawyer with a huge heart who has had such a positive influence on our entire Westchester community.