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New Mexico Attorney Rick Feferman to Receive Prestigious Vern Countryman Consumer Law Award on Nov. 9

Advocates Will Honor Feferman at National Consumer Law Center's National Conference in Washington, D.C.



(BOSTON) Albuquerque attorney Richard N. Feferman will receive the prestigious Vern Countryman Consumer Law Award given by the National Consumer Law Center (NCLC) at its annual conference on November 9, held this year in Washington, D.C. Feferman has more than 30 years of dedicated legal practice in helping low-income families and other consumers in the Southwest struggling to obtain access to justice.

“Rick’s career has been devoted to legal services and consumer justice,” said National Consumer Law Center Executive Director Willard Ogburn. “He has won ground-breaking consumer fraud cases, substantial awards for his deserving clients, and mentored countless consumer advocates dedicated to helping victims of marketplace abuses. It is an honor for the National Consumer Law Center to give this year’s Vern Countryman Consumer Law Award to Rick Feferman.”

The Consumer Rights Litigation conference is the nation’s largest annual gathering of consumer law attorneys and is co-sponsored by the National Association of Consumer Advocates (NACA). Each year at the conference – now in its 22nd year – NCLC presents the Countryman award to a legal services or other attorney whose special contributions to the practice of consumer law have strengthened and affirmed the rights of low-income people in the United States. Recipients are nominated by their peers.

“This is the Nobel, the Pulitzer, the Oscar, the Emmy, and the Grammy in my chosen field. I couldn’t be more pleased, and I am very grateful,” said Rick Feferman.

Feferman has built the law firm, Feferman & Warren, which handles individual and class action consumer cases throughout New Mexico, as well as some cases in Arizona and Colorado. Many of the firm’s cases are federal lawsuits against car dealers, abusive debt collectors, and predatory lenders. In 1999, the firm was nominated for trial lawyers of the year by Trial Lawyers for Public Justice, for its \$669,000 jury verdict against a New Mexico car dealer for odometer fraud and abusive debt collection practices. In 2004, Feferman won a bench trial where the judge awarded punitive damages of \$250,000 against Fleetwood for mobile home sales fraud.

As executive director of the New Mexico Legal Services Support Project from 1977 to 1984, Feferman operated an innovative and highly successful in-house training program serving 75 attorneys among 22 offices statewide. He also litigated major statewide class action cases and consulted with individual attorneys on cases.

For more information about Rick Feferman, please visit:

www.nmconsumerwarriors.com/attorneys.html.

For more information about NCLC's Vern Countryman award, please visit:

www.nclc.org/about-us/countryman-award.html.

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Since 1969, the nonprofit National Consumer Law Center® (NCLC®) has used its expertise in consumer law and energy policy to work for consumer justice and economic security for low-income and other disadvantaged people, including older adults, in the United States. NCLC's expertise includes policy analysis and advocacy; consumer law and energy publications; litigation; expert witness services, and training and advice for advocates. NCLC works with nonprofit and legal services organizations, private attorneys, policymakers, and federal and state government and courts across the nation to stop exploitive practices, help financially stressed families build and retain wealth, and advance economic fairness. More information about NCLC can be found at www.nclc.org.